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First in Film and Radio News Brief, Accurate and Impartial

# MOTION PICTURE DAILY

Alert, Intelligent and Indispensable to the Motion Picture Industry

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JUN 5 1944

## Gallup Figures 62 Millions Pay Weekly

### *Excludes Millions of Cut Servicemen's Tickets*

General estimates of a weekly overall motion picture theatre attendance of 85,000,000 to 100,000,000, and definitely known increases in gross box office receipts, notwithstanding, the George H. Gallup Audience Research now estimates weekly paid theatre attendance at 62,000,000. Servicemen were not counted.

**The Gallup survey, *Motion Picture Daily* was told at the weekend, did not include the attendance of the many believed counted in the general industry estimates from the hundreds of institutions which show films regularly without charge with**

(*Continued on page* 8)

## Legion of Decency Reviewed 439 Films

The New York office of the National Legion of Decency revealed in its annual report released at the weekend, that it had reviewed 439 feature pictures from November, 1942, to November, 1943.

Of the total number reviewed only four were rated Class C, condemned; while 55 were found to be in Class B, objectionable in part. The rest of the films reviewed were accorded passing ratings, 229 being placed in Class A-1, unobjectionable for general patronage, and 151 were rated as Class A-2, unobjectionable for adults.

## Miles of Braid at 'Wassell' Preview

WASHINGTON, April 2.—The U. S. Navy League's 1944 Red Cross Fund was enriched $25,000 through the preview of Cecil B. DeMille's "The Story of Dr. Wassell" before a distinguished audience of approximately 4,000 in Constitution Hall here Saturday night. That amount represented the entire proceeds from the preview.

Paramount, in addition, will donate a percentage of the distribution rev-

(*Continued on page* 8)

## Neil Agnew Is Leaving Para. For Vanguard

By WILLIAM R. WEAVER

HOLLYWOOD, April 2.—David O. Selznick announced late yesterday that Neil Agnew will resign his post as vice-president and general manager of Paramount to become vice-president of Vanguard Films in charge of distribution of all Vanguard pictures, including Selznick's own productions.



Neil Agnew

No date was mentioned for the shift, but it is understood here that the change will be effective immediately.

Agnew first joined Paramount as a booker with the Chicago office in 1920.

In May, 1934, he was named general sales manager and in 1935 he became vice-president in charge of sales, which post he has held since.

## Paramount Partners Move to Hold Down Roadshows Onrush

ARROWHEAD SPRINGS, Cal., April 2.—The Paramount partners, meeting here, are attempting to discourage an onrush of distributors who play roadshows, unless the attractions clearly establish themselves as being of an advanced-price, two-a-day calibre.

While the partners feel that a limited number of roadshows present no insurmountable difficulties in big cities, they are decidedly "bearish" on such possibilities in the smaller towns, holding that the public in the latter situations will not pay increased tariffs as a general rule. It is to the distributors' long-view advantage not to force at-

(*Continued on page* 8)

## High Note Struck At End of Drive

The motion picture industry's 1944 Red Cross campaign came to an official close last night on a high note of optimism by drive officials that this year's collections in theatres would far surpass last year's record $3,000,000.

Actual figures on the drive will be available in a few days, as soon as reports from all regional chairmen are in. Some returns will be delayed, WAC headquarters pointed out, due to a number of theatres continuing their

(*Continued on page* 8)

## Freon Hopes Fading for This Summer

### *WPB Unable to Divide 100,000 Pounds*

By BERTRAM F. LINZ

WASHINGTON, April 2.—Thousands of theatres depending upon freon gas to operate cooling systems can have little if any hope of obtaining a supply this summer, it was indicated here at the weekend by the Office of Civilian Requirements.

**Possibilities of setting aside a small amount of the gas, approximately 100,000 pounds, for relief of exhibitors whose lack of refrigerant may otherwise cause them to close their houses, are being explored, but grave difficulties are being encountered in**

(*Continued on page* 8)

## Producers to Answer Studio Locals Today

Hollywood studio representatives conducting negotiations here with the 11 IATSE studio unions will start today to specifically answer demands set forth by the various locals for incorporation in new contracts to replace those which expired Jan. 1. Later today James C. Petrillo, president of the American Federation of Musicians, will renew conferences with producers'

(*Continued on page* 8)

## *American, British in No Postwar Struggle: Gell*

By MILTON LIVINGSTON

The possibility of a struggle between the American and British film industries for control of world film markets in the postwar were discounted here at the weekend by William J. Gell, Pathe's managing director in Great Britain. Gell is here from London to explore possibilities of securing additional American product, and to hold conferences with PRC and Monogram officials; he distributes the films of both in the British market.

"J. Arthur Rank and the British film industry will first have to achieve the production of films of international merit and then enter into competition with the American industry in the world markets on the basis of co-operation," is the opinion of Gell.

(*Continued on page* 8)

## *1,000 New Houses, Johnston Predicts*

HOLLYWOOD, April 2.—Exhibitors all over the country will begin construction of at least 1,000 new theatres as soon as materials are made available after peace is declared, W. Ray Johnston, president of Monogram, stated here at the weekend.

He said his statement was based on observations he has made during a seven-weeks' tour.

"The general opinion of hundreds of exhibitors," Johnston added, "is that the end of the war will cause no diminution in the near-capacity business now generally enjoyed by the industry. The public has formed the habit of attending motion picture theatres as never before in our history."

## *Grosses Hold Up Despite Tax Rise*

**Flash reports received here last night from scattered points in the field indicated that the new Federal tax rise of one cent on each five cents of admission had little, if any, adverse affect on weekend theatre business. The tax became effective Saturday.**

**Observers here pointed out at the weekend that no immediate drop in theatre business was expected, and that if any attendance drop does come as a result of the doubled levy it will come after the family-going public, for example, studies the relation of the new taxes to its pocketbook.**

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# Personal Mention

EDWARD C. RAFTERY, United Artists president, is scheduled to leave the Coast today for New York.

•

MURIEL BABCOCK, editorial director of the Ideal Women's Group magazines, will arrive in New York this week from Hollywood.

•

LOU BROWN, advertising and publicity director for Loew's theatres in New England, was a Hartford visitor at the weekend.

•

WILLIAM BRUMBERG, Warner publicity field representative for the Central district, is in New York on company business.

•

TED LEVY, Warners' Chicago exchange booker and former president of exchange workers' Local F-45, has been inducted into the Navy.

•

JACOB WILK, Warner Eastern story editor, was in Wilmington over the weekend.

•

MIKE POLLER, assistant to ROBERT MOCHRIE, RKO general sales manager, will leave tonight for Toronto.

•

NAT LEVY, RKO Eastern division sales manager, will leave Wednesday for Montreal on company business.

•

LARRY KENT, assistant manager of Loew's Palace, Hartford, was in New York over the weekend.

•

JULES FIELD of 20th Century-Fox's home office exploitation department, left over the weekend for Denver.

•

WALTER BLAKE of the Blaine-Thompson advertising agency, returned from the Coast at the weekend.

•

MIKE SIMONS, editor of M-G-M's *Distributor*, is due back from Pittsburgh today.

•

TERRY TURNER, RKO exploitation chief, will leave tonight for Montreal.

•

J. J. MILSTEIN will return to the Coast today.

## 125 Honor Willingham At St. Louis Lunch

ST. LOUIS, April 2.—Approximately 125 exhibitors and M-G-M executives attended a recent luncheon at the Coronado Hotel here in honor of J. F. Willingham, who has been appointed manager of the company's St. Louis branch. He succeeds John H. Quinn, who is now in Florida.

M-G-M executives present included Burtis Bishop, Jr., district manager of the Dallas office; John J. Maloney, central sales manager, and H. M. Richey, executive assistant to W. F. Rodgers, M-G-M general sales manager. Fred Wehrenberg, president of the MPTOA of Eastern Missouri and Southern Illinois, was also a guest.

# Tradewise . . .

By SHERWIN KANE

THE recent, and continuing, flurry of publicity over television is based on nothing very substantial, the supposedly well-informed will assure you. Television is still in the laboratory where the war left it more than two years ago in this country, and over four years ago in Europe. The workshop tinkering which has been going on since has been concerned largely with the possibility that somebody might stumble onto something that the armed services might make practical use of. If anyone has, it's a military secret.

The television observers of the motion picture companies insist that the revival of speculation and theorizing concerning television, particularly its application to postwar film production and exhibition in theatres, should be regarded at this time in much the same light as should the highly imaginative talk and illustration current concerning the postwar automobile. There are numerous unassailable reasons why your postwar car will not be anything like those superstreamlined, colored-plastic creations that decorate your reading matter from time to time. There are many equally good reasons why your first postwar car will be but little different from the 1942 models which were coming off the assembly lines up to the time those lines were stopped by the war. And subsequent models, starry-eyed designers notwithstanding, most likely will adopt changes in an evolutionary process no hastier than in the years before the war. At least, so practical engineers believe.

• •

Television is in much the same position. Postwar equipment will parallel that which was available back in 1942. There will be a flurry of buying of home sets within the limited reception areas and there will be an occasional television tryout in a few theatres in several of the larger cities, exactly as there was in 1941 here, and in 1939 in London—no more than experimental ventures, if not strictly promotional "stunts." That is what sober-minded television engineers will tell you, however much the imaginatively hopeful enthusiasts may differ.

That being so, then why the present interest in commercial television? Interest in the subject is so widespread that when amusement stocks broke slightly on the New York Stock Exchange several weeks ago, some Wall Street quarters attributed the weakness to "the threat of television." To be sure, better informed quarters in the Street probably gauged it more rightly when they ascribed the break to concern over the effect on theatre attendance of the new Federal admission tax and the effect on production of the new draft.

Be that as it may, this and other apparent evidences of concern over television have but one explanation—to the practical-minded television man who perhaps best knows how long the road his medium must travel before it becomes a means of mass entertainment. In the opinion of such a man, the fascination of television today emanates from the fact that it still is in an undeveloped state. As one of them put it recently:

"Even the egg in which it lies in embryo defies identification. What we will hatch we do not know ourselves. Thus all who observe may guess and prophesy. It may be an eagle or a vulture, a bird of paradise or just an ugly duckling. None of us will know until it breaks the shell and emerges."

In other words, your guess about television's tomorrow is as good as the expert's, at this stage.

• •

That half interest in the Wilmer & Vincent Circuit that went to Si Fabian a week ago was very much sought after, according to the stories along Broadway after the deal was closed. They would have you believe that Y. Frank Freeman sought it as a personal investment for a member of his family; that Andy Smith was interested for a similar reason; that Trans-Lux had an eye on it; that separate groups, one investigating through Harry Edington, another through J. J. Unger, were in the ring, too, at one stage.

• •

C. H. Spearman, operator of the Broncho Theatre, Edmond, Okla., submitted the following copy for a trailer for his theatre to Filmack, Chicago:

"In order not to detract from the feature, the Broncho management has agreed to donate the stage for one minute each evening to those wishing to wisecrack or horse-laugh. Please make reservations with doorman for proper arrangements."

# Coast Flashes

*Hollywood, April 2*

JOSEPH M. SCHENCK, executive production head of 20th-Fox, left for New York at the weekend.

•

D. D. Durr, former chairman of the Los Angeles Newspaper Publishers Association, assumed his new duties at the weekend as administrative assistant to Alex Evelove, Warners' studio publicity director.

•

Spencer Tracy has been assigned the role of General Doolittle in M-G-M's forthcoming "Thirty Seconds Over Tokyo," which Mervyn LeRoy will direct.

•

Warners have scheduled a 14-theatre preview premiere of "The Adventures of Mark Twain" for May 5 at Fox West Coast situations in the Southern California area.

•

Jackie Coogan has been promoted to Army Air Force lieutenant.

## Boris Morros Will Make 'Carnegie Hall'

Boris Morros, film producer and music director, disclosed at the weekend that he will produce "Carnegie Hall," a story about New York's noted concert hall. The announcement followed completion of negotiations with Milton Bergerman, president of Carnegie, who was host at a luncheon to the press held Friday at the Casino Russe here.

The story, being written by John Jacoby and Ladislaus Foder, will include highlights of the Hall's 50-year history. Recording will start in January and shooting will commence in May, 1945. United Artists will release.

## Pre-Trial Hearings Set in Hillside Case

Notice was filed in Federal Court here at the weekend for the examination before trial of the Motion Picture Producers and Distributors of America, Inc., on April 21, and of Warner Brothers, on April 10, in connection with the anti-trust suit brought against the MPPDA distributor members by Hillside Amusement Co., operators of the Mayfair Theatre, Newark.

The examinations will take place at the office of Hays, Podell and Schulman, the plaintiff's attorneys.

## $1,000,000 Chicago Trust Suit Deferred

CHICAGO, April 2.—The trial scheduled for tomorrow on the claims of Thomas A. Murray, former owner of the Thalia Theatre, for $1,000,000 damages for alleged anti-trust violations by Balaban and Katz and distributors was postponed indefinitely at the weekend, pending hearings by Judge William Campbell on a motion by the plaintiff to amend the complaint and a motion by the defense to strike.

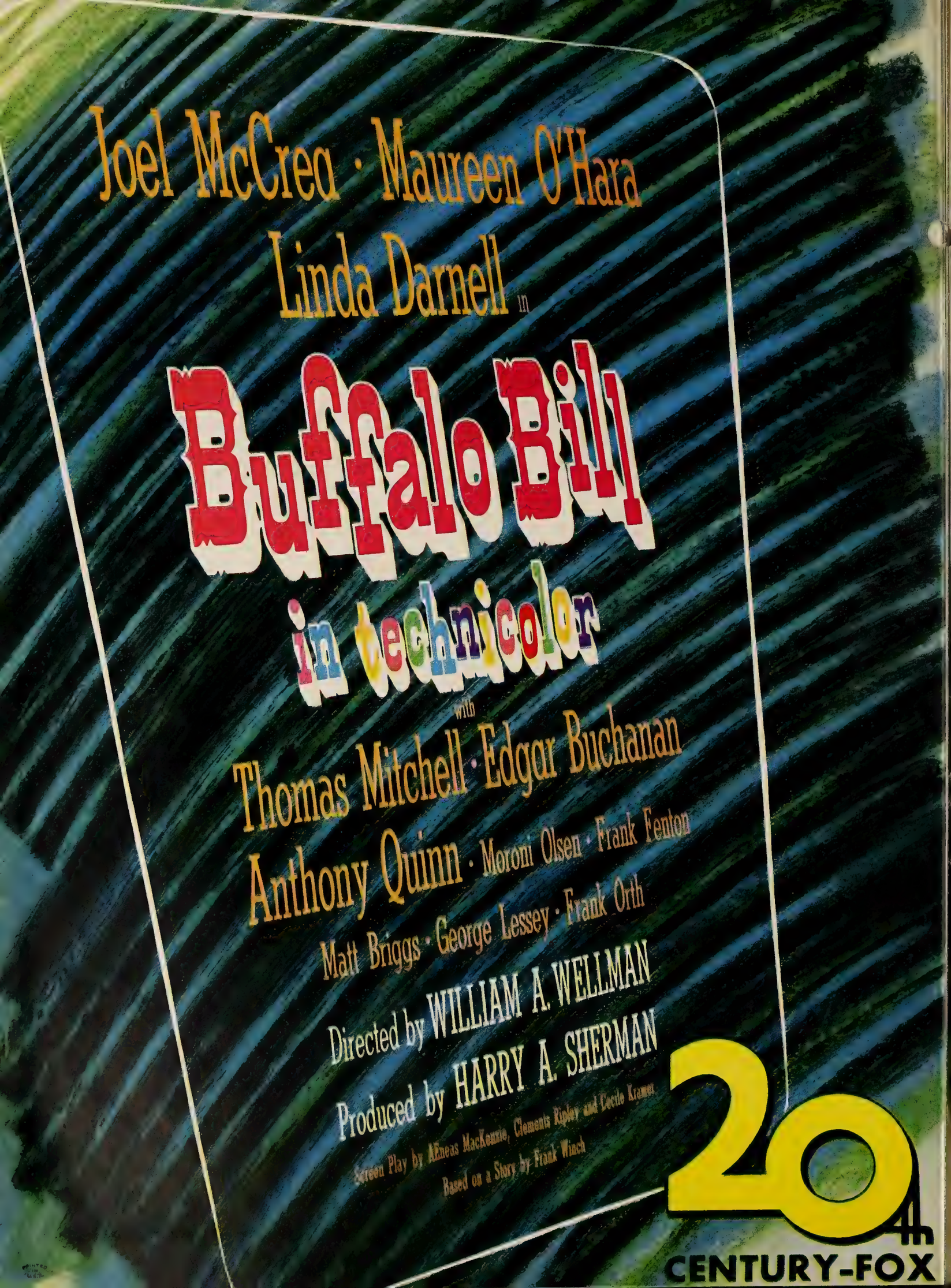
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COPY JUN - 5 1967


Action!
Ron
Buffalo
Adventure.
in Technicolor


nce!
Excitement!
Thrills!
Bill
Indians!
from 20th Century-Fox


Joel McCrea · Maureen O'Hara
Linda Darnell in
Buffalo Bill
in technicolor
with
Thomas Mitchell · Edgar Buchanan
Anthony Quinn · Moroni Olsen · Frank Fenton
Matt Briggs · George Lessey · Frank Orth
Directed by WILLIAM A. WELLMAN
Produced by HARRY A. SHERMAN
Screen Play by Aeneas MacKenzie, Clements Ripley and Cecile Kramer
Based on a Story by Frank Winch
20th
CENTURY-FOX

# Soldier Audiences In Global Hookup

Soldier audiences in Italy, North Africa and New Caledonia took time out from seeing recent Hollywood films to join Major General John Hubbell, chief of the Army's Overseas Motion Picture Service, in a four-way hook-up on this week's Army Hour over NBC.

Introducing them as "some of the 800,000 American soldiers around the world who see American pictures every day," the Army sent servicemen before the microphones to tell the American public the story of the enjoyment they get in their improvised theatres, also to stress their preference for light entertainment.

**Like Two-Hour Furlough**

Sgt. Paul Smith of Salt Lake City, one of 200 from a Motor Transportation Corps who had crowded into a North African basement for "The Miracle of Morgan's Creek," said, "We are seeing the same films here at the same time they are being shown at home." "It's like a two-hour furlough home," chimed in Sgt. Richard Jones of Albany, speaking from an Italian house where 500 were attending "The Song of Bernadette." "The other day," he recalled, "up at Anzio, they were showing 'The More the Merrier' when a German shell exploded nearby—just at the point where Jean Arthur turns to Joel McCrea and asks, 'What was that?' It was good for a real belly laugh."

General Hubbell, from NBC studios here, told how the Army ships 65 prints of three different pictures weekly to 19 exchanges throughout the world, after which the exchanges send them around their own circuits to the troops—"by plane, boat, trucks, jeep or anything that moves." He added that during the past two weeks "Mark Twain," "Buffalo Bill" and "Meet the People" had been dispatched to the soldiers.

## *Paramount Heads On 'Lady' Contest*

Barney Balaban, president of Paramount, and Y. Frank Freeman and Leonard Goldenson, vice-presidents, have accepted invitations from G. Ralph Branton, general manager of Tri-States Theatres, Des Moines, to serve as "captains" in a managers' showmanship contest on "Lady in the Dark." Winning district and house managers will be awarded $500 in the circuit-wide contest.

Plans for the event were discussed by Tri-State managers at district meetings in Des Moines, Davenport and Omaha, at which the film was screened. Advertising and promotion plans were set at the meetings by Dale MacFarland, Tri-States advertising manager, and M. D. Cohn, Paramount advertising representative.

For the first time in Des Moines theatre history, the circuit will open the film in its three first-runs, the Des Moines, Roosevelt and Paramount, day-and-date, on April 6.

## *Todd Buys Theatre*

Michael Todd, Broadway producer, has purchased the 48th Street Theatre, off Broadway, New York, from the Bank for Savings for $260,000. H. William Fitelson of Fitelson and Mayers, represented the producer.

## *Silly Question Dep't*

**From the current issue of *Printers' Ink:***

**"Allis-Chalmers distributors in New York last week used space on theatrical pages boosting 'The Fighting Seabees,' a Warner Bros. picture. Was A-C product featured in the picture?"**

**No, *Printers' Ink*, Republic's was.**

# 'Cover Girl' Wins With Big $19,000

MINNEAPOLIS, April 2. — "Cover Girl" at the Radio City Theatre led the town with $19,000. Unfavorable weather and competition held other business down.

Estimated receipts for the week ending April 1:

**"Jack London" (UA)**
GOPHER—(998) (40c) 7 days. Gross: $3,400. (Average: $3,700).
**"Lady in the Dark" (Para.)**
LYRIC—(1,250) (44c-60c) 7 days, 3rd week. Gross: $4,500. (Average: $5,600).
**"Lassie Come Home" (M-G-M)**
CENTURY—(1,600) (44c-60c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $6,500. (Average: $7,400).
**"Jane Eyre" (20th-Fox)**
STATE—(2,300) (44c-60c) 7 days. Gross: $11,000. (Average: $12,400).
**"The Purple Heart" (20th-Fox)**
ORPHEUM—(2,800) (44c-60c) 7 days. Gross: $9,200. (Average: $13,900).
**"Johnny Come Lately" (UA)**
WORLD—(350) (44c-55c-60c-80c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $2,400. (Average: $2,400).
**"Cover Girl" (Col.)**
RADIO CITY—(4,000) (44c-60c) 7 days. Gross: $19,000. (Average, 3 weeks: $21,000).
**"Minesweeper" (Para.) 4 days**
**"Moonlight in Vermont" (Univ.) 4 days**
ASTER—(900) (25c-35c) 7 days, with mid-week change. Gross: $2,300. (Average: $2,600).

## *$1,000 Life Policies For Members of MPA*

Morris Sanders, president of Motion Picture Associates here, presented a plan to members at a meeting held Friday at the Hotel Astor, whereby each member will be insured for $1,000 through Bankers Life Insurance Co. It is now before the board of directors for further study.

Also discussed were plans for the dinner-dance to be held May 19 at the Hotel Astor, observing the 25th year of the organization. Albert Reinlieb, who was the first president of the association, will be honored at the dinner and will be presented with a life membership.

## *Pittsburgh Decides On Uniform Prices*

PITTSBURGH, April 2.—Last-minute decision by theatre operators here establishes uniform prices at downtown houses under the new tax. Charges from 10 A.M. to 12:30 will be 35c (29c plus 6c tax) as compared to the former 30c and 35c from 12:30 to 6 P. M., 44c (37c plus 7 cents tax) as compared to the former 40c and 44c; from 6 until closing, 65c (54c plus 11c) as compared to the former 60 cents. Other key cities had set up new scales several days ago.

## *Stewart to M-G-M*

Russell H. Stewart, for the past seven months with Warner Bros. publicity department here and formerly film and drama critic on the Washington (D.C.) *Daily News*, today will join the M-G-M home office publicity staff.

# U.S. Negro War Film Free for the Asking

"The Negro Soldier," 40-minute War Department film produced under supervision of Col. Frank Capra, will be given theatrical distribution by the War Activities Committee, at the request of the Office of War Information. The film relates the contribution of the Negro races to American history, from the Revolutionary War to World War II.

Under arrangements effected with the OWI, the War Department has made available a limited number of prints, which will be provided gratis in response to exhibitor requests. The WAC public relations division is preparing a campaign book to aid exhibitors in their showings.

Prints will be available beginning April 10 at the following exchanges: Albany, Paramount; Atlanta, 20th-Fox; Boston and Buffalo, Paramount; Charlotte, 20th-Fox; Chicago, M-G-M; Cincinnati and Cleveland, United Artists; Dallas, Columbia; Denver, RKO; Des Moines, Universal; Detroit, United Artists; Indianapolis, Republic; Kansas City, Universal; Los Angeles, Warners; Memphis, Columbia; Milwaukee and Minneapolis, M-G-M; New Haven, Paramount; New Orleans, 20th-Fox; New York, M-G-M; Oklahoma City, Columbia; Omaha, Universal; Philadelphia and Pittsburgh, RKO; Portland, Ore., Warners; St. Louis, Universal; Salt Lake City, RKO; San Francisco and Seattle, Warners; Washington, RKO.

## *'Buffalo Bill' Tribute Over 217 Stations*

Twentieth Century-Fox's "Buffalo Bill" will be publicized over Mutual's Coast-to-Coast hookup of 217 stations on the "Double or Nothing" program on April 7. Ted Lloyd, head of the company's radio department, set the tieup. The program will originate from atop Lookout Mountain, Denver, where Col. William F. (Buffalo Bill) Cody is buried. The film will have its Western premiere in 143 theatres, beginning April 11.

Gov. John C. Vivian of Colorado and Benjamin Stapleton, mayor of Denver, will appear on the program with Princess Blue Waters, daughter of the original Indian princess, early friend of Buffalo Bill. Program will be aired from 9:30 to 10:00 P.M., EWT.

## *Meeting on Grand National Postponed*

Federal bankruptcy referee Peter B. Olney at the weekend postponed until April 28 a special creditors' meeting of Grand National Pictures for consideration of an offer by Screencraft Pictures to pay Harry G. Fromberg, trustee of Grand National, $5,000 for his right to collect and receive the percentages and other items reserved to him under distribution contracts with Mohawk Film Corp.

Objection to a consideration of the offer was made by Walter D. Wyle, attorney for Douglas McLean Productions of Los Angeles, on the ground that McLean Productions had an interest in at least two of the films mentioned in the offer under 1936 agreements between Grand National and McLean Productions.

# 'Bernadette' in 5th Chi. Week Gets $46,000

CHICAGO, April 2.—"Lost Angel" was high in the Loop this week, grossing $55,000 at the Chicago Theatre, with Tommy Tucker and band headlining the stage show. "The Song of Bernadette" continued strongest of single-feature runs, capturing $46,000 at the State-Lake.

Estimated receipts for the week ending March 31:

**"Lifeboat" (20th-Fox)**
APOLLO—(1,200) (50c-65c-85c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $12,000. (Average, $11,400)
**"Lost Angel" (M-G-M)**
CHICAGO—(3,850) (50c-65c-85c) 7 days. Stage: Tommy Tucker and band. Gross: $55,000. (Average, $51,500)
**"Return of the Vampire" (Col.) and "Crime Doctor's Strangest Case" (Col.) 3 days, 3rd week**
**"The Navy Way" (Para.) and "You Can't Ration Love" (Para.) 4 days.**
GARRICK—(1,000) (50c-65c-85c) 7 days. Gross: $14,000. (Average, $9,700)
**"Government Girl" (RKO)**
**"Escape to Danger" (RKO)**
GRAND—(1,250) (50c-65c-85c) 7 days, 3rd Loop week. Gross: $8,000. (Average, $9,100)
**"Three Russian Girls" (U. A.)**
ORIENTAL — (3,200) (35c-40c-55c-65c-75c) 7 days. Stage: Frankie Masters and band. Gross $28,600. (Average, $24,000)
**"Tender Comrade" (RKO)**
**"Hat Check Honey" (Univ.)**
PALACE—(2,500) (50c-65c-85c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $30,000. (Average, $24,000)
**"Purple Heart" (20th-Fox)**
ROOSEVELT—(1,500) (50c-65c-85c) 7 days, 3rd week. Gross: $25,000. (Average, $20,400)
**"The Song of Bernadette" (20th-Fox)**
STATE-LAKE—(2,700) (50c-65c-85c-$1.10) 7 days, 5th week. Gross: $46,000. (Average, $29,000)
**"Jane Eyre" (20th-Fox)**
UNITED ARTISTS—(1,700) (50c-65c-85c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $26,000. (Average, $20,200)
**"Lady and the Monster" (Rep.) 3 days, 3rd week**
**"Phantom Lady" (Univ.) 4 days**
WOODS — (1,200) (55c-65c-85c) 7 days. Gross: $13,000. (Average, $10,000)

## *$25,500 for Show And 'Uninvited'*

BUFFALO, April 2.—"The Uninvited" and the personal appearance of Marcy McGuire, along with Johnny Long and his band, is giving the Buffalo $25,500, one of its best weeks.

Estimated receipts for the week ending April 1:

**"The Uninvited" (Para.)**
BUFFALO — (3,489) (35c-40c-55c-65c) 7 days. Marcy McGuire on stage, plus Johnny Long and his orchestra, with Patti Dugan and Gene Williams. Gross: $25,500. (Average: $17,400).
**"The Miracle of Morgan's Creek" (Para.)**
GREAT LAKES—(3,000) (35c-40c-55c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $17,500. (Average: $16,600).
**"Passage to Marseille" (WB)**
HIPPODROME—(2,100) (35c-40c-55c-65c) 7 days, moveover. Gross: $9,500. (Average: $9,700).
**"Action in Arabia" (RKO)**
**"Career Girl" (PRC)**
20TH CENTURY—(3,000) (35c-40c-55c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $11,500. (Average: $12,200).
**"Gung Ho" (Univ.)**
**"Always a Bridesmaid" (Univ.)**
LAFAYETTE—(3,000) (35c-40c-55c-65c). Gross: $15,500. (Average: $12,400).

## *Pioneer Scroll Given By Variety in Chicago*

CHICAGO, April 2.—Presentation of parchment copies of a master scroll, recording each of their names, was one of the many honors conferred upon the veteran guests at the banquet of the Variety Club of Illinois for the pioneers of the local motion picture industry at the Blackstone Hotel at the weekend. Over 350 members attended.

# Gallup Figures 62 Millions Pay Weekly

(*Continued from page* 1)

**prints supplied by the major companies.**

It was pointed out that of the 136,000,000 persons in the country, 5,000,000 are below theatregoing age, another 15,000,000, are incapacitated or otherwise unable to attend theatres, and several millions are just not theatregoers. In addition, millions now in the services have been lost to films in the years since Pearl Harbor. Nor did the survey include the attendtendance of millions on reduced-rate servicemen's admissions. Some 8,500,000 are estimated to be in all of the armed and related forces.

Albert H. Sindlinger, executive vice-president of Audience Research, also disclosed that surveys made by his organization show that an average patron sees films at least once every three weeks.

Audience Research surveys show, according to Sindlinger, that the large increase in box-office receipts is largely due to higher admission prices, to the large increase in "advance-price" runs and to people going oftener, making up for losses to the services.

**According to the organization's reports, approximately 51,000,000 have seen "Gone With the Wind," about 5,000,000 have seen it twice, and 450,000 saw it three times, the overall total reputedly being the largest audience for a single picture.**

The market research facilities of Audience Research now embrace a new device which is said to record the reaction of a motion picture audience cross-section while seeing a picture in a theatre. Reactions are recorded on dials held by patrons with all reactions recorded on a graph.

Audience Research samples of reaction are taken in geographical areas with the number of samples and interviews being in direct proportion to the amount of money each area contributes to the national box-office gross.

## *High Note Struck At End of Drive*

(*Continued from page* 1)

collections for a full two weeks.

More than 15,200 houses participated in at least one full week's collections for the campaign, while over 6,000 houses extended their drives through a second weekend, ending yesterday.

**$6,856 Over 1943 Figure**

ALBANY, April 2.—Employes at local film exchange offices contributed $8,656 to the 1944 Red Cross campaign it was reported here at the weekend. This compares with $1,800 in 1943.

Arthur Newman, Republic branch manager, was chairman of the exchange campaign.

## *Framke, Jacobi Quit 'U'*

F. W. Framke and George Jacobi, traveling exchange auditors for Universal for many years, both resigned their posts on Friday, Framke told MOTION PICTURE DAILY.

## *Potential Patrons: 83,000,000 Adults*

**Field surveys by George Gallup's Audience Research Institute are said to show that the maximum potential number of full-price-paying film patrons over 12 in the U. S. is approximately 83,000,000. There are an estimated 91,000,000 over eight years of age.**

**Audience Research, on the basis of census figures, also reports that approximately 2,875,000 children reach the theatre-going age yearly.**

# Miles of Braid at 'Wassell' Preview

(*Continued from page* 1)

enue from the film to the Navy Emergency Relief Fund.

Among the guests at the preview were: Commander Corydon M. Wassell, whose South Pacific war experience was the inspiration for the picture; Admiral William D. Leahy, heading a delegation of several score high Navy officers; Stephen Early, Presidential secretary; General Edwin M. Watson and a large representation of high-ranking Army and Marine Corps officers; Judge Samuel Rosenman, Presidential advisor; Miss Grace Tully, personal secretary to the President; Lowell Mellett, Robert Sherwood, Economic Administrator James F. Byrnes; War Stabilization Director Fred M. Vinson; Chief Justice Stone and Justices Roberts, Black, Reed, Frankfurter, Douglas, Murphy, Jackson and Rutledge; William Hassett, White House secretary.

**Cabinet Members Attend**

Also members of the Cabinet, including Secretaries Hull, Morgenthau, Walker, Ickes, Wickard, Jones, Perkins and Attorney General Biddle; Senator David I. Walsh, Rep. Carl Vinson, and others.

DeMille was the guest of the Swedish legation here yesterday and on Tuesday will be honored at a luncheon at the Chinese Embassay, winding up several days of functions in the Capital, which included a visit with President Roosevelt Friday afternoon. Tuesday evening he will appear on the "Report to the Nation" broadcast over CBS from here.

## *Paramount Meeting Moves on Roadshows*

(*Continued from page* 1)

tractions into roadshow handling, the partners point out.

Other discussions at the meeting have concerned plans for theatre rehabilitation, new construction and manpower readjustment in the postwar era. The partners held a dinner at the Arrowhead Springs Hotel Friday night.

## *'Boys' Screenings Today*

Universal will trade screen the Charles K. Feldman production, "Follow the Boys," in 30 key cities today. The New York trade screening was held March 23 at the Normandie Theatre.

# America, Britain in No Postwar Clash

(*Continued from page* 1)

"After the war, the British film industry will not be able to produce films in any large numbers," Gell stated. Considering production facilities and studio space even with allowances for postwar expansion, the British industry is not geared to produce more than 125 films annually, including American quota films. "The 125, assuming that all were quality pictures, could not hope to command more than 20 per cent of the playing time in the some 5,000 theatres of Great Britain, for example," said Gell.

In world markets any competition that develops between the American and British film industry will be on the basis of merit, as Gell sees it.

**Confident of Cooperation**

Regarding the possibility of Rank and the British film industry attempting to retaliate against the distribution of American films in the British market if the American film industry refuses to cooperate with the British industry on plans to enter the American market on the basis of the merit of their films, Gell pointed out that the only retaliation possible, as he sees it, is the denial of preferred playing time to American films in the British market. He is confident that American film interests will grant the cooperation that Rank and the British industry seek in providing distribution of British films of merit in the American market.

Gell indicated that a large portion of the British film industry is aware of the fact that with few outstanding exceptions like "In Which We Serve," "Pygmalion," "Henry VIII," "The Ghost Goes West," and a few others, British product generally has not been of the calibre to command wide American distribution. Current plans of Rank and other British producers to produce outstanding pictures attuned to the world markets is now leading British film interests to seek worldwide distribution, Gell explained.

## *Producers to Answer Studio Locals Today*

(*Continued from page* 1)

representatives at the office of Pat Casey, producers' labor contact.

On Friday IATSE representatives concluded, with the exception of studio sound men, submission of their proposals. It is understood that a basic accord has been arrived at between studio projectionists, cameramen, laboratory technicians and makeup-and-hairdressers' locals and the producers.

The props' and laborers' studio locals were the final groups to submit demands, on Friday. Discussion on the grips' demands were continued from Thursday.

## *Depinet in Chicago*

CHICAGO, April 2.—Ned E. Depinet, president of RKO, and Nate Blumberg, president of Universal, and Mrs. Blumberg attended the funeral of Mort Singer held here yesterday.

## *Mannie Lowy Dies*

LOS ANGELES, April 2.—Mannie Lowy, business adviser to Rudy Vallee for 16 years, died here at the weekend. Surviving are his widow, a daughter, his father and two sisters.

# Freon Hopes Fading for This Summer

(*Continued from page* 1)

**developing a workable system for proper distribution, it was said.**

At the same time, officials of the War Production Board facilities bureau are understood to be opposed to the use of freon for any public comfort purposes because of the fact that the basic chemical from which it is produced also is an important component of vitally needed high-octane aviation gasoline.

However, officials believe that next year, when freon will be produced at three times or better its pre-war rate, it will be possible to supply all essential needs of theatres, stores, offices and other buildings which now are denied supplies.

**5,000,000 Pounds in 1945**

Until this month, the country was dependent for its freon supply upon one plant, the output of which had been stepped up 50 per cent or more to about 1,900,000 pounds a month. This was insufficient to meet even essential war needs. A second plant is now in operation, with a production rate of around 1,000,000 pounds a month, which it is hoped will give a supply adequate for all essential needs and permit some rebuilding of inventories, which had been stripped to a point where they were unworkable.

Toward the end of this year, production will start at a third plant, which has a scheduled production rate of 2,000,000 pounds a month, indicating that by 1945 the output of freon will run around 5,000,000 pounds monthly.

The WPB officials concerned with the control of freon have been considering for some weeks the possibility of releasing a small amount for relief of distress cases, but are understood to have failed to develop a satisfactory plan for assuring that the gas would go to the most deserving theatres.

George W. McMurphey, chief of the OCR recreation section, now is attempting to work out a plan whereby around 100,000 pounds a month may be distributed.

**Distribution Problem**

Suggestions that relief be afforded on a geographic basis were rejected because it was pointed out that a theatre in Minneapolis can get as hot as one in New Orleans; a suggestion that relief be limited to war centers also was rejected because nearly every city in the country is a war center, and an idea to provide gas only to houses which have entirely lost the use of their cooling systems was felt not to be feasible because there are too many in that situation.

The biggest hurdle to be jumped in securing the release of freon, it is understood, is in the facilities bureau, where officials are opposed to any diversion of materials from war production to civilian uses not essential to the conduct of the war. A major argument is that theatres operated before air cooling was developed and, it is maintained, they can continue to operate without cooling during the period of the supply emergency.

First in Film and Radio News Brief, Accurate and Impartial

# MOTION PICTURE DAILY

Alert, Intelligent and Indispensable to the Motion Picture Industry

VOL. 55. NO. 66 NEW YORK, U.S.A., TUESDAY, APRIL 4, 1944 TEN CENTS

## 11 Companies Cut to 425 This Season

### *1943-44 Releases Even Lower Than Estimates*

Pre-season 1943-44 product estimates of 11 motion picture companies which pointed to the lowest number of feature releases in many years will drop even lower than original commitments.

**The exclusion of 13 additional top features will send the original total downward from a minimum of 438 and a maximum of 454 to a minimum of 425 and a maximum of 435.**

This year's total is nearly 100 less than the 522 actually delivered in the Pearl Harbor season of 1941-42, before United States' entrance into World War II sent film total downward.

Extended playing time being secured especially by Warner Bros. and Twentieth Century-Fox is principally re-

(*Continued on page 6*)

## Extend War Risk Damage Insurance

WASHINGTON, April 3.—Members of the industry who have been carrying the Government's war risk damage insurance for the past two years will automatically be carried for another 12 months without the payment of additional premiums.

Announcement that the collection of premiums would be foregone was made today by Secretary of Commerce Jesse Jones, who said that no action will be required on the part of the policyholder to make the extension effective. Any additional insurance written after April 1, however, will

(*Continued on page 6*)

## *UA Planning Foreign Publicity 'Outposts'*

HOLLYWOOD, April 3.—United Artists intends establishing six to ten foreign "outposts," each manned by an American trained in New York or Hollywood, for purpose of readapting and refining advertising and publicity in closer consonance with the needs and requirements of overseas markets, foreign manager Walter Gould stated here today.

The plan aims to reduce the waste

(*Continued on page 6*)

## *Report Wallis To Join MGM*

HOLLYWOOD, April 3.—In what would be one of the most important Hollywood executive production shifts in years, Hal B. Wallis, Warner executive producer, is reliably reported to be joining M-G-M. Although official confirmation is lacking, it is understood here that Wallis may already have signed an M-G-M contract.

The impending change is viewed in studio circles as comparing in significance with Darryl F. Zanuck's resignation as Warner's chief production executive in 1933 to form 20th Century Productions in association with Joseph M. Schenck.

Wallis entered the film industry in 1922 as a Los Angeles theatre manager and was later placed in charge of Warners' publicity department. After a year he left to join Principal Pictures but returned in seven months and was given charge of First Na-

(*Continued on page 6*)

## State Dept. Defers Re-education Plans

WASHINGTON, April 3.—Re-education of Axis-controlled peoples from totalitarianism will not be undertaken at this time, it was indicated here at this week in a State Department statement on its policy with regard to the forthcoming London conference of Allied educational leaders. Motion pictures are understood to have an important place in the re-indoctrination

(*Continued on page 6*)

# FEW OBJECT TO TAX, BUSINESS HOLDS UP

## Weather and Palm Sunday Send N.Y. Grosses Downward

Attributed to a combination which included Palm Sunday, advent of Holy Week, generally unfavorable weather late last week and over the weekend, and in some degree to the start of the new Federal tax imposts, generally depressed grosses hit New York downtown first-run theatres this week, with poor business especially over the weekend. Theatres are expected to benefit by the Easter school vacation, set by the New York Board of Education to run from April 7-17; also six new films have been booked for this week.

Unaffected, however, by the general falling-off is Radio City Music Hall which had a big opening with "Cover Girl" and the "Glory of Easter" stage show last Thursday, despite rains, with business continuing big over the weekend to roll up $75,000 on the first four days; $118,000 is expected for the week. At least four weeks at the Music Hall is expected for "Cover Girl." M-G-M's "The White Cliffs" is set to follow.

The sixth week of "Lady in the Dark" and a stage bill presenting Xavier Cugat and band and Dean Murphy at the Paramount will yield

(*Continued on page 3*)

### *Customers for the Most Part Pay New Levy Without Grumbling*

American theatregoers at the weekend started paying Uncle Sam an additional $125,500,000 a year in taxes for motion picture entertainment with surprisingly little grumbling, and what there was of that was confined mostly to small neighborhood houses. The new levy of one cent on each five raises the public's annual amusement tax bill to nearly $300,000,000 annually.

**Business at downtown theatres ran at usual weekend capacity in most areas, and in the few places where a drop was felt it was attributed to wet weather and Palm Sunday. Some suburban business tilted downward, but here again the tax was not held responsible. There were some neighborhood**

(*Continued on page 3*)

## Agnew in Five-Year Pact with Vanguard

Neil Agnew has been given a three-year contract plus a two-year option by David O. Selznick's Vanguard Films, which he is slated to join in the near future as vice-president in charge of distribution, it was learned on good authority yesterday. The contract, which calls for a first-year salary of $104,000, rising to $2,500 weekly the second year and $3,000 weekly the third year, also gives Agnew a participation in company earnings, it was reported.

Agnew has been on jury duty here for the past several weeks and was serving on a trial which was concluded yesterday. The jury of which

(*Continued on page 6*)

## *War Films at New Low, Only 16 of 182 Now Showing Have War Theme*

**Less than nine per cent of all of the 182 different features currently on exhibition in Manhattan's 218 theatres are out-and-out war themes, the lowest number of war films to hit the boards since both Pearl Harbor and pre-Pearl Harbor threatening war influences started war-film production mounting to the peak reached about one year ago.**

**The nine per cent represents only 16 of the 182 features playing all runs here, by actual theatre-by-theatre count for *Motion Picture Daily*, for the week beginning last Friday and ending Thursday evening. It is the result of the decisions of nearly all of Hollywood's producers, made months ago, to start turning away from heavy war-story production.**

**The 16 war films current, several of them not being new releases, however, follow: "Action in Arabia," RKO: "Battle of Russia," 20th-Fox; "Destination Tokyo," Warners; "The Fighting Seabees," Republic; "Gung Ho!", Universal; "Immortal Sergeant," 20th-Fox; "The Imposter," Universal; "Ladies Courageous," Universal; "Lifeboat," 20th-Fox; "North Star," RKO; "None Shall Escape," Columbia; "Passage to Marseille," Warners; "The Purple Heart," 20th-Fox; "See Here, Private Hargrove," M-G-M; "To the Shores of Tripoli," 20thFox.**

## *Nathanson Group Buys 3 Odeon Houses*

TORONTO, April 3.—Shareholders of Hamilton United Theatres, Ltd., representing a majority of the common stock outstanding, today accepted an offer of $711,811 by Theatre Properties (Hamilton) Ltd., for the physical assets of three theatres in Hamilton, Ont. operated under lease by Odeon Theatres of Canada.

(*Continued on page 6*)

# Personal Mention

MONROE GREENTHAL is now an Army major, a promotion from captaincy for the former advertising-publicity head of United Artists here. He is chief of the motion picture branch of the Army Industrial Service Division.

•

HAL HORNE, 20th Century-Fox advertising and publicity chief, and CHARLES SCHLAIFER, advertising manager, are scheduled to leave for the Coast on Friday.

•

IRVING A. MAAS, 20th Century-Fox assistant director of foreign distribution, will leave over the weekend on a tour of the Latin American exchanges.

•

JAMES R. GRAINGER, president of Republic Pictures, and MAXWELL GILLIS, Eastern district sales manager, left yesterday for Washington.

•

SAM KATZ, M-G-M studio executive, left here yesterday for Hollywood.

•

CHARLES R. ROGERS arrived in New York yesterday from the Coast.

## Kamins New Lesser Publicity Director

HOLLYWOOD, April 3.—Bernie Kamins, recently with Charles R. Rogers productions, took over his new duties as publicity director for Sol Lesser productions today. His first assignment will be "Three's a Family."

Kamins was associated with Russell Birdwell, Terry De Lapp, Paramount, and was publicity director for Harry A. Sherman productions before joining Rogers.

## Five New Television Applications Filed

WASHINGTON, April 3.—Five more applications for permission to erect commercial television stations after the war have been received by the Federal Communications Commission here, bringing the total number of new applications in the past few weeks to 23.

Three of the applications are from Westinghouse, for stations in Pittsburgh, Boston and Philadelphia. The other two are from Stromberg-Carlson and Station WWDC, Washington.

## Rockettes Get Raise

The ballet girls and 82 "Rockettes" of Radio City Music Hall this week were awarded hiring rate increases of from $3 to $6 a week by the Regional War Labor Board, ruling on a joint wage adjustment application. The board approved an increase from $36 to $42 a week in the hiring rate for the ballet corps and from $42 to $45 for "Rockettes." Music Hall, according to the board, had asked for $45 for the ballet girls.

## IA Electricians Work on New Pact

Contract proposals of the IATSE studio electricians and counter proposals offered by the producer representatives kept company heads, their studio labor heads and IATSE representatives in a meeting which lasted until a late hour yesterday at the office here of Pat Casey, producers' labor contact. Points of issue between the producers and the electricians are understood to be those of job classifications. The producers have yet to arrive at tentative accords with the IATSE studio grips, props and laborers locals in addition to the electricians.

The producers and their representatives received the contract proposals of the studio American Federation of Musicians' local from James C. Petrillo, musicians' head, at a luncheon session yesterday. Meetings between IATSE representatives and the producers will continue today.

## Fitzgerald Delayed, Geehan Here Instead

H. J. Fitzgerald, head of Fox-Wisconsin Theatres, who was scheduled to arrive in New York from headquarters in Milwaukee to serve as chairman of the exhibitors' committee for the 50th anniversary of motion pictures to be observed by the industry this month, has delayed his trip here.

William Geehan, assistant to Fitzgerald, arrived in New York yesterday for preliminary conferences, and he will remain here until the end of the week.

## 60 Ushers Stage Walkout in Malden

BOSTON, April 3.—Sixty ushers in nearby Malden struck for higher wages over the weekend, demanding a 20-cent hourly wage increase. The present rate is 40 cents. All high school boys working on a part-time basis, the ushers are not unionized but have formed a bargaining group among themselves and are ready to negotiate. Theatre managers affected have notified the strikers that their demands will be heard this week.

House officials called in former employes and women relatives of men in service to meet the emergency over the weekend.

## Production Unit for R. Fellows at RKO

HOLLYWOOD, April 3.—Charles W. Koerner, RKO Radio Studios vice-president, has announced the formation of Robert Fellows' own production unit at RKO, with Warren Duff as associate producer and Howard Estabrook as writer-director-associate producer. Directors assigned to the unit are Richard Wallace, Edward Sutherland, Ray Engith, Harold Schuster and Edwin L. Marin. Melville Burke will continue as Fellows' assistant.

## 6-Billion Quota For Individuals

WASHINGTON, April 3.—A goal of $16,000,000,000 with a quota of $6,000,000,000 for individual bond buyers, was set at the weekend by Henry Morgenthau, Jr., secretary of the Treasury, in his announcement of the details of the Fifth War Loan Campaign scheduled to start June 12 and continue through July 8.

Morgenthau pointed out that finances for the War this year will amount to more than twice as much as the tax revenue anticipated. He stated that the quota of $6,000,000,000 for individuals will be emphasized throughout the campaign and more particularly in two weeks from June 12 to June 26, which will be followed by a drive on non-banking investors aimed at completing the total quota.

## Resume Prefect Case Without Jury Present

NEW HAVEN, April 3.—Trial of the Prefect anti-trust suit against eight distributing companies, recessed here for a week because of the illness of several jury members, was resumed today with the offering of documents included among the depositions of George Skouras, president of Skouras Theatres.

The jury was absent from today's session but will reconvene tomorrow morning when the plaintiffs will continue their introduction of witnesses.

## Says SAG Collected $350,000 for Extras

HOLLYWOOD, April 3.—John Dales, Jr., executive secretary of the Screen Actors Guild, testified today during the National Labor Relations Board hearing on the Screen Players Union petition for a collective bargaining election for extras, that from 1937 to date the guild had collected about $350,000 in wage claims for "B" members aside from adjustments made on sets.

## Loew Depositions In Griffith Case

Earle Beatty, member of the home office legal department of Loew's, gave depositions here yesterday as part of the pre-trial work on the Government's anti-trust suit against the Griffith Amusement Co., of Oklahoma and Texas.

## Honor Morris Rosenthal

BRIDGEPORT, Conn., April 3.—More than 200 industry and civic leaders honored Morris Rosenthal, manager of Loew's Majestic here for the past 20 years, recently promoted to the managership of Loew's Poli theatre in New Haven. The testimonial dinner, held in the Hotel Barnum here at the weekend, was attended by Lou Brown, advertising director of Loew's Poli theatres; Gertrude Merriam and Chester Friedman, *Managers' Round Table;* Al Domain, manager of the Globe Theatre; Barney Pitkin, manager of the RKO exchange, and others.

# Coast Flashes

*Hollywood, April 3*

KENNETH MacGOWAN joined Paramount today as producer. He will confer with executive producer B. G. DeSylva during the next two weeks regarding stories for filming. He was formerly with 20th Century-Fox.

•

H. J. Yates has arrived at the Republic studios from New York for the second quarterly production checkup. He will remain a month, launching two specials, "Atlantic City" and "Lake Placid."

•

J. J. O'Connor, Universal vice-president, will leave for the home office tomorrow following studio conferences.

•

Arnold Pressburger returned here today from New York after United Artists home office conferences setting release for "It Happened Tomorrow."


# NEW YORK THEATRES

RADIO CITY MUSIC HALL
50th Street & 6th Avenue
RITA HAYWORTH • GENE KELLY
"COVER GIRL"
in TECHNICOLOR • A Columbia Picture
Music by Jerome Kern • Lyrics by Ira Gershwin
Gala Stage Show • Symphony Orchestra
1st Mezzanine Seats Reserved. CIrcle 6-4600

EXCLUSIVE! SOUTH AMERICAN FRONT — 1944 LATEST MARCH of TIME
RADIO CITY MUSIC HALL

RKO PALACE B'WAY & 47th St.
NOW PLAYING
Maria Montez • Jon Hall
Turhan Bey
'Ali Baba and the Forty Thieves'

DARRYL F. ZANUCK'S
"The PURPLE HEART"
PLUS ON STAGE—COUNT BASIE and ORCH.—CAROL BRUCE—ZERO MOSTEL
BUY MORE BONDS ROXY 7th Ave. & 50th St.

LOEW'S STATE B'WAY & 45
ON SCREEN
1st N. Y. Showing
'HER PRIMITIVE MAN'
starring
LOUISE ALLBRITTON
ROBT. PAIGE
IN PERSON
LEO CARRILLO
Earl 'Father' HINES and ORCHESTRA
OTHER BIG ACTS


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# 104 Films at Once On Guadalcanal

WASHINGTON, April 3.—Major General Frederick Osborn, director of the Army's morale services division, saw 104 motion pictures being shown at the same time on Guadalcanal during a tour he recently completed through the Pacific war zones, the General reported in a broadcast from here on this week's "We, the People" program over WABC.

"Most of the pictures," Osborn said, "were first runs. Some of the men made several trips around the islands until they had seen all of the films. I remember once seeing soldiers sit for two hours watching a picture shown silent, because the sound track had broken down. The only sound was wise cracks from the soldiers, ad-libbing the missing lines. But they were all back the next night to see it through with sound. That's how much American films mean to them. They're another one of the many close links with home," the General added.

General Osborn, who covered 30,000 miles on his journey, announced also that more than 700 men on Guadalcanal were taking correspondence courses through the Army Forces Institute and that war information films like the "Why We Fight" series were a part of this program.

## *120 'Twain' Openings Scheduled May 3-5*

First 120 premieres of more than 200 advanced-price openings of "The Adventures of Mark Twain" scheduled by Warners for simultaneous runs the week of May 6, will take place May 3-5.

The initial group includes the Broadway premiere at the Hollywood Theatre, where the run will continue indefinitely. Other bookings are limited to one week, to be followed later in the season by the regular national release.

### Army Parade Sunday At London Premiere

LONDON, April 3.—With a U. S. Army band leading a parade of U. S. soldiers into the Warner Theatre here, "The Adventures of Mark Twain" was given its world premiere on Sunday. Service men from Twain's home town were interviewed as part of the American press coverage.

## *Nashville Bus Strike Cuts Receipts 30-50%*

NASHVILLE, April 3.—A bus strike that completely tied up this city's transportation system on Friday, Saturday and Sunday caused business at all 21 theatres here to slump 30 to 50 per cent. First-run houses had already lost heavily because of the withdrawal of all soldiers from a nearby maneuvers area, according to theatre operators.

## *Army Gets 'Our Time'*

Forty 16mm prints of Warners' "In Our Time," starring Ida Lupino and Paul Henreid, have been turned over to the Army through the War Activities Committee for exhibition to troops overseas.

# *Business Holds Up, with Few Complaints on Tax*

(*Continued from page 1*)

**tax-rise complaints, but they were comparatively few. Wet weather and Palm Sunday took their toll at Broadway, New York, houses (see page 1, column 3).**

Advance trailers frequently had told the public to expect a rise in taxes, stressing that this did not constitute a ticket price increase, but, rather, was an additional war levy. In many areas exhibitors reported to MOTION PICTURE DAILY correspondents that patrons were ready with cash for the higher tax payment; elsewhere it was said that patrons appeared unaware that they had been charged additionally.

### Several Days Needed

Some owners declared that several days will be needed to determine what overall effect on steady patronage will be felt as a result of the increase which became effective on Saturday.

Circuits in and around New York City surveyed by MOTION PICTURE DAILY declared that the tax had not affected business. Some said that it was too early to weigh the effect. Metropolitan circuits whose business was off over the weekend observed that the rainy weather might have been the principal cause. Several outlying circuits attributed a slight increase in business to the weather with patrons "hugging" home neighborhoods. On the whole, however, most seemed to feel that a fair estimate of the operation of the new tax would have to wait until boxoffice recieipts could be observed over a longer period.

In Los Angeles, Fox West Coast Theatres reported normal weekend receipts for both first-run and neighborhood houses, and a drop of only five per cent was noted in the Chicago Loop, with the Balaban and Katz office and the independents attributing the slight slump to Palm Sunday. Grosses were off 15 per cent throughout the Chicago neighborhoods, however.

### Boston Up 15 Percent

First-run business in Boston was not only unaffected by the tax rise, but ran 15 percent over the previous week. Little or no complaint was heard from patrons against the increase. Large neighborhood houses also reported a weekend patronage rise. Memphis theatremen reported no perceptible difference because of the tax, Herbert Kohn, general manager of the 80-theatre Malco circuit, declaring, "We can't tell for several days" what effect, if any, will be felt by the higher tax. Weekend business was near capacity, as usual.

Downtown and neighborhood houses in Pittsburgh reported no customer complaints, typical exhibitor comment revolving around this observation: "People will see shows regardless; money doesn't matter these days." Kansas City downtown and neighborhood business was excellent over the weekend, with no signs of any effects from the new levy, and many houses playing to "SRO". Around the Minneapolis area, the new tax, however, appeared to have affected business in suburban sections, where mediocre business was reported for the weekend. "Loop" houses did not feel any adverse reactions, most doing business in excess of a week ago.

The new tax failed to affect Baltimore weekend business. Some weak spots were attributed to rainy weather. Neighborhood managers reported unfavorable tax reactions only from youngsters. Cleveland patrons of first-runs paid the new tax without comment. A check on both affiliated and independent subsequents likewise showed good weekend business. Patrons appeared scarcely aware of the boost, paying without comment. Even children were ready with the extra pennies. Advance trailers had prepared the public for the rise.

### Didn't Know They Were Paying

"People acted as though they didn't even know they were paying more; there were no complaints at all," was the consensus of Hartford theatremen. The higher tax made little, if any, impression in Albany, N. Y. First run and neighborhood houses had usual weekend business. C. B. Akers of the Griffith Circuit, Oklahoma City, reported Sunday grosses at lower priced houses were off, but were average at higher-scaled runs. In Atlanta, business was unchanged by the new tax, but some grumbling was heard, especially in neighborhoods where some patrons threatened to take their patronage downtown.

St. Louis weekend receipts were normal at first runs, with neighborhoods tapering off slightly. Patrons' acceptance of the new tax was with surprisingly few complaints. Exibitors in some spots reported a slight drop due to Palm Sunday, not taxes. Providence reported normal business over the weekend—with no tax complaints. Charlotte first runs and neighborhoods reported weekend crowds as large as ever. The only kicks were from theatre cashiers who did not like the extra tax handling.

### None Left Boxoffice

The new tax was said to have had little effect on business in Rochester, N. Y., where managers added that there were few complaints. Only one Des Moines house experienced any drop in business, and its operator felt that an unpopular picture was the cause. In Omaha, William Miskell, Tri-States district manager, and "Pinky" McIlvaine of the Brandeis Theatre found receipts up to par. McIlvaine did not see a single patron turn away from the box office.

Not only did Buffalo feel no effect of the tax, but in several instances the grosses were well above average. Four out of five Gammel community houses did 15 to 20 per cent better than on Palm Sunday weekend last year, and the circuit's Majestic in Hornell had 50 per cent higher receipts.

Despite rain on Saturday, the Interstate houses in the Dallas area reported a normal weekend. Five Robb and Rowley suburban theatres there showed increased busines, as did P. J. Cameron's Peak and Airway. And managers in Milwaukee agreed that business was "wonderful."

# Weather and Palm Sunday Send N.Y. Grosses Downward

(*Continued from page 1*)

around $62,000 and the combined show will hold over. The film still has two weeks to go to equal the eight-week high mark for the theatre set by "Star Spangled Rhythm." "The Heavenly Body" and a stage show featuring Jimmy Durante and Bonita Granville is headed for $60,000 on a second week at the Capitol and the bill will continue. Fourth and final week of "The Purple Heart" and a stage bill at the Roxy will do about $53,000. "Four Jills in a Jeep" and a stage show featuring Harry Richman and the DeMarcos will open at the Roxy tomorrow. "Shine on Harvest Moon" and a stage show is expected to gross around $34,000 on the fourth and final week at the Strand. "Uncertain Glory," featuring Errol Flynn and Paul Lukas, and a Ted Lewis stage show will take over at the Strand on Friday.

The tenth week of "The Song of Bernadette" at the Rivoli will yield approximately $37,000 and the picture will continue. "See Here, Private Hargrove" is expected to gross $30,000 on its second week at the Astor and it likewise will continue. The seventh week of "Passage to Marseille" at the Hollywood will do about $16,000; it will also continue. "Voice in the Wind" will hold for a fourth week at the Victoria after chalking up approximately $12,400 on the third. United Artists' "Knickerbocker Holiday" will follow.

### Ali Baba Will Hold

"Ali Baba and the 40 Thieves" is headed for a third week's gross of $14,500 at the Palace and it will hold. Second week of "The Imposter" at the Criterion is expected to bring in about $14,000. M-G-M's "Lost Angel" will open at the Criterion on Saturday. "Weird Woman" expects $8,000 on its first week at the Rialto. A decision whether to hold it over or bring in Republic's "The Lady and the Monster" on Friday will be made today.

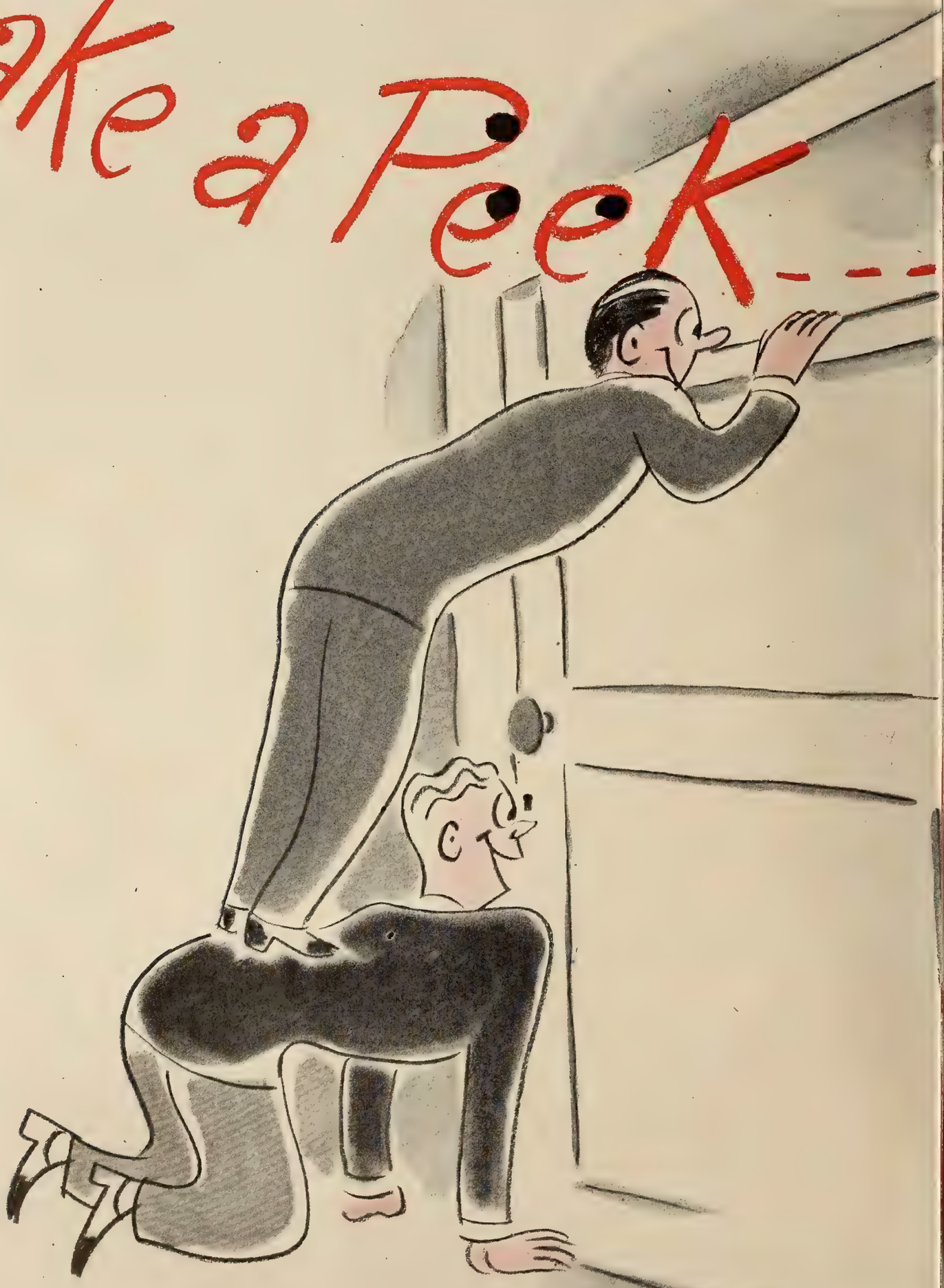
Third and final week of "The Fighting Seabees" at the Globe is expected to gross $11,500. M-G-M's "Rationing" is set to open at the Globe on Saturday. Second week of "Women in Bondage" at the Gotham (formerly the Central) is expected to do approximately $12,500 and the picture is expected to hold. United Artists' "Up in Mabel's Room" will follow.

An extended Broadway run for the revival of Walt Disney's "Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs" will begin at at the Manhattan Theatre this morning. The State will open a first-run presentation of Columbia's "None Shall Escape" on Thursday.

## *Danziger Returns as M-G-M Publicist*

Bill Danziger, publicist, rejoined M-G-M's home office advertising-publicity department here yesterday. He will handle special promotion campaigns for the company. Danziger was recently with the Institute of Public Relations and was formerly associated with M-G-M for nine years.

# Take a Peek---



# UP IN MABEL'S ROOM

What you'll see is box-office!

EDWARD SMALL has made it big... U.A.'s got it!

*Edward Small* presents **"UP IN MABEL'S ROOM"**

MARJORIE REYNOLDS • DENNIS O'KEEFE • GAIL PATRICK • MISCHA AUER

CHARLOTTE GREENWOOD *with* LEE BOWMAN • JOHN HUBBARD • JANET LAMBERT *and* BINNIE BARNES

on the Stage Success "UP IN MABEL'S ROOM" by Otto Harbach and Wilson Collison

Screen Adaptation by Tom Reed • Directed by ALLAN DWAN

[*Advertisement*]

# Exhibs Cheer Trade Showing 'Follow Boys'

By WEIR HAPPY

Follow the Boys Headquarters, April 3—In one of the most successful simultaneous trade showings ever held by any company, Universal's FOLLOW THE BOYS was previewed yesterday in all exchange centers, and record-breaking attendances proved that this Charles K. Feldman production is eagerly anticipated by exhibitors all over the country.

Following closely upon the heels of the enthusiastic reviews in all trade papers voluntary statements praising the picture poured into Universal's Home Office late last night, another indication that exhibitors are even more enthusiastic about Follow the Boys than the reviewers.

**Everybody's Happy**

This was in line with the enthusiasm displayed by the many people, show wise and otherwise, who jammed the Palace Theatre midnight, March 27, for the special preview of Follow the Boys. It was the unanimous opinion of the several thousand present that this picture carried a terrific wallop.

The atmosphere of the Palace was recreated March 27 when Benny Roberts raised the baton in the pit and the old Palace orchestra broke into the National Anthem. Then Joe Laurie, Jr., stepped on the stage, following a nation-wide broadcast over NBC, and then followed a procession of greats and former greats, acts which had played the Palace in its halcyon days.

**Tucker, Lewis Great**

Sophie Tucker sang "I'm Alabamy Bound," Ted Lewis gave out with "When My Baby Smiles at Me," Fritzi Scheff sang, so did Irving Fisher, Fred Stone tore off a few steps, and, to climax the eventful evening, George Raft danced to the tune of "Sweet Georgia Brown" and finished with the Charleston.

Raft, Lewis and Miss Tucker were repeating some of the scenes from Follow the Boys. The entire evening blended with the picture, inasmuch as the Feldman production opens with the closing of the Palace and deals with show business and the part it is playing in the war effort.

The entertainment in the picture is abundant. The Andrews Sisters, Jeannette MacDonald, Orson Welles' Mercury Wonder Show, Dinah Shore, W. C. Fields, Marlene Dietrich, Artur Rubenstein, Donald O'Connor, Peggy Ryan, Carmen Amaya, Freddie Slack, Louis Jordan, Charlie Spivak and their orchestras perform in their own inimitable styles.

No wonder the Associated Press, United Press and International News Service sent the story all over the country.

No wonder the exhibitors have joined in singing the praises of this outstanding picture.

No wonder everybody is happy to Follow the Boys.

# *11 Companies Cut This Season's Program to 425*

(*Continued from page* 1)

sponsible for current releases being a dozen less than was originally estimated when many companies enunciated a "flexible" selling policy, depending upon market conditions.

Whereas between 24-31 features were originally expected from Warners, the present release pace indicates probably only 20 this year with the trend expected to be continued into next year's releases if market conditions continue unchanged.

Twentieth Century-Fox is headed for a total of 28 to 30 features although from 36 to 40 were indicated in pre-season estimates. No plans have been made as to the total number of films to be released during 1944-45, according to Tom Connors, vice-president in charge of distribution.

RKO-Radio president Ned E. Depinet has indicated that his company will deliver all of the 40 films promised and a similar number will be released during 1944-45, according to present plans. Columbia will deliver the 44 features it had promised for 1943-44, A. Montague, general sales manager said, and is considering increasing the number to 48 or 50 during 1944-45. Universal will release the 55 it promised for 1943-44, William A. Scully, vice-president and general sales manager, indicated, and the company plans to release a similar number during 1944-45.

Paramount's present rate of releases indicates that the 30 features promised will be released with the possibility of the number even reaching 32. Paramount sees its present pace of releases continued in 1944-45.

M-G-M's recent announcement of a third 1943-44 block of five features after the release of two blocks of 12 each is not seen as affecting the company's total of 36 films this year. There is no indication as yet of M-G-M's plans for 1944-45.

All of Republic's 68 pictures are expected to be delivered, 44 being features and 24 Westerns. Sixteen of Monogram's promised 40 will be Westerns, and 16 of PRC's promised 40 will be Westerns. Columbia will release eight Westerns and two special Westerns in addition to the 44 promised. Montague has indicated that from 10 to 14 Westerns will be released by Columbia in 1944-45, with from four to six being "specials." Universal will release seven Westerns in addition to the company's 55 features.

United Artists will have from 24 to 30 features for release from affiliated producers for 1943-44 as indicated in pre-season estimates of 25 to 30. No indications are available on possible 1944-45 releases from the company.

## *Nathanson Group Buys 3 Odeon Houses*

(*Continued from page* 1)

An offer of $831,000 by Famous Players was turned down. President of Theatre Properties (Hamilton) Ltd., is Paul Nathanson, who also heads Odeon.

The shareholders defeated by vote a proposal that the meeting be adjourned and a later meeting be called. This was submitted by Norman S. Robertson, representing Famous Players. President W. D. Ross of Hamilton United said he considered prospects with the Nathanson Company better than the offer by Famous Players.

## *PRC Sales Winner*

Sam Decker, PRC franchise holder in Los Angeles, placed first in that company's recent collection drive.

## *Report Hal Wallis Will Join M-G-M*

(*Continued from page* 1)

tional studio management when Warners and First National consolidated. After turning out such films as "Little Caesar," "Five Star Final" and "Dawn Patrol," he became associate executive in charge of production for Warners in 1933. He was producer of "Casablanca," Academy award winner, as the best picture of last year.

## *Denies Froman Charge*

Pan American Airways, Inc., in United States District Court here yesterday denied liability for the injuries received by Jane Froman, actress and singer, in the crash of the Yankee Clipper at Lisbon on Feb. 22, 1942. Exemption was claimed on grounds of rules relating to international transportation.

# *100 Fewer Releases This Year*

| Company | 1943-44 Product to Be Delivered | 1943-44 Product Announced | 1942-43 Product Delivered | 1941-42 Product Delivered |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Columbia | 44 | 44 | 49 | 63 |
| M-G-M | 36 | 36 | 36 | 48 |
| Monogram | 40 | 40 | 44 | 54 |
| Paramount | 30-32 | 30 | 32 | 42 |
| PRC | 40 | 40 | 37 | 38 |
| Republic | 68 | 68 | 57 | 54 |
| RKO Radio | 40 | 40 | 47 | 39 |
| 20th Century-Fox | 28-30 | 36-40 | 44 | 54 |
| United Artists | 24-30 | 25-30 | 30 | 28 |
| Universal | 55 | 55 | 59 | 63 |
| Warner Bros. | 20 | 24-31 | 24 | 39 |
| Totals | 425-435 | 438-454 | 459 | 522 |

# Agnew in Five-Year Pact with Vanguard

(*Continued from page* 1)

he is a member was "locked up" at the conclusion of the trial, with the result that he is expected to be inaccessible until late today or tomorrow. Meanwhile, the date of his departure from Paramount, where he has been vice-president in charge of sales and a member of the company's board of directors, has not been determined. Agnew did not have a contract with Paramount.

Paramount officials said yesterday they expected Agnew would take up his new post within "a week or two." No decision has been made yet on his successor, it was said, and a published report that a former sales head of Paramount would return to the post met with denials. Charles M. Reagan, assistant general sales manager for Paramount, is regarded as being in line for the appointment.

Barney Balaban, Paramount president, yesterday confirmed the Selznick announcement of Agnew's withdrawal from Paramount to join Vanguard, adding that "Paramount wishes him every success in his new venture."

## *UA Planning Foreign Publicity 'Outposts'*

(*Continued from page* 1)

effort represented by prepared material which now has litle or partial application in export fields. Gould feels that background knowledge of specific territories will permit "slanting" basic material for maximum effectiveness and thus ultimately aid UA grosses. He said the move is one step toward meeting intensive current and postwar production competition for which plans, he added, are actively underway in all important nations, including exile governments headquartering presently in London.

The first "outpost" is planned for Mexico City under Len Daily, now in the UA foreign department in New York. Other likely spots include Paris, Cairo, Manila and Buenos Aires.

Gould will leave for the East next weekend. Sydney Allbright, managing director of UA's Australian company, will leave for Sydney shortly.

## *State Dept. Defers Re-education Plans*

(*Continued from page* 1)

program both of the Department and branches of the military services.

This task, said to be difficult, will be deferred until a more opportune time, the Department said, but it proposes to collaborate with the conference of Allied ministers of education and the United Nations to form a united organization for education and cultural restoration which will operate as rapidly as war conditions permit.

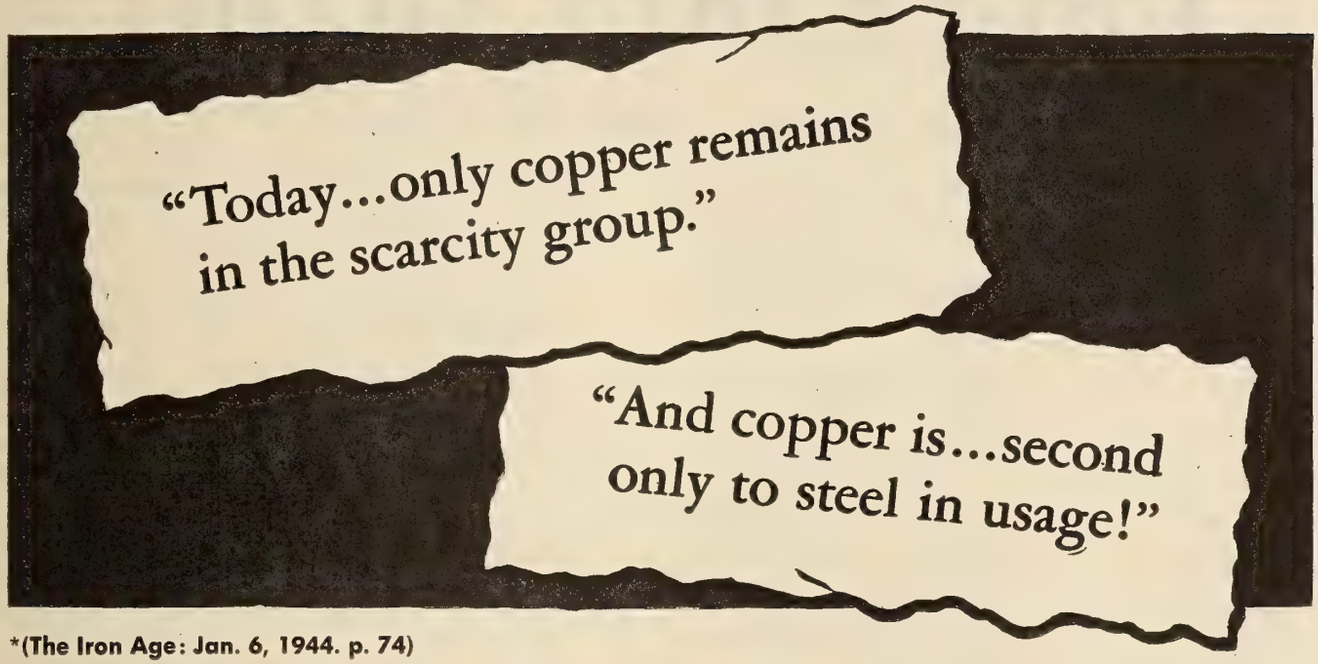
## *Extend War Risk Damage Insurance*

(*Continued from page* 1)

have to be paid for at existing rates.

The Water Damage Corp. was created two years ago to provide insurance of property against bombing or other war hazards. Premiums collected have totaled $218,000,000 after payment of all expenses.

# TWO QUOTES* TO REMEMBER!




*(The Iron Age: Jan. 6, 1944. p. 74)

TODAY, "usage" refers primarily to war usage, and "scarcity" is a word of challenge to every American!

That's why we remind you again to save the copper that drops from your Victory and "Orotip" Carbons to the bottom of your lamp housings . . . and to strip off the copper that is left on the stubs you remove from their holders.

Then turn it all in to your distributor, or to your local salvage headquarters, so that it can be put back into war-essential products.

For additional economy of copper, and carbons too, a bulletin describing completely the operation of the Victory High Intensity Carbons . . . "National," "Suprex," and "Orotip,". . . has been in general distribution. If you have not received your copy, write today. National Carbon Company, Inc., Cleveland 1, Ohio, Dept. 9D.

The words "National," "Suprex," and "Orotip" are registered trade-marks of National Carbon Company, Inc.

***BUY UNITED STATES WAR BONDS***

## NATIONAL CARBON COMPANY, INC.

*Unit of Union Carbide and Carbon Corporation*

**CARBON PRODUCTS DIVISION, Cleveland 1, Ohio** UCC **New York, Pittsburgh, Chicago, San Francisco**

# WARNER BROS.' TRADE SHOWINGS OF

# ERROL FLYNN · PAUL LUKAS

in

# "UNCERTAIN GLORY"

## MONDAY, APRIL 10, 1944

| CITY | PLACE OF SHOWING | ADDRESS | TIME |
|---|---|---|---|
| Albany | Warner Screening Room | 79 N. Pearl St. | 12:30 P.M. |
| Atlanta | RKO Screening Room | 191 Walton St. N.W. | 2:00 P.M. |
| Boston | RKO Screening Room | 122 Arlington St. | 2:00 P.M. |
| Buffalo | Paramount Sc. Room | 464 Franklin St. | 2:00 P.M. |
| Charlotte | 20th Century-Fox Sc. Rm. | 308 S. Church St. | 10:00 A.M. |
| Chicago | Warner Screening Room | 1307 So. Wabash Ave. | 1:30 P.M. |
| Cincinnati | RKO Screening Room | Palace Th. Bldg. E. 6th | 7:30 P.M. |
| Cleveland | Warner Screening Room | 2300 Payne Ave. | 8:00 P.M. |
| Dallas | 20th Century-Fox Sc. Rm. | 1803 Wood St. | 2:00 P.M. |
| Denver | Paramount Sc. Room | 2100 Stout St. | 2:00 P.M. |
| Des Moines | 20th Century-Fox Sc. Rm. | 1300 High St. | 12:45 P.M. |
| Detroit | Film Exchange Bldg. | 2310 Cass Ave. | 2:00 P.M. |
| Indianapolis | Paramount Sc. Room | 116 W. Michigan | 1:00 P.M. |
| Kansas City | 20th Century-Fox Sc. Rm. | 1720 Wyandotte St. | 1:30 P.M. |
| Los Angeles | Vitagraph Sc. Room | 2025 S. Vermont Ave. | 2:00 P.M. |
| Memphis | Paramount Sc. Room | 362 So. Second St. | 11:00 A.M. |
| Milwaukee | Warner Th. Sc. Room | 212 W. Wisconsin Ave. | 2:00 P.M. |
| Minneapolis | 20th Century-Fox Sc. Rm. | 1015 Currie Ave. | 2:00 P.M. |
| New Haven | Warner Th. Proj. Room | 70 College St. | 11:00 A.M. |
| New Orleans | 20th Century-Fox Sc. Rm. | 200 S. Liberty St. | 2:00 P.M. |
| New York | Home Office | 321 W. 44th St. | 2:30 P.M. |
| Oklahoma | 20th Century-Fox Sc. Rm. | 10 North Lee Ave. | 1:30 P.M. |
| Omaha | 20th Century-Fox Sc. Rm. | 1502 Davenport St. | 1:00 P.M. |
| Philadelphia | Vine St. Sc. Room | 1220 Vine St. | 11:00 A.M. |
| Pittsburgh | 20th Century-Fox Sc. Rm. | 1715 Blvd. of Allies | 2:00 P.M. |
| Portland | Star Screening Room | 925 N.W. 19th Ave. | 2:00 P.M. |
| Salt Lake | 20th Century-Fox Sc. Rm. | 216 East 1st South | 2:00 P.M. |
| San Francisco | Republic Sc. Room | 221 Golden Gate Ave. | 1:30 P.M. |
| Seattle | Jewel Box Sc. Room | 2318 Second Ave. | 2:00 P.M. |
| St. Louis | S'renco Sc. Room | 3143 Olive St. | 1:00 P.M. |
| Washington | Earle Th. Bldg. | 13th & E Sts. N.W. | 10:30 A.M. |

*'The Memphis Belle'—Technicolor Saga of Our Air Heroes. Book It Now*

First in Film and Radio News Brief, Accurate and Impartial

# MOTION PICTURE DAILY

Alert, Intelligent and Indispensable to the Motion Picture Industry

VOL. 55. NO. 67 NEW YORK, U. S. A., WEDNESDAY, APRIL 5, 1944 TEN CENTS

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## WB Abrogates Hal Wallis's Studio Pact

### *'Failure to Comply with Terms' Is Charged*

HOLLYWOOD, April 4.—Warners has abrogated Hal Wallis's contract as a result of what the company described in a statement issued today as the "failure to comply with the terms of the contract which has been in force three years."

Abrogation of the contract, the statement said, took effect when Wallis "relinquished the post of executive producer of the Warner Bros. studios."

"The fact that Wallis has been in negotiations with other studios," the company statement continued, "indicated a discontent with his association with Warners and hastened the move on the part of the studio, since mutual understanding between Warner Bros. and Wallis was apparently no longer possible."

"Wallis's departure," the statement

(*Continued on page 7*)

## Walsh Sees IATSE Pact in 10 Days

Richard F. Walsh, IATSE international president, indicated here yesterday that present contract negotiations being conducted between the producers and the IATSE will conclude within another week or ten days. Yesterday's sessions between the producers' labor representatives, company heads, and the IATSE studio local representatives centered around negotiations with the studio "grips" and electricians with studio "props" and laborers' locals also receiving producers' counter proposals.

Several general IATSE contract

(*Continued on page 7*)

## *U. S., Schine to Argue Trustee Today*

BUFFALO, April 4.—The Department of Justice is scheduled to petition the Federal District Court here tomorrow for the appointment of a trustee to supervise nine Schine circuit theatres which the latter has been unable to dispose of under a U. S. court order of May 19, 1942.

Schine is also scheduled to make a counter-motion for relief under the order. Robert L. Wright, Assistant U. S. Attorney General, has charged the disputed houses are deteriorating.

## *Loew Bond Sales Pass $109,000,000*

**Purchases of war bonds by Loew's, Inc., plus the company's sales to employes and the public, have reached $109,497,953, treasurer David Bernstein announced here yesterday at a pre-Fifth War Loan planning meeting.**

**Since June 1, 1942, he said, Loew theatres and Loew's radio station WHN have sold $70,960,223 in bonds and stamps; employes have bought $12,537,730 worth, and the company itself, $26,840,000.**

## Britain Keeps Studios Until End of War

LONDON, April 4.—Despite urgent representations of J. Arthur Rank and other British producers, the Government is determined to retain requisitioned studios until after the war, it was learned here today.

**Requisitioning of British studios by the Government for war filming is principally responsible for delaying British-production plans of American companies, having caused a severe shortage of studio space for non-military work.**

Also learned, unofficially, but never-

(*Continued on page 7*)

## *U.S. Warning On Pay Jumps*

WASHINGTON, April 4.—Employers in the film industry who rely on their established salary policy as authority for increasing salaries without specific approval of the Commissioner of Internal Revenue were warned today that if they have not submitted such policy for the Commissioner's approval they must be prepared to prove at any time that the policies they follow were in effect between Jan. 1, 1938, or thereafter, and Oct. 3, 1942.

The warning appears in new rules issued by Commissioner Joseph D. Nunan, Jr., for the guidance of employers in determining what types of salary increases they may grant without his approval under the present salary stabilization regulations. The new rules

(*Continued on page 7*)

### *10 Areas No Longer Short of War Labor*

WASHINGTON, April 4.—The War Manpower Commission reports here that six areas have been dropped from Group I or the "acute labor shortage" classification, including Trenton, N. J., Spartanburg, S. C., Biloxi-Gulfport, Miss., Pine Bluff, Ark., Stockton, Cal., and Galveston, Tex. The communities named were dropped into Group II which includes cities where supply and demand of labor are about equal.

More evidence of the gradual easing of manpower shortages was also shown in the dropping of Atlanta, Lakeland and Orlando, Fla., and Talladega, Ala., into the Group III division. Santa Ana, Cal., was advanced to Group I.

## Special Sales Cabinet Seen For Vanguard

### *Consider Executives for Top First Run Sales*

A specialized executive sales staff which would concentrate on first run deals in approximately a half-dozen of the largest cities in the country is under consideration for David O. Selznick's Vanguard Films when Neil Agnew takes over as head of distribution within the next week or two, it was reported here yesterday.

Under the plan, to which serious study is being given, it is said, sales executives would be established by Vanguard in New York, Chicago, Los Angeles, Philadelphia, and possibly other populous centers. Each would specialize on Vanguard's deals with first run houses. All other sales of

(*Continued on page 7*)

## Coast Appraises Selznick Move

By RED KANN

HOLLYWOOD, April 4.—David O. Selznick's signing of Neil Agnew as vice-president in charge of distribution for Vanguard Films followed two months of negotiations impelled by the producer's conviction that he needed to have permanent, high-powered sales representation of his own headquartered in New York.

While qualified observers here incline toward injecting nothing into the development beyond its surface manifestations, they point out several widely known Selznick characteristics. Aside from over three millions in

(*Continued on page 7*)

## *Exhibitors Will Recruit For Women's Army Corps*

The next national war effort by exhibitors will be in behalf of a campaign to help boost enlistments in the Women's Army Corps and for which Edward L. Alperson, general manager of RKO Theatres, has been appointed industry chairman.

The decision to inaugurate the effort came as the result of an address made by Major General J. A. Ulio at a recent joint meeting of the WAC Coordinating Committee and the Theatres Division Executive Committe, when the General stressed the Army's need for thousands of additional women.

Alperson reported from California yesterday that the campaign will be built around the second anniversary of

(*Continued on page 7*)

### *Atlas Directors to Be Elected Today*

Annual meeting of stockholders of Floyd B. Odlum's Atlas Corp. will be held today at Wilmington, Del., at which five directors will be elected and a vote taken for the retirement of 44,567 shares of Atlas common. Atlas controls approximately 46 per cent of the RKO voting stock and has other large film interests.

Nominees for directors, constituting the present board, are: Odlum and L. Boyd Hatch of Atlas; Harry M. Durning, U. S. Collector of Customs, New York; Oswald L. Johnston, partner of Simpson, Thacher & Bartlett, and Samuel Zemurray, president of United Fruit Co.

## *Red Cross Figures Double Last Year's*

**Reports reaching New York from the field on returns filed by the first 3,000 theatres participating in the recent Red Cross theatre collections drive indicate a total return of about double last year's $3,670,236, collected by 12,031 theatres. Some 15,600 houses collected this year in the industry campaign which was headed by Joseph Bernhard, Warners.**

# Personal Mention

LEONARD GOLDENSON, vice-president in charge of Paramount theatre operations, will return from the Coast today.

•

HARRY S. BUXBAUM, son of HARRY H. BUXBAUM of 20th Century-Fox's New York exchange, and who was formerly with M-G-M in Buffalo, is first pilot on a Navy bomber in the South Pacific and has been promoted to the rank of Lt. (jg).

•

ELMER F. LUX, RKO branch manager; HOWARD MCPHERSON, Monogram booker; and HAROLD RANDALL, PRC booker and salesman, all of Buffalo, have been inducted into the Army.

•

JACK M. GOETZ, 2nd Lt., with the 398th Infantry, Fort Bragg, N. C., has been promoted to 1st Lt. He is the son of JACK GOETZ, vice-president of Du-Art Film Laboratories.

•

FRANCES FENTON, former M-G-M home office national magazine contact, has gone overseas for the American Red Cross.

•

GEORGE A. SMITH, Paramount Western and Southern division manager, and HUGH BRALY, district manager, were in Omaha last week.

•

GEORGE A. SMITH, Paramount Western division manager, has returned from a two-week trip through his territory.

•

MICHAEL DALY, operator of the Daly Theatre circuit in Connecticut, has returned to Hartford after a visit in Georgia.

•

RAFAEL G. MARTI, president of Tropical Films, Monogram distributor in the West Indies, has left here for San Juan.

•

FRANK LINGENFELSER, head of Warners' Chicago exchange shipping for 14 years, will enter the Army tomorrow.

•

KATHRYN SMITH of Comerford Theatres, Scranton, Pa., has become engaged to PVT. EDWARD RAFFELT of Scranton.

•

DORIS CLARK, Paramount Des Moines contract clerk, has joined the Marines.

•

HOPE HUNTER of Evelyn Gerstein Associates will leave sometime in April to join the OWI overseas branch.

•

LEO SPITZ, chairman of the board of International Pictures, has arrived in New York from the Coast.

•

HARRY GOLDBERG, Warner Theatres advertising and publicity director, was in New Haven yesterday.

•

HAROLD BROOKS, M-G-M Dallas salesman, has been inducted.

# Insider's Outlook

By RED KANN

*Hollywood, April 4*

THE Paramount theatre partners who wound up their palavers at the Arrowhead Springs Hotel today wound them up without adding to their popularity. Tough and realistic —and exhibitors above all—they decided for the second time, at least, that roadshows are roadshows only when they are something emphatically more than a producer's or a distributor's enthusiasm hypoed into high gear by an investment in the $3,000,000 range.

If this attitude has not been directly conveyed to the camps of the enthusiasts thus far, it will arrive at its several destinations in due time.

Expect no cheers.

■

While the Paramount group was not strictly national in extent enough of the partners were on hand and enough of the established thinking of the absentees was in backlog to stamp the results as country-wide in impact and coverage.

Their conclusions were several:

At the base line, the attraction has to have it from bow to stern and from port to starboard with plenty of canvas to spare before it rates roadshow consideration. The mere fact an attraction is very good or very, very good is not enough. And, decidedly, it is not enough to set up two-a-day policies at advanced prices because something went out-of-hand and a picture ends up in the fancy, even now, seven-figure division.

■

It also goes like this, in the partners' view:

These are the kinds of times when, as everyone knows, practically anything goes. Therefore, it is more on the lead-pipe cinch side to get roadshow money than it would be in a market drawing weight and water based on selectivity.

Even so, roadshows are principally big town stuff. They don't take to them graciously in the lesser situations, which is most of the situations including a flock of cities with handsome populations.

■

Kicking around in this analysis, too, appears to be some concern over inflationary prices in the midst of a national economy geared to a draining off of surplus money. Looking beyond and after the war, there is apparently a bulwark of caution being sought against any criticisms about business conduct during the wartime period.

Tied to all of this, of course, is the normal operation of these important circuits and speculations over the drawing power of roadshow attractions after regular distribution deposits them at first runs and all the others which thereafter follow.

■

These are the opposing arguments. On the other side, the partners are not closing their eyes to the roadshow which is the genuine article. However, they view the possibilities along these lines as extremely limited, but are prepared to go in like vein when the occasion warrants.

■

Their overriding approach, nevertheless, is linked with outstanding merit. Consequently, they are urging, or will urge, producers and distributors to take it easy; to make certain excitement is not throwing star dust into the eyes of real values; to ponder well which way they'll come out better: Roadshows skimming the top and threatening the bottom, or extended runs in general release and maintaining the breath of life for the vast numbers of houses beyond the key engagements.

■

For our money, much of this makes a great deal of sense. No one can assert, and then close it out, that roadshows do not belong. They do, but they don't happen very often as any running glance over contemporary trade history will establish quickly enough.

■ ■

David O. Selznick has been previewing "Since You Went Away." He slipped it into a San Bernardino theatre the other night for the convenience of the Paramount theatremen convening on the other side of an adjacent mountain.

Impartial viewpoint (*not ours*):

"A very superior attraction. Not 'Gone With the Wind'. Overlength in its present three hours, plus, of running time."

Another analysis of the Selznick film, likewise impartial (*likewise not ours*):

"A big show. Long, but not too long."

That's how horse races are born.

# Coming Events

**Today**—Atlas Corp. annual stockholders' meeting, Wilmington, Del.

**April 10**—RKO testimonial dinner for Charles Boasberg, Hollenden Hotel, Cleveland.

**April 14**—Episcopal Actors' Guild's annual entertainment, Hotel Waldorf-Astoria, New York.

**April 14**—Film Industry's 50th anniversary observance begins.

**April 14**—Annual MPPDA meeting resumes, New York.

**April 17**—M-G-M lunch for Louis C. Ingram, new Memphis branch manager, Hotel Peabody, Memphis.

**April 30-May 10**—Motion picture division drive for Catholic Charities, New York.

## SPG and Companies Resume Arbitration

Representatives of the Screen Publicists Guild and advertising-publicity heads of film companies here have resumed arguments before a panel of arbitrators at American Arbitration Association headquarters to try and resolve SPG job classifications and wage scale demands. Several sessions are indicated.

Among company advertising publicity heads attending are Mort Blumenstock, Warners; Hal Horne, 20th Century-Fox; S. Barret McCormick, RKO; Maurice Bergman, Universal.

## Columbia Depositions In Griffith Case

Max Rose of the Columbia legal department here gave depositions this week in the pre-trial hearings on the Governments' anti-trust suit against Griffith Amusement Co. of Oklahoma and Texas. In the presence of Albert Boggess, special assistant to the U. S. Attorney General, Rose identified Columbia contracts with Griffith theatres and independent competitors.

## New Cummings Contract

HOLLYWOOD, April 4.—Columbia has signed Irving Cummings to a three-year producer-director contract under which he will make six films with his own unit. He is scheduled to direct two for 20th-Fox after "The Impatient Years" at Columbia and will be permitted to do as many others outside as he desires.

## Sig Marcus Dies

HOLLYWOOD, April 4.—Sig Marcus, long identified with the late Myron Selznick's talent agency, died last night at St. John's Hospital, Santa Monica.

## Chaplin Acquitted

LOS ANGELES, April 4.—Charles Chaplin was acquitted tonight by a Federal jury on both counts of the Mann act indictment brought by Joan Berry.

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## Says Prefect Wants GreenwichMonopoly

NEW HAVEN, April 4.—That Prefect Theatres, Inc., retains possession of the Greenwich Theatre, in addition to the Pickwick in Greenwich, for the purpose of keeping competition out of the township, was admitted in Federal District Court here today in cross-examination by Clarence B. Loewe, a plaintiff's witness in the Prefect anti-trust suit against eight distributing companies.

Loewe, who said he had a 22½ percent interest in the circuit, testified that in 1936 the $5,000-a-year lease on the Greenwich was extended from 1938 to 1940 when it became known that other interests sought the theatre. He added, also on cross examination, that the $3,000 loss shown by Prefect for 1937 was after deduction of $13,000 in bonuses from a $10,000 profit made that year. Loewe was placed on the stand to identify records of which he had charge.

The jury, returning today after a week's recess because of the illness of several members, also heard Harold E. Newcomb, an RKO accountant, who identified records of his company.

## Air Force Officers At 'Belle' Opening

MEMPHIS, April 4.—Air Force officers from Washington and the Dyersburg Air Base will be guests at the premiere here tomorrow night of "Memphis Belle."

Expected are Brig. Gen. H. S. Hanswell, Jr., acting assistant chief of staff of Army Air Forces; Col. Stanley P. Wray, who commanded the 91st Bombardment Group when the "Belle" was raiding Germany; Col. William S. Wyler, producer of the picture, all from Washington; Maj. William E. Clancy, pilot of the "Dame Satan" and commander of the squadron in which "The Belle" flew; Capt. William E. Beasley, pilot of the plane from which the picture was made, and others from the 91st Group who served overseas and now are instructors at Dyersburg.

Paramount Pictures will be host at a luncheon tomorrow noon for the visitors.

## Eaton Will Seek a New Trial April 20

MEMPHIS, April 4. — John W. Eaton, owner-operator of the Peabody Theatre here, will seek to have a guilty verdict of involuntary manslaughter and a sentence of not more than 30 days set aside pending arguments on a motion for a new trial in Criminal Court here on April 20.

Eaton was convicted as the result of an explosion which killed Elroy Curry, 69, theatre maintenance man, last Aug. 17. He was charged with substituting methyl chloride in his cooling system for freon which he no longer could obtain.

## Fitzpatrick Promoted

Edward J. Fitzpatrick has been appointed branch manager of the Washington office of Ross Federal Service. Fitzpatrick was former city editor and general manager of the *Sun* newspapers in Baltimore. He previously acted as general supervisor of the Washington area, with headquarters in Baltimore.

# Review

## "Uncertain Glory"

*(Warner Bros.)*

IN "Uncertain Glory," Warner Bros. has another top-notch topical melodrama. The story is set in contemporary France, centering around the Nazi pattern of executing innocent hostages in their efforts to rout saboteurs. It is excellently enacted by Errol Flynn, Paul Lukas, and a fine supporting cast. Producer Robert Buckner has supplied a first-rate production and Raoul Walsh's direction sustains suspense and interest throughout. It skillfully blends a minor appealing romance with the grimmer elements of the plot which places emphasis on the unusual relationship between Flynn, as a seasoned criminal, and his nemesis, Lukas, a veteran detective of the French Surete. Exhibitors should reap a box-office harvest with "Uncertain Glory."

The long arm of coincidence plays an important part in the compactly-tailored screenplay, as devised by Leszlo Vadnay and Max Brand from an original by Vadnay and Joe May. Flynn escapes execution on the block of the Paris guillotine during a British air raid in the first scene, but having made a study of Flynn's habits for almost 20 years, Lukas quickly recaptures him. However, Lukas' love of France and his hatred of the Nazis proves stronger than his devotion to his duties. With considerable reluctance and subsequent misgivings, he agrees to permit Flynn to confess the sabotaging of a bridge and to face a Nazi firing squad rather than the guillotine, and thereby save 100 Frenchmen doomed to die as hostages for the bridge's destruction. Once Lukas makes his decision, there is no turning back even though Flynn tries to delay his martyrdom for a final romantic fling with a young French girl. Flynn, however, eventually keeps his part of the bargain.

Flynn handles the difficult role of the condemned criminal who makes the first decent gesture in his otherwise ignoble life, with surprising restraint, delivering a uniformly dramatic performance. Lukas projects another grand performance in the sympathetic detective role. The film marks the screen debut of Jean Sullivan, who shows considerable promise in the role of the French girl. Lucille Watson, Sheldon Leonard, Dennis Hoey, Douglas Dumbrille and Faye Emerson are effective in supporting parts. Sid Hickox's photography and Adolph Deutsch's music are competently keyed to the moods of the action.

Running time, 102 mins. "G."* Release date, April 22.

MILTON LIVINGSTON

*"G" denotes general classification.

## Hochstein Trial Is Postponed to May 2

The trial of Harry Hochstein, former morals inspector of Chicago under an indictment alleging he perjured himself before a special Federal Grand Jury probing alleged racketeering within the film industry was postponed here yesterday until May 2 by Federal Judge Alfred C. Coxe.

Hochstein was indicted for allegedly swearing falsely before the Grand Jury when questioned about an alleged conference among members of the Capone gang in his Riverside, Ill., home in 1934.

## Bergman to Ohio On 'Ladies' Campaign

Maurice Bergman, Universal's Eastern advertising-publicity director, left here yesterday for Cincinnati to complete plans for the 70-cities opening of Walter Wanger's "Ladies Courageous." A radio campaign has already begun over Station WLW and will continue until the opening date, April 23. A newspaper and billboard program is also scheduled.

In each of the 70 cities, a "lady courageous" will be chosen by women of the city.

## Pioneer Actress Dies

FORT LEE, N. J., April 4.—Mrs. Anna Auer Baker, 84, said to be one of the first to appear in silent films, died this week at her home here. A daughter, Mrs. Olga Brooks, Fort Lee, survives.

## 'IA' Bids to Upset SOPEG Jurisdiction

The National Labor Relations Board has ordered a hearing on April 11 here on the petition of the IATSE, Local F-51, for a new election to determine a collective bargaining agent for some 30 "white collar" workers in the 20th Century-Fox New York exchange. These workers are presently represented by the Screen Office and Professional Employes Guild, Local 109, CIO.

Local F-51 lost an NLRB election covering these employes in Feb., 1943 but is again claiming to represent a majority of them.

## De Mille Ends Visit In Washington Today

WASHINGTON, April 4.—Cecil B. De Mille, producer of Paramount's "The Story of Dr. Wassell," after winding up a series of official functions in connection with the film's Red Cross premiere at Constitution Hall last Saturday, is scheduled to leave Washington tomorrow.

De Mille and his party, including Commander Corydon M. Wassell (MC) USN, protagonist of the picture, were guests today at a luncheon given by the Chinese Ambassador.

## M-G-M Sets 17 Shorts

Seventeen short subjects, including four March of Time two-reelers, still untitled, will be released by 20th-Fox from April through July.

# Coast Flashes

*Hollywood, April 4*

LOUIS B. MAYER will leave here tomorrow for two weeks of home office conferences with Joseph M. Schenck.

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Monogram has discontinued the Western series of the "Trail Blazers" after completing five films in the group of eight. The group was made by Prescott Pictures. Hoot Gibson and Bob Steele will be co-starred in three Westerns remaining for Monogram production.

•

Jesse L. Lasky returned from the East over the weekend. He will return to New York at the end of the month for the premiere there of "The Adventures of Mark Twain" at the Hollywood Theatre on May 3.

•

After a two months' vacation, Errol Flynn has checked in at Warners to begin work on "Objective Burma," his next starrer, which Jerry Wald will produce and Raoul Walsh will direct.

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Alfred Hitchcock, who has returned here after a visit to England, is starting preparation of "The House of Dr. Edwardes" for Vanguard.

•

Paramount plans special handling for "Going My Way," which probably will open in New York in May.

•

Producer Buddy De Sylva will leave on Friday for a month in Mexico and the Caribbean.

## Ryan Threatens to Halt SPU Hearing

HOLLYWOOD, April 4. — Examiner Charles Ryan today threatened to halt the hearing on the Screen Players Union petition for an extras' bargaining-agency election and report it as a closed case to the National Labor Relations Board in Washington. The step was taken when attorney Alexander Schullman attacked Ryan's stand in refusing SPU demands to introduce matters the examiner held irrelevant.

Aubrey Blair, originally an SPU witness, testified under questioning by William Berger, counsel for the Screen Actors Guild, that the guild had done more for extras in its short existence than had any other union.

## Zagrans, Shumow Ill, Forced to Leave WAC

Ned E. Depinet, distributor chairman of the War Activities Committee, reported here yesterday that illness had forced the resignation of two WAC exchange area chairmen.

In Philadelphia, Charles Zagrans of RKO Radio will be succeeded by Sam Gross of 20th Century-Fox; in Milwaukee, Harry J. Shumow of M-G-M will be replaced by Don Wood, Warners.

## 'Cover Girl' Party

The Society of Illustrators will be host to 80 Harry Conover "Cover Girls" tomorrow evening at Radio City Music Hall, where Columbia's "Cover Girl" is currently showing. The party will conclude with a supper-dance later in the evening at the Illustrator's clubhouse.


They are rolling in the aisles at the Astor, N.Y. wher


M.G.M.'s "See Here, Private Hargrove" breaks 20-year record!

# Production Is Off Four, 44 Now in Work

HOLLYWOOD, April 4.—Although feature production dropped four notches during the past week, with only five new films started while nine finished to bring the total in work down to 44, it was six above this time one year ago. Then only 38 features were before the cameras. The previous week saw six finished and eight new ones started to bring a total of 48 in work. The production scene follows:

**Columbia**

*Shooting:* "The Impatient Years," "America's Children," "Louisiana Hayride."

*Finished:* "Soldiers in Slacks," "Mr. Winkle Goes to War."

**M-G-M**

*Started:* "Lost in a Harem," with Abbott and Costello, Marilyn Maxwell, John Conte; "Maisie Goes to Reno," with Ann Sothern, John Hodiak, Marta Linden, Tom Drake, Ava Gardner.

*Shooting:* "Gold Town," "Mrs. Parkington," "The Picture of Dorian Gray," "Thirty Seconds Over Tokyo," "Secrets in the Dark," "Marriage Is a Private Affair," "Meet Me in St. Louis," "National Velvet."

**Monogram**

*Shooting:* "Leave It to the Irish," "Call of the Jungle," "Range Law" (formerly "Hangman's Law").

**Paramount**

*Shooting:* "Practically Yours," "Bring On the Girls."

**PRC**

*Shooting:* "Minstrel Man."

*Finished:* "Valley of Vengeance" (formerly untitled Buster Crabbe); "Waterfront."

**RKO-Radio**

*Started:* "That Hunter Girl," with Laraine Day, Alan Marshal, Marsha Hunt, Allyn Joslyn, Edgar Buchanan, Marc Cramer, Nancy Gates, John Miljan.

*Shooting:* "The Falcon in Mexico," "Mademoiselle Fifi," "Cocktails for Two," "None But the Lonely Heart," "Heavenly Days," "Manhattan Serenade," "Belle of the Yukon" (International), "Casanova Brown" (International).

**Republic**

*Started:* Untitled Western, with Allan Lane, Peggy Stewart.

*Shooting:* "Song of Nevada," "Secrets of Scotland Yard," "The Girl Who Dared."

*Finished:* "Call of the Rockies."

**20th Century-Fox**

*Started:* "Good Neighbor," with Laurel and Hardy, Helene Reynolds, Doris Merrick.

*Shooting:* "Take It or Leave It," "Irish Eyes Are Smiling," "Wing and a Prayer," "The Keys of the Kingdom."

**United Artists**

*Shooting:* "GI Joe," formerly "Here Is Your War" (Lester Cowan); "Abroad With Two Yanks" (Edward Small).

**Universal**

*Shooting:* "Twilight on the Prairie."

*Finished:* "Dead Man's Eyes," "The Ghost Catchers," "The Climax."

**Warners**

*Shooting:* "The Very Thought of You," "The Conspirators," "To Have and Have Not," "The Doughgirls."

*Finished:* "Cinderella Jones."

# Ask More Details In Percentage Suit

PITTSBURGH, April 4.—Federal Judge R. M. Gibson has ordered the Loew's, 20th Century-Fox, Paramount, RKO, Columbia, Universal, Warners and United Artists, who are suing William Finkel and the Carson Amusement Co. on breach of contract charges, to file a more definite bill of particulars within 20 days.

Accused of making false reports on box office percentage receipts, the theatre operator claims that earlier contracts authorized an audit of books within one year of exhibition dates, but that this right was eliminated in contracts entered into April, 1942.

On motion of counsel for the exhibitor, the court ordered a new schedule to show the contract percentage rate on each of the pictures provided for in contracts involved and the contract provisions as to the time limit for an adult.

Proceedings will be stayed on the order of the Court, and the theatre operator will have 20 days further after the filing of a more definite statement to file its responsive pleading to the complaint.

## *$350,000 from Loew's For Red Cross Fund*

Collections in Loew's Theatres in the 1944 Red Cross campaign will amount to approximately $350,000. To date, checks have been received for $333,937, with reports from a number of Loew houses incomplete. Last year Loew's collections were $195,953. Loew's State, Norfolk, led the circuit this year with a total of $11,820, with the Capitol, N. Y., second with $10,535.

**$4,647 from Victory Shorts**

WASHINGTON, April 4.—A check for $4,647 has been presented to the American Red Cross here on behalf of M-G-M, Paramount and 20th Century-Fox exchanges. The presentation was made by John J. Payette, Warners' zone manager and co-chairman with Carter Barron, Loew's division manager, of the Red Cross War Fund theatre division. The amount represents the profit from the distribution and exhibition of Victory shorts in the Washington area and is a joint contribution of theatre owners and film companies.

**Coast Going Over Top**

HOLLYWOOD, April 4.—Response of the motion picture studios here in the 1944 Red Cross drive will not only exceed last year's total, but will top the record War Chest total, Arch Reeve, public information committee secretary, stated at the weekend.

**$16,062 to Red Cross**

Radio City Music Hall audiences here contributed $16,062 to the Red Cross during the theatre drive.

## *Basil's Colvin to Open*

BUFFALO, April 4.—Basil's Colvin Theatre will open Easter Sunday, according to Constantine J. Basil, president of Basil Theatres, Inc. Construction had been delayed two-and-a-half years due to WPB prohibitions. Upon determining that materials had been secured before WPB orders went into effect, the latter will allow the project to continue.

# *Hollywood*

By JACK CARTWRIGHT

*Hollywood, April 4*

THE upswing in production noted during the past few weeks bids fair to continue through April with several studios planning to launch numerous new films during the month. Universal announced nine new ones, while Monogram set six for April starting dates.

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*Those getting the green light at Universal include "The Singing Sheriff," with Edward Lilley directing; "Merrily We Sing," with Leslie Goodwins directing, and associate producer Bernard Burton in charge of both. Erle Kenton will put producer Paul Malvern's "The Devil's Brood" on the stages while co-producers Michael Fessier and Ernest Pagano prepare "San Diego, I Love You," for an April 10 camera launching.*

*Others scheduled at that studio include "Bowery to Broadway," with Charles Lamont directing for producer John Grant; "See My Lawyer," Olsen-Johnson starrer, with Edward Cline directing for Edmund Hartmann; "Pearl of Death," which Roy W. McNeill will direct and produce; "Make Way for Love," with Felix Feist producing and directing, and associate producer Oliver Drake's "Boss of Boomtown," a Western which Lewis Collins will direct.*

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**Monogram has scheduled Scott R. Dunlap's "The Girl Next Door," Biltmore Production's "A Wave, a Wac, a Marine," Lindsley Parsons "Trail of the Yukon," Jeffery Bernerd's "Are These Your Parents?" and two untitled Westerns.**

•

Perry Como has arrived from New York to do a stint in "Something for the Boys" at Fox. . . . Evelyn Ankers has the romantic lead in "Pearl of Death," mystery story starting April 10 at Universal. . . . RKO has signed Barry Fitzgerald for "None But the Lonely Heart" and John Emery for the romantic lead opposite Simone Simon in Val Lewton's "Mademoiselle Fifi."

## *5 Films Approved, 3 Are Objectionable*

The Legion of Decency classified three films in Class B, objectionable in part, this week. They are: "Moon Over Las Vegas," Universal, for "light treatment of marriage"; "Up In Mabel's Room," Edward Small-United Artists for "suggestive dialogue and situations, light treatment of marriage"; and "Ave Sin Nido," (Clasa Films, Mexican) for "remarks disparaging the religious life."

Five films were passed, including "The Cowboy and the Senorita," Republic; "La Abuelita," Grovas S. A. (Mexican); "Jam Session," Columbia; "It Happened Tomorrow," United Artists; "Weird Woman," Universal, and "Tampico," 20th Century-Fox.

## *New 'Some-Run' Case*

A new some run complaint has been filed at the Minneapolis tribunal by Empress Amusement Corp., operating the Empress Theatre, Minneapolis, against Loew's, the American Arbitration Association reported here this week.

# 'Bernadette' $9,000 Over in 2nd Week

WASHINGTON, April 4.—"The Song of Bernadette," in its second week at Loew's Palace, still continues to be the ace draw in Washington, with an estimated $28,000. "Snow White," also in its second week, should do an exceptional $15,000 at RKO-Keith's.

Estimated receipts for the week ending April 6:

**"The Purple Heart" (20th-Fox)**
LOEW'S—(3,434) (35c-43c-55c-72c) 7 days. On stage: Hal Sherman. Gross: $22,000. (Average: $22,000).

**"A Guy Named Joe"**
LOEW'S COLUMBIA—(1,234) (43c-55c-65c) 7 days, 4th week. Gross: $8,500. (Average: $8,200).

**"Cover Girl" (Col.)**
WARNER'S EARLE—(2,210) (44c-55c-85c-$1.00) 7 days, 2nd week. On stage: Mary Healy. Gross: $19,000. (Average: $19,700).

**"Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs" (RKO)**
RKO-KEITH'S—(1,800) (35c-44c-65c-74c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $15,000. (Average: $13,600).

**"Higher and Higher" (RKO)**
WARNER'S METROPOLITAN—(1,600) (35c-55c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $6,500. (Average: $7,200).

**"The Song of Bernadette" (20th-Fox)**
LOEW'S PALACE—(2,242) (80c-$1.20) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $28,000. (Average: $19,000).

## *Hollywood 'Desert Battalion' on Stage*

HOLLYWOOD, April 4.—Alex Yokel, stage producer, has completed arrangements with Mrs. Edward G. Robinson for production of "Desert Battalion," a comedy with music which expects to reach New York in August. Crane Wilbur is the playwright, drawing upon experiences of the Desert Battalion, traveling show made up of 700 Hollywood and Los Angeles working girls who devote their weekends to entertaining service men at remote training centers. Hollywood talent and citizens are financing, the profits after investment going to the Desert Battalion. A. L. Berman, New York lawyer, and Harry Sokolov, local attorney, are contributing their services as are others identified with the project. Aside from augmenting activities of the Desert Battalion, proceeds will be used for a special rehabilitation program worked out by the Battalion's officers.

## *$3,573,569 Earned By Philco in '43*

PHILADELPHIA, April 4.—Setting a new all-time high sales mark of $116,395,598 in 1943, an increase of 70 percent over 1942's sales of $68,505,979, the Philco Corp. netted $3,573,569, or $2.60 a share last year, compared with $2,209,992 or $1.61 per share in 1942. The new high was set despite voluntary price reductions totaling $18,803,929 on Army and Navy work.

In its annual report to stockholders, Philco cites increasing war production; research in radar and electronics and post-war planning in the fields of radio, television, and air conditioning and other products.

## *415 'Victory' Bookings*

Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer here reports that it already has in hand 415 theatre bookings for "Tunisian Victory," documentary produced jointly by British and American Army film units. The picture is scheduled for release April 28.

# U.S. Warning On Pay Jumps

(Continued from page 1)

embody no change in policy, Nunan said, but set forth the policies which have been formulated from time to time on the basis of experience with the stabilization program.

In particular the rules provide a guide for interpretation of the regulations granting blanket approval for promotion, merit and length-of-service increases in salary under plans in effect on Oct. 3, 1942, or since approved by the Commissioner, emphasizing that approval should be secured for salary ranges for new jobs and for changes in salary policy when new or revised plans are submitted for approval by an employer with no established policy for granting increases.

**General Limitations**

The rules provide general limitations on such increases as follows: for promotions, the established minimum for the new position or 15 per cent above the former salary, whichever is greater; for merit and length-of-service increases within a 12-month period, 15 per cent above the former salary. Another limitation provides that the average of salaries paid for a particular position shall not exceed by more than three percent the mean between the minimum and maximum salary for that position or the average salary paid on Oct. 3, 1942 or any other date approved by the Commissioner.

In connection with the granting of increases an employer is expected to keep a record of the essential facts regarding his 1942 salary policy in order to show, if required, that such increases are consistent with that policy or with a schedule approved by the Commissioner.

## Exhibitors to Aid Recruiting of Wacs

(Continued from page 1)

the Women's Army Corps, on May 11. As projected by the chairman and by S. H. Fabian, head of the WAC theatres division, the drive will be two-pronged, utilizing an Army short subject, featuring General George C. Marshall, plus a specially prepared trailer. The short, "It's Your War, Too," was produced by the U. S. Signal Corps and has been pencilled in by WAC distribution chairman Ned E. Depinet for release beginning the week of April 20, in order to appear in a number of first run theatres prior to the actual opening of the campaign. The trailer, with its star expected to be named shortly, will be the peg on which exhibitors will build stage ceremonies, lobby booths, etc.

Last December the showing of "Chief Neeley Reports to the Nation," combined with showmanship aids, helped jump Wac enlistments from 650 a week to more than 1,000.

Alperson is expected to name his staff within the next few days.

# Selznick's Move Seen as Step in Long Range Plan

(Continued from page 1)

"Since You Went Away," Selznick is embarking more actively into sustained production, chiefly through Vanguard, which yesterday launched "Double Furlough," and has a program of other attractions to follow.

Agnew will safeguard Selznick's interests in making theatre deals, working, of course, with Gradwell Sears and Carl Leserman and the existing United Artists sales organization. But it also is being speculated here how the move fortifies Selznick's sales position in terms of long range activities, whether in association with United Artists or in any direction which the future may bring. Agnew has a three-year contract, plus a two-year option. The contract includes participation in earnings in addition to a first year salary of $2,000 weekly; $2,500 the second year, and $3,000 the third.

It is reported here that the Paramount general sales managership undoubtedly will be offered Charles Reagan, currently Agnew's assistant. Similarly, it is reported there is under consideration a move whereby George J. Schaefer may return to Paramount, perhaps as assistant to the president.

Meanwhile, United Artists' annual meeting of owners, deferred since November, has not been held and there is little likelihood that it will be while Edward C. Raftery, president, and Sears are here on their current visit. Elections of company officers are held annually. Without an annual meeting, therefore, officers will continue in their posts.

George Schaefer, when questioned in New York yesterday concerning the Coast report linking his name with a return to an executive post in Paramount, said: "The matter has not been discussed with me."

## Britain Will Keep Studios Until Peace

(Continued from page 1)

theless authoritatively, was the information that the Board of Trade is surprised that there has been no reply forthcoming from the British Film Producers Association to BOT's request for information regarding priorities necessary to recondition studios in the postwar. Officials are pointing out that labor unions here have already presented a memorandum outlining the number of technicians necessary for release from wartime jobs to get studios in full time working order.

**70 Features in Year**

Hugh Dalton, president of the Board of Trade, disclosed upon being questioned today in the House of Commons, that 70 feature films were registered in the year ending March, 1944. He assured the House that the Government would take all necessary steps to develop the British industry, adding that they were satisfied that there was no danger of foreign interests dominating the industry. He added that conditional film selling by foreign interests alleged to be inimical to independent exhibitors is now under consideration by the Films Council Committee, whose report is awaited by the Government.

Aneurin Bevan, a member of the House, alleged during the debate that combines were breaking the agreement not to acquire further theatres without Governmental consent. Dalton, in replying, said the Government was not aware of this and would welcome proof of its existence.

## 'Monster' Campaign Set

The opening of Republic's "The Lady and the Monster," set for the Rialto here this weekend, will be backed by a publicity campaign highlighted also by promotions in Czechoslovak newspapers, exploiting the feminine lead, Vera Hruba Ralston, former Czechoslovakian skating champion. Steve Edwards, Republic's director of publicity, is now in Boston working on the opening there scheduled for April 12.

## Special Vanguard Sales Cabinet Seen

(Continued from page 1)

Vanguard's product would be handled in the usual way by the United Artists sales organization.

Agnew, as vice-president in charge of distribution for all Vanguard product, would head up the organization of sales specialists, at the same time working in close association with United Artists sales heads.

The new plan is understood to have been based upon exhaustive analyses of sales made for Selznick over an extended period of time. Results of the analyses are said to have revealed that upwards of $3,000,000 can be realized on big pictures from approximately 4,500 theatres of the 12,000 to which big pictures ordinarily are sold. It is estimated further that approximately 6,000 of the 12,000 possibilities gross less than $100 weekly and pay less than $50 in film rental. The remaining 1,500 theatres are an in-between group, lacking maximum gross possibilities but paying rentals well in excess of the smaller theatre group of 6,000 houses.

The cream of the 4,500-theatre group would be the field on which Vanguard's projected organization of executive sales specialists would concentrate, it is said.

## Walsh Sees IATSE Pact in 10 Days

(Continued from page 1)

proposals will still remain to be settled after the producers reach tentative accords with all 11 IATSE locals. Questions of seniority rights; grievance machinery; length of a new contract and allowances for time spent on location are among the proposals. The IATSE has not abandoned its plan to continue to press for a pension-retirement fund. Questions of paid vacations and sick-leave with pay have been compromised, it was learned.

Both the Conference of Studio Unions and the AFL locals which are signatories to the studio basic labor agreement have reached tentative accords with the producers, gaining concessions.

# WB Abrogates Hal Wallis's Studio Pact

(Continued from page 1)

added, "ends an association begun 21 years ago when Jack L. Warner, vice-president, adopted as a protege an ambitious young theatre usher and gave him his first production job. He had been working at a salary of $18 a week and was last reported as among the 10 top earners of the industry. His rise from usher, to press agent, to producer, under Jack Warner's guidance is one of the real success stories of Hollywood."

"As a Warner producer," the company statement said, "Wallis has had many of the studio's choicest assignments, including numerous best-sellers and Broadway hits, resulting in his twice winning the Irving Thalberg Award.

"Warner Bros. is reluctant to sever its relations with Wallis but does not feel it wishes to hold him to a contract which has apparently become irksome," the statement concluded.

Various top studios have been mentioned in connection with Wallis's future affiliation, M-G-M most persistently among them.

## Legal Battle Looms On Wallis Contract; Breach Is Denied

By RED KANN

HOLLYWOOD, April 4.—A legal battle loomed tonight over the services of Hal B. Wallis following Warners' statement that the company had abrogated his contract.

Acting for Wallis is attorney Lloyd Wright, who in a statement declared that the Warner allegation "comes as a distinct surprise because extended negotiations toward mutual termination of the contract have been carried on between the two parties during the last few weeks." Wright denied for Wallis any contract breach, adding, "These negotiations came to an abrupt end last night because Jack Warner took what Wallis considered an arbitrary and unfair attitude in his proposal."

The studio claims to have proof of the contract breach but will not divulge details. It is reliably understood that the current pact had one more year to run.

## Lackey With Rothacker

HOLLYWOOD April 4.—William T. Lackey, producer latterly identified with Monogram, on Monday joined the Office of Censorship here under direction of Watterson R. Rothacker.

**MANAGER AT LIBERTY**
Competent—Experienced in all types of exhibition—A1 record in Metropolitan, deluxe or neighborhood theatres. Will go anywhere for top offer. Box 220, MOTION PICTURE DAILY



***REVEL WITH ROSIE***

***. . . as she welds her wa***
***to Victory in a merr***
***melee of wrenches an***
***wenches!***

# *Rosie* THE RIVETER

**JANE FRAZEE**

**FRANK ALBERTSON • VERA VAGUE**

AND

**FRANK JENKS • LLOYD CORRIGAN**

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**ARTHUR L**

**JOSEPH SANTLEY**

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First in Film and Radio News Brief, Accurate and Impartial

# MOTION PICTURE DAILY

Alert, Intelligent and Indispensable to the Motion Picture Industry

VOL. 55. NO. 68 · NEW YORK, U. S. A., THURSDAY, APRIL 6, 1944 · TEN CENTS

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## 20th-Fox Nets $12,900,000 For the Year

### *Includes $2,000,000 from National Theatres*

Estimated net profit of $12,900,000 for 1943 was reported here yesterday by 20th Century-Fox Film for the corporation and all subsidiaries, including National Theatres and Roxy Theatre, Inc. This equals $6.50 per share on 1,742,000 shares of common stock outstanding, after deducting dividends on prior preferred and preferred stock.

**The estimated net, which compares with a net of $10,609,000 in 1942, includes $2,000,000 profits earned by National and its subsidiaries up to July 9, 1943, on which date National became wholly owned by 20th-Fox.**

The 1942 figure does not include National's earnings, but 20th's income of that year included a dividend of

(*Continued on page* 11)

## Studios in Accord With IATSE 'Props'

Film company heads and their studio labor representatives reached a tentative accord with the IATSE studio "props" local on proposals for a new contract here yesterday at the office of Pat Casey, producers' labor contact. The "props" is the ninth IATSE local to reach an accord with producers. The two remaining locals yet to reach an agreement are the

(*Continued on page* 11)

## *$500,000 Golden Financing for 'Race'*

Edward Golden has formally signed with RKO for the distribution of his forthcoming "The Master Race," production of which will start in Hollywood on May 8, for anticipated release around Labor Day.

The picture, to be produced by Golden's son, Robert, is budgeted at $500,000, which Golden will finance entirely on his own, he told MOTION PICTURE DAILY yesterday. The deal with RKO had been hanging fire for some time and was consummated this week with Golden's arrival from Hollywood for that purpose. He will return to the Coast on Friday.

Robert Golden, 33, will enter the Army upon completion of "Master Race."

## $1,440,000 Reported For Red Cross from First 3,600 Houses

First 3,600 theatres reporting collections in the industry's 1944 Red Cross drive took in an average of almost $400 each, it was disclosed at campaign headquarters of the War Activities Committee here yesterday. This would approximate a gross of $1,440,000.

The amount was said to be a substantial improvement over the first batch of reports received Monday from about 1,700 theatres, which included only those houses where collections were confined to a single week, and with the arrival of additional reports from theatres that extended the drive through a second weekend, it is expected that a further improvement will be shown.

Yesterday's returns included John

(*Continued on page* 11)

## Harry Mandel to Promote Wac Drive

Harry Mandel, War Activities Committee public relations chairman for the New York area, has been named publicity director of the industry's recruiting campaign for the Women's Army Corps. Edward L. Alperson was appointed campaign chairman on Tuesday. Mandel is advertising-publicity director of RKO Theatres.

The campaign is scheduled for the

(*Continued on page* 11)

### *Heavy New Theatre Building Reported*

**A nationwide survey of exhibitors reveals that plans have already been completed or are in work for heavy new theatre construction when peace comes, Walter E. Green, president of National Theatre Supply reported here yesterday. "Sites have been selected and purchased, plans drawn and showmen await only the green light to start building," Green declared.**

**"Theatre planning includes not only streamlined structures, but also one or more outdoor drive-in theatres in many good-sized cities and towns," he added.**

## Financing Waiting For Wallis—Report

A New York banking group has proffered Hal Wallis financing up to $10,000,000 should he decide to form his own producing company, according to reports in the financial district yesterday.

Wallis, it was said, will discuss the proposal during his forthcoming visit in New York. He is scheduled to arrive from the Coast on April 14.

Abrogation by Warners of Wallis's contract as executive producer is regarded in industry legal circles here as placing an obstacle in the way of

(*Continued on page* 11)

## *War Work Has First Call on All Phila. Non-Operating Theatre Hiring*

**Philadelphia, April 5.—Local theatres here are being advised by the Regional War Manpower Commission that motion picture theatres come under Class "C" in the hiring of full-time employes and that having declared the area a "critical" one the WMC restricts Class C establishments to the hiring of persons under 18 years of age and to World War II veterans. Retail stores, restaurants, hotels, services, distribution agencies and non-war goods manufacturers have also been classified as C. War plants have a Class A rating while essential industries have a Class B priority in hiring.**

**However, a co-operative agreement to help solve the hiring problem of ushers, cashiers, cleaners, etc., through the U. S. Employment Service was worked out with the WMC by film exchange representatives and owners of theatres. But theatres wishing to hire non-operating personnel must clear applicants through the USES. Applicants referred by motion picture houses to the USES for clearance under the terms of the agreement, will be exposed first to orders from A and B employers and an attempt made to refer them to essential or locally needed employment. Applicants who cannot be referred to an essential or locally needed employer will be referred back to the motion picture theatre which sent them for clearance.**

**The area covered under this ruling includes Philadelphia, areas in Eastern Pennsylvania and parts of Southern New Jersey.**

## U.A. Executive Picture Slated To Be Clarified

### *Agnew to Coast Meet With Company Heads*

Neil F. Agnew, newly appointed vice-president and distribution head of David O. Selznick's Vanguard Films, is slated to leave for the Coast tomorrow to participate in a significant executive session of United Artists heads which is scheduled to be held in Hollywood on Monday. The mission marks Agnew's official start in his new post.

The executive session will be attended by Selznick, Edward C. Raftery, United Artists president; Gradwell L. Sears, vice-president; Carl Leserman, sales manager, and Daniel T. O'Shea, president of Vanguard, in addition to Agnew.

The session, according to information available in New York, is designed to decide several appointments to executive vacancies within United Artists, as well as to clarify Agnew's position with relation to the company. In the latter connection, it was re-

(*Continued on page* 10)

## Blumberg, Cowdin to Be Reelected Today

Reelection of all Universal Pictures Co. officers, headed by Nate J. Blumberg, president, and J. Cheever Cowdin, chairman of the board, is scheduled at the annual board of directors meeting at the home office here today.

Others scheduled for reelection include: Charles D. Prutzman, vice-president and general counsel; William Scully, Joseph H. Seidelman and Clifford Work, vice-presidents; John

(*Continued on page* 11)

## *Schwalberg to Join International May 1*

A. W. Schwalberg, vice-president of Vitagraph and supervisor of Warner exchanges, will become Eastern representative for William Goetz and Leo Spitz's International Pictures, effective about May 1, it was learned yesterday. Consummation of the deal is understood to have been effected by Spitz following his arrival here from the Coast on Monday.

Schwalberg has been with Warners since 1926, when he started as a

(*Continued on page* 11)

# Boggess Completes Griffith Depositions

Depositions from representatives of eight distributing companies in the Government's anti-trust suit against Griffith Amusement Co. of Oklahoma and Texas, were completed this week, Albert Boggess, special assistant to the U. S. Attorney General, stated here yesterday.

The pre-trial hearings, begun on March 2, when Richard P. Morgan of the Paramount home office legal department gave testimony, have also included evidence from Stephen McGrath of United Artists; Seymour Feig, RKO; Earle Beatty, Loew's; Max Rose, Columbia; James Murphy, Universal; Miles H. Alben, Warner Brothers, and Samuel Weintraub and Norman B. Steinberg of 20th-Fox. All identified contracts of their companies with Griffith theatres and independent houses in the same territory. No date for trial of the suit has been set.

## *Kalmenson Calls District Meeting*

Ben Kalmenson, general sales manager of Warner Bros., has called a two-day meeting of district managers for April 20-21 at the home office to discuss current matters relating to sales and distribution. District managers include: Norman Ayers, East; Robert Smeltzer, Mid-Atlantic; Charles Rich, Central; Harry A. Seed, Midwest; Hall Walsh, Prairie; Ralph L. McCoy, Southern; Henry Herbel, West Coast; Wolfe Cohen, Canada.

Among home office executives who will participate in the meetings, to be presided over by Kalmenson, are: Arthur Sachson, assistant general sales manager; Roy Haines, Southern and Western division sales manager; Jules Lapidus, Eastern Division sales manager; Mort Blumenstock, in charge of advertising-publicity in the East; A. W. Schwalberg, supervisor of exchanges; Norman H. Moray, short subject sales manager; Ed Hinchy, head of the playdate department; I. F. (Mike) Dolid, head of the contract department, and others.

## *Storm Had Varied Effect on Grosses*

The unseasonable all-day snowstorm that hit New York yesterday had a varied effect on downtown first-run theatres. Some reported business off as much as one-third, while others reported that business was only mildly affected, if affected at all. Some went beyond capacity.

Radio City Music Hall, playing "Cover Girl" and its annual "Glory of Easter" stage show, reported capacity business despite the weather with business for the week surpassing original estimates to give the theatre a gross of almost $120,000. The Roxy's opening day of "Four Jills in a Jeep" was off about 15 percent. The Strand and some other houses reported business off as much as one third.

# *Personal Mention*

HERMAN ROBBINS, president of National Screen, has returned from the Coast.

•

GEORGE SCHWARTZ, Universal branch manager in Philadelphia, has returned from Florida. Also returning from Florida to Philadelphia are STEVE BARUTIO, Warner circuit district manager; JOE SCHAEFFER, Columbia salesman, and ED ROSENBAUM, Columbia exploiteer.

•

S. J. GREGORY, general manager of Alliance Theatres, Chicago, has left on a tour of inspection of the circuit's 20 theatres, accompanied by PETER PAGANOS, Alliance promotion manager.

•

JOHN GARFIELD, Warner star, who has been on a USO overseas tour, will leave New York over the weekend for Hollywood.

•

M. A. LIGHTMAN, head of the Malco Theatre Circuit, Memphis, Tenn., was the winner of the recent Tennessee Bridge Association series.

•

LARRY STEIN, director of advertising and publicity for Warner Theatres, Chicago, has been inducted into the Navy.

•

WALTER STARCK, formerly of the Warner Theatre, Milwaukee, has been promoted to captain in the Army Air Corps.

•

DELL LAWLER will be acting art director in Chicago for Balaban and Katz Theatres during ART THALER'S extended leave of absence.

•

CARROLL LANE, head of the Lane circuit, Iowa, has been selected a delegate to the Republican national convention.

•

NATHAN COHEN has resigned as manager of the Fern Rock, Philadelphia, to enter the cafe business in Atlantic City.

•

RICHARD BRUCE of the Columbia exchange, Des Moines, has left for Camp Dodge.

•

ARTHUR GOTTLIEB, head of Du-Art Film Laboratories, has arrived in New York from Toronto.

•

COL. HAL ROACH and MRS. ROACH are due from Washington today.

CECIL B. DE MILLE left Washington last night for Chicago and Hollywood.

•

SGT. RICHARD S. RAESLY, former manager of Warners' Oxford, Philadelphia, and HELEN BUOTE, former circuit employe, were married at Lincoln, Neb., last week.

•

TED SCHLANGER, Warner circuit zone chief in Philadelphia, and HENRY FRIEDMAN, exhibitor, have been honored with citations as past commanders of the local Variety Club's American Legion Post.

•

EDGAR MOSS, 20th Century-Fox district manager in Philadelphia, is enroute to Florida to recuperate from a recent operation.

•

FRANCIS KELLY, head booker for 20th Century-Fox, Philadelphia, was presented with a watch for 25 years of service at a dinner this week.

•

VINCENT SHERMAN, Warner director, who has been in the East for the past two weeks, plans to leave New York this weekend for the Coast.

•

JAMES CAREY, manager of William Goldman's Hiway, York, Pa., has left to enter the Army.

•

JOHN A. KANE, manager of Warners' Ritz, York, Pa., has gone into the armed forces.

•

ROLAND HAYNES, manager of Warners' Oxford, Philadelphia, has been accepted for Navy service.

•

SAMUEL ROSEN, Monogram branch manager in Philadelphia, is seriously ill at Mt. Sinai Hospital in that city.

•

CLAUDE LEE, Paramount public relations director, will leave today for a ten-day visit in Florida.

•

ALEX L. HILLMAN, fan magazine publisher, has returned to New York from four weeks on the West Coast.

•

JULIUS J. and PHILIP G. EPSTEIN, Warner producer-playwrights, expect to return to the Coast next week.

•

DENNIS CAPLIN, Republic advertising production manager, will leave tomorrow for induction into the Army.

## *Monogram 6-Month Gross Was $178,612*

HOLLYWOOD, April 5.—Monogram Pictures Corp. had gross earnings of $178,612 for the six months ending Dec. 4, 1943, the company reported here today. This figure, from which the provision for Federal taxes has not been deducted, compares with $92,050 for the same period in 1942.

## *200 'Lady' Bookings*

Approximately 200 engagements of Paramount's "Lady in the Dark" are scheduled to open in key cities over the Easter holidays.

## *U. S.-Schine Case Set for April 10*

BUFFALO, April 5.—U. S. Government motions for appointment of a trustee for nine Schine theatres not disposed of in accordance with a court order of May, 19, 1942, together with a counter motion by the Schine Circuit, for relief from that order will be heard in U. S. District Court here on April 10.

Action was deferred today until that time when a hearing on an application by the Schine interests to acquire the Liberty Theatre in Cumberland, Md., also is scheduled.

# Film Witnesses in Butane Gas Fraud

LOS ANGELES, April 5.—Gary Cooper, Fox West Coast agency officials and perhaps a dozen others prominent in the film industry here will be called as witnesses in a "war fraud" case in Federal District Court here, by James Harrington, deputy U. S. attorney.

Among others expected to be called are Louis B. Mayer, William Goetz, Bob Hope, Henry Hathaway, Henry Spitz and Eddie Cantor.

### Sale of Adapters Charged

The information filed charges that Lawrence W. Zonker, a carburetor dealer, sold Cooper and others butane gas adapter equipment for their automobiles, in violation of War Production Board regulations. Butane gas, a high explosive, is unrationed. Cost of the adapter equipments run as high as $1,000, the information charged.

The investigation was prompted by the recent trip to San Francisco of petroleum administrator Harold Ickes, who charged, "California's allotment of butane, reserved for agricultural and heavy truck use, has been exceeded by hundreds of thousands of gallons."

Studio spokesmen for Goetz and Spitz said today that both had notified the Office of Price Administration of their use of butane adaptors prior to the Federal investigation.

## *Reelect Atlas Board, ReduceCapitalization*

Stockholders of Floyd B. Odlum's Atlas Corp., meeting in Wilmington, Del., yesterday, reelected the following members of the board of directors: Odlum and L. Boyd Hatch of Atlas; Harry M. Durning, U. S. Collector of Customs, New York; Oswald L. Johnston, partner of Simpson, Thacher & Bartlett, and Samuel Zemurray, president of United Fruit Co.

Atlas stockholders also voted to retire 44,567 shares of the company's common stock held in the treasury at the end of 1943, thereby reducing its capitalization. Atlas controls approximately 46 per cent of the RKO voting stock and has other important film interests.

## *$1.10 Top for 'Mark Twain' Roadshow*

The day-and-date single-week run of Warners' "The Adventures of Mark Twain" in 120 cities the week beginning May 4-5 will have a standard admission scale, with $1.10 top.

The full scale will be as follows: afternoons, adults 75 cents, servicemen 40 cents, children 30 cents; evenings, adults $1.10 (balcony 75 cents), servicemen 50 cents, children 40 cents.

## *Zimmerman Promoted*

Jay Zimmerman, former Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer San Francisco office manager, has been promoted to office manager of the St. Louis branch, effective April 15.

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Mark
MAY 6th!
A great Warner date!

# Coast Flashes

*Hollywood, April 5*

THE Society of Independent Motion Picture Producers has extended a resolution of sympathy over the death of the late Myron Selznick to David O. Selznick, his brother; to his mother, Mrs. Florence Selznick, and to his daughter, Joan Selznick.

•

James A. Fitzpatrick will complete this season's commitment of 12 Traveltalks for M-G-M with the delivery of the following five now in the cutting room: "Colorful Colorado," "Monumental Utah," "Roaming Through Arizona," "The King's Highway" and "City of Brigham Young."

•

James Mulvey, vice-president of Samuel Goldwyn, Inc., will leave on the Chief tomorrow after three weeks of conferences with Goldwyn, resulting in an increased radio exploitation budget for "Up in Arms" and an immediate advertising campaign in England.

•

With the release of the two-reeler, "Main Street Today," John Nesbitt begins his seventh year as M-G-M commentator for the Passing Parade series. He has made 60 shorts to date, three of them Academy winners.

•

Jerry Wald's production schedule at Warners has been augmented by the Rita Weiman novel "One Man's Secret," starring Ida Lupino, Paul Lukas and Sydney Greenstreet.

•

Ann Corio, Monogram star now working in "Call of the Jungle," has announced her forthcoming marriage to Bob Williams, screen and night club performer.

•

Marc Lawrence, former New York stage actor, has been signed by Samuel Goldwyn for a role in the Bob Hope Technicolor comedy, "Sylvester the Great."

•

Edward Small has announced "Belladonna" for United Artists release, to follow "Abroad With Two Yanks", which is now in production.

•

Eugene O'Neil, assistant to Jason Joy, 20th-Fox publicist, has resigned to join the armed forces.

•

Monogram has rented the Chaplin studio stages for the Katzman-Dietz comedy, "Three of a Kind."

•

Charles Einfeld, Warners advertising-publicity director, will leave here Tuesday for the East.

•

Player Susan Peters was resting comfortably today following an operation in Santa Monica.

•

Universal has added "Gift of Gab," a radio story, to Frank Gross' schedule.

•

M-G-M has announced "America Speaks," a series of non-profit shorts.

## McCabe Joins Condon

Thomas McCabe, formerly assistant to David Bader, 20th Century-Fox home office trade press representative, is now with Richard Condon Associates.

# Reviews

## "Meet the People"

*(M-G-M)*

*Hollywood, April 5*

SAVE in brilliant moments far apart, when specialty acts score personal hits or production routines click individually, this 101-minute musical in black-and-white reminds of M-G-M's "Thousands Cheer" and other recent Technicolored song-and-dance successes chiefly by contrast. This one sprawls all over the screen, as to story and organization of material, utilizing the blunderbuss rather than the rifle technique and missing the target more often than hitting it. It's a letdown for the studio's recently high average in this field of entertainment.

Lucille Ball, as a stage star who learns the lessons of democracy under influence of a shipyard tenor-playwright she loves—sung better than played by Dick Powell—provides a performance sparkling in itself and almost equal to the task of carrying the picture. Bert Lahr has some funny moments, Rags Ragland appears briefly for a sequence that takes care of itself, and Virginia O'Brien takes over for a brilliant solo stretch late in the picture that is worth more than most else in it. Mata and Hari, Oriental dance team, and a young woman who does impossible acrobatics with incredible ease, furnish sequences that shine in contrast with those which precede and follow them.

The "common people" theme, which is about all that's left of the stage-show on which the film is based, is retained in the film, but time in its passing has deprived it of significance. At core, the script tells of a stage star who learns that many people are doing war work, meets them and, discovering they are human, finds she likes them and joins their ranks. The tale impresses like a reading of a very old newspaper.

Production is by E. Y. Harburg, direction by Charles Riesner, and the script is a collaboration by S. M. Herzig and Fred Saidy based on a story by Sol and Ben Barzman and Louis Lantz. Harburg paired with three lyricists, Sammy Fain, Harold Arlen and Burton Lane, to turn out four of the songs, Richard Rodgers and Lorenz Hart supplying another, Henry Myers and Jay Gorney another, and Earl Brent, singly, still another. The Fain-Harburg, "In Times Like These," is the one that stays in memory. Two orchestras, the Vaughn Monroe and Spike Jones outfits, deliver the musical merchandise without distinction.

Running time, 101 mins. "G."* Release date, not set.

WILLIAM R. WEAVER

## "Lumberjack"

*(Harry Sherman-UA)*

*Hollywood, April 5*

THE 53rd of the Hopalong Cassidy series produced by Harry Sherman takes Hoppy and his Bar-20 pals away from the cattle country and into the mountainous timberlands of the Sierra Nevadas lying between California and Nevada. There, in Western settings of scenic grandeur, Hopalong and the boys in "Lumberjack" frustrate a plot to rob the recently widowed niece of the Bar-20 owner of rich timberlands, thereby also preventing dispossession of a group of lumberjack settlers to whom her husband owed back wages.

Bill Boyd delivers his usual Hoppy role with strong support from Andy Clyde as California and Jimmy Rogers as Jimmy. Ellen Hall neatly fits the role of the appealing young widow, while Douglas Dumbrille and Francis McDonald are suave villians with Hal Taliaferro as their tough henchman. Lesley Selander directed from a screenplay by Norman Houston and Barry Shipman, with Russell Harlan turning in his usual topflight job with the camera.

Running time, 64 mins. "G."* Release date, not set.

JACK CARTWRIGHT

**"G" denotes general classification.*

## Free Service Shows Now Past 25,000 Mark

HOLLYWOOD, April 5.—The 25,000th free appearance for service men was made in March, according to the monthly report of the Hollywood Victory Committee.

Appearances during March totalled 1,786 by 366 players in 194 events, including 810 appearances by overseas units, 583 by domestic units and 130 additional for war bond sales, the Red Cross and other relief agencies. Twenty-two radio broadcasts were beamed overseas, and HVC personalities made 85 transcriptions for foreign distribution.

## Monogram Plans to Expand in Cuba

Luis Sanchez Amago, managing director of Orbe Films, Monogram's Cuban distributor, plans to open several additional exchanges throughout his territory.

Sanchez Amago is now in New York conferring on new product.

## N. Y. Seeks Censors

Examinations for placement as motion picture inspectors (censors) in the New York State education department's film division will be held May 6, the state Civil Service office at Albany has announced. Deadline for the filing of applications is April 18.

## Chennault Tribute For Free Pictures

**Major General C. L. Chennault, commander of the 14th Air Force, has written from China expressing "gratitude" to the industry for its gifts of 16-mm prints of current films to the Army's Overseas Motion Picture Service.**

**General Chennault wrote: "They are shown everywhere, from our main bases in the big cities of Free China to the airfields in the little towns on the fighting front. They are enjoyed everywhere and constitute a real contribution to the well-being of my men."**

## 'Memphis Belle' Has Memphis Premiere

MEMPHIS, April 5.—With members of the squadron crew of the famed bomber, "Memphis Belle," present, the world premiere of "The Memphis Belle," U. S. 8th Army Air Force Technicolor report describing the ship's 25th mission over Germany, was held here tonight at the Malco Theatre. The film, released by Paramount for the Office of War Information through the industry's War Activities Committee, will start regular runs in the city's other first-run houses immediately.

Notables present earlier at a luncheon at the Peabody Hotel included: Mayor Walter Chandler, Col. Stanley T. Wray, Col. William Wyler, M. A. Lightman, president of Malco Theatres; Maj. A. A. Schecter and Capt. Russell Goring. High Army officers attended the premiere in the evening. Alec Moss, Paramount exploitation manager, Lightman and Allan S. Glenn, Paramount district ad representative here, handled the premiere.

## Says SAG Limits Rolls to Aid Extras

HOLLYWOOD, April 5.—During the past six years the Screen Actors Guild has protected extras by admitting only 1,128 to class "B" membership compared to 8,000 admitted in the ten months prior to that period, Pat Somerset, SAG assistant secretary, stated here today in the National Labor Relations Board hearing on the Screen Players Union's petition for a collective bargaining election.

Somerset added that 24,804 persons have been, or are now, guild members, with 8,500 at present on active status. The hearing will continue into next week.

## Mrs. Winter Dies; Headed MPPDA Unit

HOLLYWOOD, April 5.—Mrs. Thomas G. Winter, 79, who from 1930 until 1943 was director of studio and public service for the Motion Picture Producers and Distributors of America, died today at her home in Pasadena after a long illness.

Mrs. Winter was president of the General Federation of Women's Clubs from 1920 to 1924 and contributing editor of the *Ladies Home Journal* from then until 1928. She was author of several books and made over 3,000 speeches in all parts of the country.

# 'Harvest Moon' Gets Shining $35,400 To Top Philadelphia

PHILADELPHIA, April 5.—Business this week indicates that Holy Week and weekend rains are stronger competing factors than the tax. "Shine On, Harvest Moon," got off to a big start at the Mastbaum with $35,400 in sight, to which is added $3,500 for the dual Sunday showing at the Earle. "The Miracle of Morgan's Creek" continues big at the Fox, with $25,000 expected for its second week.

Estimated receipts for the week ending April 5-7:

**"The Song of Bernadette" (20th-Fox)**
ALDINE—(900) (85c-$1.20) 7 days, 6th week. Gross: $17,500. (Average: $14,600).
**"In Our Time" (WB)**
ARCADIA—(600) (40c-45c-50c-65c-75c) 7 days, 2nd run. Gross: $4,650. (Average: $4,000).
**"Tender Comrade" (RKO)**
BOYD—(3,000) (40c-45c-50c-65c-75c-85c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $15,000. (Average: $18,000).
**"Hey, Rookie" (Col.) (6 days)**
**"Shine On, Harvest Moon" (WB) (1 day)**
EARLE—(3,000) (50c-65c-85c-95c) 6 days of vaudeville, including Milt Britton's orchestra, Marcy McGuire, Arthur Blake and Allen & Kent. Gross: $22,000. (Average: $27,800).
**"The Miracle of Morgan's Creek" (Para.)**
FOX—(3,000) (40c-45c-50c-65c-75c-85c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $25,000. (Average: $20,500).
**"A Guy Named Joe" (M-G-M)**
KARLTON—(1,000) (40c-45c-50c-65c-75c-85c) 7 days, 2nd run. Gross: $8,400. (Average: $6,600).
**"Union Pacific" (Para.)**
KEITH'S—(2,200) (40c-45c-50c-65c-75c-85c) 7 days, reissue. Gross: $5,500. (Average: $5,800).
**"Shine On, Harvest Moon" (WB)**
MASTBAUM — (4,700) (40c-45c-50c-65c-75c-85c) 7 days. Gross: $35,400. (Average: $22,500).
**"The Purple Heart" (20th-Fox)**
STANLEY — (3,000) (40c-45c-50c-65c-75c-85c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $14,200. (Average: $20,000).
**"None Shall Escape" (Col.)**
STANTON — (1,700) (40c-45c-50c-65c-75c-85c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $8,500. (Average: $9,400).

## *RKO Lost $91,000 In Greenwich, Claim*

NEW HAVEN, April 5.—RKO Theatres lost $91,000 in Greenwich when it operated the two houses there from Aug. 3, 1930, to Feb. 27, 1933, according to cross-examination testimony by Harold E. Newcomb, RKO assistant treasurer, in the Prefect Theatres anti-trust trial in Federal District Court here today.

The plaintiffs, who placed Newcomb on the stand this morning to give records from his company's books, had charged that they would show RKO had made a profit, whereas the later operation by Prefect, under alleged unsatisfactory clearance, could not. The RKO losses, as stated on cross-examination, amounted to $56,000 for the Pickwick Theatre and $35,000 for the Greenwich Theatre.

## *WB Honors Three*

CLEVELAND, April 5.—Warner employes here honored three resigning theatre members at a dinner in the Carter Hotel this week. Marvin Samuelson, former manager of the Colony and for the past two years assistant to the head booker in the theatre department, will leave this week for the Marines; Bud Friedman, booking office, reports next week for Army duty, and Evelyn Friedl, secretary to zone manager Nat Wolf, will join the Community Circuit.

# *Reviews*

## *"Weird Woman"*

*(Universal)*

*Hollywood, April 5*

IN "Weird Woman," second of the Inner Sanctum mysteries, Universal brings to the screen a story of violent conflict between fear, breeding ground of superstition, and reason, with jungle witchcraft cunningly interwoven to stress the thinness of the veneer of culture.

An archaeology professor weds a lovely island girl reared in an atmosphere of native witchcraft and returns with her to his college faculty circle. There, a modern woman, savagely in love with him, causes a suicide, an accidental slaying, and eventually falls prey to her own fears of the unknown. She strangles to death in her efforts to escape when witchcraft of the islands is employed to wring from her a confession of her malicious lies responsible for all the trouble.

Lon Chaney delivers a thoroughly creditable portrayal of the professor, ably supported by Anne Gwynne as the jungle-reared girl, and Evelyn Ankers as the jealous woman. Others whose performances add materially to the tense, well-paced plot, are Elisabeth Risdon, Lois Collier, Elizabeth Russell, Harry Hayden, Phil Brown and Kay Harding.

Reginald LeBorg directed suspensefully for associate producer Oliver Drake from a screenplay by Brenda Weisberg based on the Fritz Leiber, Jr., novel.

Running time, 61 mins. "G."* Release date, April 14.

JACK CARTWRIGHT

## *"Andy Hardy's Blonde Trouble"*

*(M-G-M)*

IN "Andy Hardy's Blonde Trouble," Mickey Rooney's life is again pleasantly complicated by feminine entanglements, this time a species of double-trouble emanating from the persons of those pert, blonde twins, Lee and Lyn Wilde. In the story Rooney is a little older but not much wiser where the fair sex is concerned, and makes his first venture into an adult world without the wise counsel of Lewis Stone to support him. The results consume 107 fleeting minutes of romantic appeal and an adolescent's honest bewilderment, the whole heavily larded with many laughs.

On a train bound for Wainwright College, Mickey encounters Bonita Granville, an attractive fellow "freshman" whose reserve to Mickey's amatory gestures toward her leaves him a bit disgusted. Mickey is further irked when "oldish" Herbert Marshall, nearing fortyish and dean of the college unbeknownst to Mickey, seems to be more attractive to Miss Granville than himself. Mickey's hurt is smoothed somewhat, however, by the balm administered by Lyn Wilde, whose inseparable twin, Lee, is also on the train. Much of the motivation for the screenplay is furnished by attempts of the twins to pass themselves off as one person, because Lyn is supposed to be in Vermont on parental orders. Mickey's romance with Miss Granville suffers in his attempts to help the Wilde girls when their ruse is discovered by their father. The complications which result so hurt Mickey's relations with the dean that Mickey quits college only to be straightened out later upon the arrival of his father. Rooney is his capable, cocky self; while Miss Granville, and the Wilde twins, whose appearance marks their first important roles, uphold the standard set for pulchritude in Andy Hardy films. Stone, Fay Holden and Sara Haden continue their able characterizations. Others in the cast are Jean Porter, Keye Luke and Marta Linden. Others in the again directed for M-G-M with telling effect from a screenplay by Harry Ruskin, William Ludwig and Agnes Christine Johnston.

Running time, 107 mins. "G."* Release date, second week in May, in Block 7.

CHARLES RYWECK

**"G" denotes general classification.*

## *Will Seek to Bring Back Standard Time*

WASHINGTON, April 5.—Of interest to hundreds of exhibitors who have long urged that daylight saving time or wartime be abandoned in favor of standard time is Rep. Clarence Cannon's statement here today that he will attempt to secure Congressional action in this direction after the Easter recess.

Rep. Cannon said that he had "letters from every State in the Union urging that daylight saving time be abolished."

## *Fred Mitchell, Loew Film Booker Dies*

Fred Mitchell, 71, a film booker for Loew New York Theatres since 1914, died at his home here late Tuesday. Mitchell entered the industry with Marcus Loew and David Bernstein, when they formed the Humanova Company in 1907.

Funeral services will be held on Friday at two p. m. at the Walter Cooke Funeral Chapel, 190th Street and Jerome Ave. He is survived by his widow and a son, Fred Holland Mitchell, of the U. S. Navy.

# 'Joe' Is $7,800 Over As Chi. Hits Tailspin

CHICAGO, April 5.—"A Guy Named Joe" led here this week by grossing $28,000 at the United Artists theatre in a slump Loop week, the lull before an expected Easter weekend record. "The Song of Bernadette" will switch from the State-Lake to the Apollo Saturday to start the seventh week of its Midwest roadshow premiere.

Estimated receipts for the week ending April 7:

**"Lifeboat" (20th-Fox)**
APOLLO—(1,200) (55c-65c-95c) 7 days. Gross: $8,000. (Average: $11,400).
**"The Uninvited" (Para.)**
CHICAGO—(3,850) (55c-65c-95c) 7 days. Stage: Lou Breese and band. Gross: $50,000. (Average: $51,500).
**"The Navy Way" (Para.)**
**"You Can't Ration Love" (Para.)**
GARRICK—(1,000) (55c-65c-95c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $12,000. (Average: $9,100).
**"Curse of the Cat People" (RKO)**
**"Million Dollar Kid" (Mono.)**
GRAND—(1,250) (50c-60c-85c-95c) 7 days. Gross: $7,000. (Average: $9,100).
**"Men on Her Mind" (PRC)**
ORIENTAL—(3,200) (44c-55c-60c-80c-95c) 7 days. Stage: Louis Prima and band. Gross: $23,000. (Average: $24,000).
**"Tender Comrade" (RKO)**
**"Hat Check Honey" (Univ.)**
PALACE—(2,500) (50c-60c-85c-95c) 7 days, 3rd week. Gross: $24,500. (Average: $24,000).
**"Purple Heart" (20th-Fox)**
ROOSEVELT—(1,500) (55c-65c-95c) 7 days, 4th week. Gross: $21,000. (Average: $24,000).
**"The Song of Bernadette" (20th-Fox)**
STATE-LAKE—(2,700) (55c-65c-95c-$1.10) 7 days, 6th week. Gross: $27,000. (Average: $29,000).
**"A Guy Named Joe" (M-G-M)**
UNITED ARTISTS—(1,700) (55c-65c-95c) 7 days. Gross: $28,000. (Average: $20,200).
**"Phantom Lady" (Univ.)**
WOODS—(1,200) (55c-65c-95c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $11,000. (Average: $10,000).

## Technicolor Nets a Record $1,103,704

Techniclor, and subsidiaries report a net profit of $1,103,704 for 1943, a new high and equivalent to $1.22 a share on 901,205 shares, compared with $370,355, or 41 cents a share on 897,872 shares in 1942. Earnings for 1943 are subject to renegotiation.

Net sales were $9,292,927, highest on record, comparing with $5,797,281 in 1942. New highs were also set in negative footage exposed and in positive prints sold. The demand for cameras and facilities in the latter part of 1943 far outstripped capacity, according to Herbert T. Kalmus, president and general manager.

The company is considering an expansion program which would double its production capacity for the postwar when priority and manpower restrictions have been removed. This contemplated expansion would be carried out with the company's own funds. The indirect investment in Technicolor, Ltd., was increased during 1943 to $281,458, consisting of 51 per cent of the capital stock of that company.

## *RKO Title Change*

The title of RKO's "Dangerous Age" has been changed to "Look To Your Children." Ruth Clifton, 19 year old author of the Moline Plan for alleviating juvenile delinquency, was technical adviser on the film.




*Flash!*

New York opening biggest yet!
Crowds storm Manhattan Theatre
from early morning of first day—
Tuesday, April 4!

# Who's Dop

BOOK "THE MEMPHIS BELLE", TECHNICOLOR SAGA OF OUR AIR HEROES. IT'S THE INDUSTRY'S PROUDEST OFFERING.

Maybe it was an accident when Cincinnati took in a cool thousand MORE on opening day than on the record-breaking opening day of the original engagement . . . Perhaps it *was* coincidence when Dayton, the same week, blew the top off the record, and when all those other theatres in the great four-state Premiere hit sensational business . . . But when the first week at Keith's, Washington, runs neck and neck, in money and attendance, with the original run there of "Snow White" – and that engagement established the all-time record of the house, which still stands – Brother, that's *on purpose!*

Why Now?

**WALT DISNEY'S**

*Full Length Feature Production*

# SNOW WHITE

**and the SEVEN DWARFS**

IN MULTIPLANE TECHNICOLOR

Distributed by RKO RADIO PICTURES, INC.

## 'Swing Fever', Show Head for $29,000

CINCINNATI, April 5.—"Swing Fever," plus Martha Raye, are heading for a healthy $29,000 at the RKO Albee. "Broadway Rhythm" should do about $16,000 at the RKO Palace.

Estimated receipts for the week ending April 5-8:

**"Swing Fever" (M-G-M)**
RKO ALBEE—(3,300) (50c-60c-85c-95c). On stage: Martha Raye, Condos Bros., The 3 Swifts, Winter Sisters and Roy Smeck. Gross: $29,000. (Average: $22,000).
**"Passage to Marseille" (WB)**
RKO CAPITOL—(2,000) (44c-50c-60c-70c). 7 days, 2nd week, plus Saturday midnight show. Gross: $12,000. (Average: $10,000).
**"The Amazing Mr. Forrest" (PRC)**
**"Sundown Valley" (Col.)**
RKO FAMILY—(1,000) (35c-40c) 4 days. Gross: $1,350. (Average: $1,400).
**"Boss of Rawhide" (PRC)**
**"Jive Junction" (PRC)**
RKO FAMILY—(1,000) (35c-40c) 3 days. Gross: $800. (Average: $800).
**"The Sullivans" (20th-Fox)**
RKO GRAND—(1,500) (44c-50c-60c-70c) 7 days, plus Saturday midnight show, 2nd week. Gross: $7,000. (Average: $9,500).
**"Up in Arms" (Goldwyn-RKO)**
KEITH'S—(1,500) (44c-50c-70c) 4th week. Gross: $4,000. (Average: $5,000).
**"Chip Off the Old Block" (Univ.)**
RKO LYRIC—(1,400) (44c-50c-60c-70c) 7 days, plus Saturday midnight show, 2nd week. Gross: $6,000. (Average: $4,200).
**"Broadway Rhythm" (M-G-M)**
RKO PALACE—(2,700) (44c-50c-60c-70c) 7 days, plus Saturday midnight show. Gross: $16,000. (Average: $15,000).
**"Standing Room Only" (Para.)**
RKO SHUBERT—(1,500) (44c-50c-60c-70c) 7 days, 2nd week, moveover from RKO Palace. Gross: $7,000. (Average: $5,000).

## 'Desert Song' Gets $33,000 in Boston

BOSTON, April 5.—Grosses in all Hub theatres remained high with the Metropolitan in its second week of "Desert Song" grossing $33,000.

Estimated receipts for the week ending April 6:

**"Desert Song" (W. B.)**
METROPOLITAN—(4,367) (35c-50c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $33,000. (Average, $28,300)
**"Jane Eyre" (20th-Fox)**
**"Hi, Good Lookin'" (Univ.)**
KEITH MEMORIAL—(2,900) (35c-50c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $20,000. (Average, $25,000)
**"Action in Arabia" (RKO)**
KEITH BOSTON—(3,200) (35c-50c-65c-85c-99c) 7 days, plus stage show. Gross: $29,700. (Average, $30,100)
**"Cover Girl" (Col.)**
LOEW'S ORPHEUM—(2,900) (35c-50c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $19,200. (Average, $18,300)
**"Cover Girl" (Col.)**
LOEW'S STATE—(3,200) (35c-50c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $15,000. (Average, $13,200)
**"Lady in the Dark" (Para.)**
**"Casanova" (Rep.)**
PARAMOUNT—(1,700) (35c-55c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $16,000. (Average, $13,400)
**"Lady in the Dark" (Para.)**
**"Casanova" (Rep.)**
FENWAY—(1,373) (35c-55c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $8,000. (Average, $8,300)
**"Courageous Mr. Penn" (British)**
MAJESTIC—(1,400) (35c-55c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $11,400. (Average, $11,000)
**"The Million Dollar Kid" (Mono)**
**"Trans-Atlantic Tunnel" (British)**
TRANS LUX—(900) (25c-45c-55c) 7 days. Gross: $8,000. (Average, $6,500)

### *Film Players on Stage*

John Golden's ". . . But Not Goodbye" will open next Tuesday evening at the 48th St. Playhouse, New York, with Harry Carey, film player, in the lead. The play was written by George Seaton, author of the screenplay for "Song of Bernadette," and will be directed by Richard Whorf, film actor, director and set designer. Other film players who will appear in the show are Elizabeth Patterson, J. Pat O'Malley and Hal K. Dawson.

# *Reviews*

## *"Trocadero"*

*(Republic)*

"TROCADERO" is Republic's version of the story of the famous Hollywod night spot. It is a veritable feast for swing addicts, although the music clutters up the film and makes for a picture devoid of any dramatic value, with but the bare suggestion of a story.

Bob Chester, Matty Malneck, Gus Arnheim, Eddie LeBaron and their orchestras furnish the music, and in addition there are Rosemary Lane, Johnny Downs, Cliff Nazarro, Wingy Mannone, The Stardusters, Ida James, Patricia Kay, Betty Bradley and Jane Ellison, who all give out with rhythm in one form or another. Some of the tunes are the currently popular, "Shoo Shoo Baby," the fabulous "Music Goes 'Round and 'Round," "In a Roundabout Way" and "Can't Take the Place of You."

Rosemary Lane and Johnny Downs, adopted children of Charles Calvert, the club's founder, who is killed by an automobile, are left the club as a legacy. Miss Lane and Ralph Morgan, an old friend, struggle to make the spot a success. The Trocadero, apparently doomed to fold, is salvaged, however, when Sheldon Leonard, an agent, books a swing and rhumba band. From there on the place becomes a byword in the Coast entertainment world. Others in the cast are Dick Purcell, Marjorie Manners, Erskine Johnson, Dave Fleischer, Emmett Vogan, Dewey Robinson, Ruth Hilliard, Eddie Bartell and the Radio Rogues. William Nigh directed from Allen Gale's screenplay derived from an original story by Charles F. Chaplin and Garret Holmes. Walter Colmes was responsible for production.

Running time, 74 mins. 'G."* Release date, April 24.

CHARLES RYWECK

## *"Hidden Valley Outlaws"*

*(Republic)*

*Hollywood, April 5*

BILL ELLIOTT and George (Gabby) Hayes display their usual versatility as Western players with punch as to dialogue and action, whether in or out of the saddle in "Hidden Valley Outlaws," newly hammered at the forge of associate producer Louis Gray. Howard Bretherton directed.

Injected as a new type character in this category, Earl Hodgins, in the role of an out-of-work Shakespearean actor employed by the villians, gives the plot an added twist and provides the key with which Elliott and Hayes unlock the mysterious plottings. Elliott and Gabby ride to the rescue of a group of ranchers being swindled out of their lands through operations of a band of crooked "head righters." They hang the murder of appealing Anne Jeffrey's father and brother on the band and uncover the mastermind, a supposedly straight attorney pretending to represent the ranchers. John Butler and Bob Williams scripted from an original by Butler.

Running time, 55 mins. "G."* Release date, April 2.

JACK CARTWRIGHT

## *"Arizona Whirlwind"*

*(Monogram)*.

THOSE amiable stalwarts, Ken Maynard, Hoot Gibson and Bob Steele, are currently exhibiting their prowess in "Arizona Whirlwind," latest of Monogram's Trail Blazers. Producer-director Robert Tansey has obviously not spared the gunpowder or horseflesh in this one, which has more than its share of suspense and thrills for Western devotees. Tansey has directed at a rapid pace and has even thrown in some Indians in the opening sequences for good measure.

Ian Keith, leader of a band of gem thieves, has managed to transport some costly jewels to Sonora, where they are to be cut up into smaller stones for disposal. The Trail Blazers become entangled with the gang but do not identify themselves until Keith appears. Meanwhile, little Donny Davis and Myrna Dell, Steele's heart throb, have penetrated the gang's machinations. Donny, however, is trapped in the safe where the jewels are cached, but the Trail Blazers return in time to rescue him before he suffocates, having first disposed of the gang by some fancy shooting. Frances Kavanaugh did the screenplay.

Running time, 59 mins. "G."* Release date, March 18.

CHARLES RYWECK

*"G" denotes general classification.

### *Miller to M-G-M*

French Miller, office manager at the M-G-M exchange in St. Louis, has been transferred to the sales force, effective April 15. J. H. Zimmerman, former office manager at the M-G-M San Francisco exchange, will succeed Miller.

### *Roshon to New York*

The Russell C. Roshon Organization, distributor of 16mm sound films, has transferred executive headquarters from Pittsburgh to the RKO building, New York. The organization, headed by Russell C. Roshon, operates 16 branch offices.

## Toronto Business In Sharp Drop

TORONTO, April 5.—"Song of Russia" was running to a gross of $10,700 during Holy Week at Loew's Theatre and "The Uninvited," in its second week at Shea's Theatre, was bidding for $10,300.

Estimated receipts for the week ending April 6:

**"Talk About Jacqueline" (British)**
**"Coastal Command" (British)**
EGLINTON—(1,086) (18c-30c-48c-60c) 6 days. Gross: $3,500. (Average, $4,000)
**"The North Star" (RKO)**
IMPERIAL—(3,373) (18c-30c-42c-60c-90c) 6 days. Gross: $11,800. (Average, $12,800)
**"Song of Russia" (M-G-M)**
LOEW'S—(2,074) (18c-30c-42c-60c-90c) 6 days. Gross: $10,700. (Average, $11,200)
**"The Uninvited" (Para.)**
SHEA'S—(2,480) (18c-30c-42c-60c-90c) 6 days, 2nd week. Gross: $10,300. (Average, $12,800)
**"The Good Fellows" (Para.)**
**"Old Acquaintance" (W. B.)**
TIVOLI—(1,434) (18c-30c-48c) 6 days. Gross: $3,900. (Average, $4,400)
**"Cry 'Havoc'" (M-G-M)**
**"Moonlight In Vermont" (Univ.)**
UPTOWN—(2,761) (18c-30c-42c-60c-90c) 6 days. Gross: $8,800. (Average, $9,800)

## *'Television Lacks Trained Writers'*

Radio writers can take television in their stride if they can develop a "picture sense," members of the Radio Writers Guild were told here this week by Richard Hubbell, television writer-director, at a meeting of the Guild in the CBS studio building.

"Television is technically ready to go ahead but there will be serious bottlenecks in trained directors and writers because of the lack of program development work by television broadcasters," Hubbell declared in stressing that film and radio writers might form the nucleus of necessary writing talent. Hubbell, formerly a television-director-writer for CBS, has television relations with N. W. Ayer, Fortune and Life magazines.

## *TBA Board Approves 12 New Memberships*

Board of directors of Television Broadcasters Association has approved 12 new memberships in the recently-formed organization. Admitted to active memberships are: National Broadcasting, for television stations in New York, Washington and Chicago; General Electric, Schenectady; Philco, for Chicago; Don Lee Broadcasting, Los Angeles and Crosley Corp., Cincinnati.

Affiliate memberships voted include North American Philips, Time, Inc., RCA-Victor, Capitol Radio and Engineering and Midland Broadcasting.

### *LaNoce Back at Capitol*

Howard LaNoce has returned to the New York Capitol as stage manager, replacing E. K. Nadel, resigned. La Noce left the Capitol when stage acts were taken out several years ago. Producer Harry A. Gourfain, who resigned to become producer for Constance Bennett, will be replaced by Alan Zee, formerly an executive of WHN.

### *Roxy Sold $757,625*

The Roxy Theatre here reports that 7,389 war bonds, worth $757,625, were sold in the period from Jan. 1 to Feb. 29, bringing the Roxy grand total to $1,500,000 for the four war loan drives.




# *The* LARGEST GAIN IN THE SCREEN FIELD!

MOVIELAND'S CIRCULATION STEPS UP

(In the Last Six Months of 1943)

To 521,104 Monthly Average Net Paid

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# 'PhantomLady' $42,500 in L.A. Dual Strong

LOS ANGELES, April 5.—Exhibitors generally reported no drop in patronage because of the new tax rates. "Phantom Lady" and "The Impostor," playing Fox West Coast's Egyptian-Los Angeles-Ritz threesome, displayed most strength among the newcomers, getting about $42,500 where $33,100 is average:

Estimated receipts for the week ending April 5:

**"See Here, Private Hargrove" (M-G-M)**
**"Swing Fever" (M-G-M)**
CARTHAY CIRCLE—(1,516) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 7 days. Gross: $9,800. (Average: $11,200).

**"See Here, Private Hargrove" (M-G-M)**
**"Swing Fever" (M-G-M)**
CHINESE—(2,500) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 7 days. Gross: $15,000. (Average: $15,500).

**"Phantom Lady" (Univ.)**
**"The Impostor" (Univ.)**
EGYPTIAN—(1,500) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 7 days. Gross: $12,500. (Average: $9,500).

**"The Song of Bernadette" (20th-Fox)**
FOUR STAR—(900) (85c-$1.10) 7 days, 8th week. Gross: $6,000. (Average: $7,570).

**"The Lady and the Monster" (Rep.)**
**"Cowboy and the Senorita" (Rep.)**
HAWAII—(1,000) (50c-60c-75c-80c) 7 days. Gross: $6,000. (Average: $6,200).

**"Gung Ho" (Univ.)**
**"Hi Good Lookin'" (Univ.)**
HILLSTREET—(2,700) (50c-60c-80c-$1.00) 7 days. Gross: $21,000. (Average: $19,700).

**"See Here, Private Hargrove" (M-G-M)**
**"Swing Fever" (M-G-M)**
LOEW'S STATE—(2,500) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 7 days. Gross: $27,000. (Average: $24,100).

**"Phantom Lady" (Univ.)**
**"The Impostor" (Univ.)**
LOS ANGELES—(2,098) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 7 days. Gross: $19,000. (Average: $14,900).

**"Gung Ho" (Univ.)**
**"Hi Good Lookin'" (Univ.)**
PANTAGES—(2,000) (50c-60c-80c-$1.00) 7 days. Gross: $17,500. (Average: $16,700).

**"The Miracle of Morgan's Creek" (Para.)**
PARAMOUNT HOLLYWOOD — (9,000) (50c-60c-80c-$1.00) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $10,500. (Average: $11,000).

**"The Miracle of Morgan's Creek" (Para.)**
PARAMOUNT DOWNTOWN — (3,595) (50c-60c-80c-$1.00) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $16,500. (Average: $20,300).

**"Phantom Lady" (Univ.)**
**"The Impostor" (Univ.)**
RITZ—(1,376) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 7 days. Gross: $11,000. (Average: $8,700).

**"See Here, Private Hargrove" (M-G-M)**
**"Swing Fever" (M-G-M)**
UPTOWN—(1,716) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 7 days. Gross: $10,500. (Average: $20,500).

**"Passage to Marseille" (WB)**
WARNERS HOLLYWOOD—(3,000) (50c-60c-80c-$1.00) 7 days, 4th week. Gross: $11,502. (Average: $17,000).

**"Passage to Marseille" (WB)**
WARNERS DOWNTOWN—(3,400) (50c-60c-80c-$1.00) 7 days, 4th week. Gross: $14,228. (Average: $18,700).

**"Passage to Marseille" (WB)**
WARNERS WILTERN—(2,200) (50c-60c-80c-$1.00) 7 days, 4th week. Gross: $11,462. (Average: $15,200).

## *New Baltimore Theatre*

BALTIMORE, April 5.—Morton Rosen, owner of the local Windsor theatre and part owner of the Monroe, is associated with Edward Perotka in the building of a new theatre, the Victory, which has been partly completed at Brooklyn, a war plant center on the outskirts of this city.

**CAPABLE MANAGER**
Theatre Executive — Buyer — Booker — Publicist — available Apr. 20 for independent or circuit operation. Prefer percentage deal, permanency desired. Box 219, MOTION PICTURE DAILY.

# *U. A. Executive Picture Slated to Be Clarified*

(*Continued from page 1*)

ported here yesterday that Agnew may be offered a United Artists vice-presidency and a place on the company's board of directors as Selznick's representative. Efforts to obtain confirmation of the report were unsuccessful. Sears is the Selznick board representative now.

The session, according to the New York reports, also is scheduled to name a head of international distribution for United Artists; a director of advertising, publicity and exploitation for the company, and a managing director for Great Britain.

### Gould on Coast

Walter Gould, United Artists foreign manager, is now on the Coast. He has been in charge of the international department, reporting directly to the U. A. board, since the resignation of Arthur W. Kelly, two months ago. The post occupied by Kelly has remained unfilled. Paul Lazarus, Jr., advertising-publicity director, will report for military service tomorrow. No successor has been named to his post yet. The post of managing director for the company in Britain is being filled on a temporary basis by David H. Coplan, Canadian United Artists manager.

Raftery abandoned plans to return to New York to spend Easter with his family in order to attend the Monday session, it was reported here.

George J. Schaefer conferred yesterday with Barney Balaban, Paramount president. Neither of the conferees could be reached for interrogation subsequently. Schaefer's name has been linked with an appointment to an executive post in Paramount since the withdrawal of Neil Agnew as vice-president in charge of distribution. When queried concerning the reports recently, Schaefer said: "The matter has not been discussed with me."

### Selznick Tying Future To UA, O'Shea Declares

HOLLYWOOD, April 5.—David O. Selznick is tying his future to United Artists despite what were described as "rumors" to the contrary in a statement issued here today from Daniel T. O'Shea, Vanguard president.

"It must be apparent to everyone that recent activities of the Selznick enterprises have indicated plans for a greatly expanded operation," he said. "However, Vanguard is 25 percent owner of UA and has a long term releasing deal and we have no plans contemplating any change in this status.

Indicating that Neil Agnew will join Vanguard immediately, O'Shea said the former will arrive here next week to confer with Edward C. Raftery and Gradwell Sears, and to look "towards ways and means of building still further UA's program and toward utilizing our assets for the benefit of the program as a whole."

### Comments on Wallis

O'Shea also took cognizance of Hollywood reports that Hal Wallis had made a deal with Selznick. "Candidly, we would welcome the opportunity to have him associated with us. When we heard of difficulties between Wallis and Jack Warner, we advised Wallis of our interest, if and when he should become available and Wallis advised us he would be glad to talk to us at such a time, but that he was still under contract," O'Shea said.

Meanwhile, Jack Chertok was placed in charge of "The Conspirators," the only Wallis film at present in production at Warners.

## *'Heart' Gets Hearty $20,000 in St. Louis*

ST. LOUIS, April 5.—Fears that the new Federal tax might discourage usiness faded this week as attendnce held up here. "The Purple Heart" at the Fox is out in front with $20,000, and "Cry Havoc" at Loew's is a close second with $19,000.

Estimated receipts for the week ending April 5:

**"Tender Comrade" (RKO)**
**"Hat Check Honey" (Univ.)**
AMBASSADOR—(3,154) (40c-50c-60c) 7 days. Gross: $18,000. (Average: $15,700).

**"Cry Havoc" (M-G-M)**
**"Swing Fever" (M-G-M)**
LOEW'S STATE—(3,162) (40c-50c-60c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $19,000. (Average: $18,900).

**"The Purple Heart" (20th-Fox)**
**"Henry Aldrich, Boy Scout" (Para.)**
FOX—(5,038) (40c-50c-60c) 7 days. Gross: $20,000. (Average: $18,700).

**"The Song of Bernadette" (20th-Fox)**
MISSOURI—(3,514) (75c-$1.10) 7 days. Gross: $7,500. (Average: $9,900).

**"Rationing" (M-G-M)**
**"Hey, Rookie" (Col.)**
LOEW'S ORPHEUM—(1,900) (40c-50c-60c) 7 days. Gross: $7,500. (Average: $7,100).

**"Women in Bondage" (Mono.)**
**"Miracle of Morgan's Creek" (Para.)**
SHUBERT—(1,900) (40c-50c-60c) 7 days. Gross: $6,500. (Average: $6,100).

**"Frisco Kid" (WB)**
**"Lifeboat" (20th-Fox)**
ST. LOUIS—(4,000) (45c-50c) 7 days. Gross: $5,200. (Average: $5,200).

## *Pollock Heads U.A. Ad-Publicity ProTem*

Direction of United Artists' home office advertising, publicity and exploitation department will be taken over temporarily by Lou Pollock following the departure of Paul Lazarus, Jr., for Army service tomorrow, until such time as a permanent successor to Lazarus is named.

Pollock, former Eastern advertising, publicity and exploitation director for Universal, joined United Artists several months ago as assistant to Lazarus. With Gradwell L. Sears, U.A. vice-president and distribution chief, and Edward C. Raftery, U.A. president, engaged for the past several weeks in company conferences on the Coast, the naming of a successor to Lazarus has been delayed.

## *Lasky to Be Honored*

HANNIBAL, Mo., April 5.—Jesse Lasky, producer of Warners' "The Adventures of Mark Twain," will be made an honorary citizen of this town and will receive a scroll from the Propeller Club of America, Port of St. Louis, at a reception April 18 in the Mark Twain Hotel, St. Louis. Carl Post, recently appointed publicity director for Warners in St. Louis, is in charge of the promotion.

# *Hollywood*

By JACK CARTWRIGHT

*Hollywood, April 5*

UNIVERSAL, cooperating with the Marine Corps League, held a benefit preview of "Gung Ho" at the Hollywood Pantages the other night so swing-shift workers in war plants could attend. . . . Alfred Hitchcock is busy preparing to start production on "House of Dr. Edwards" for Vanguard. . . . William Perlberg has returned from the East and is considering Maureen O'Hara for the lead in "State Fair," Technicolor musical. . . . "The Black Parachute" is the new title for Columbia's "Mission 36." . . . Armand Schafer, executive producer at Republic, plans to use considerable radio talent in "Sing, Neighbor, Sing," which Don Brown will produce with Frank McDonald directing.

•

*When Warners premiere "The Adventures of Mark Twain" at the Hollywood Theatre in New York on May 3 they will have presented 17 biographical films to date. The first of this cycle was "My Four Years in Germany," story of Ambassador Gerard, produced in 1916. Biographical pictures will figure just as prominently in the future with nine more set for 1944-45 release or beyond. One of the first out will be "Rhapsody in Blue," the life of George Gershwin, scheduled for release late in the Summer.*

•

**Nunnally Johnson, presently in the East while between pictures for International, has offered his services to the Navy Department as civilian writer. This does not mean he will give up his studio connection, however, according to William Goetz. . . . Mack Gordon is at work with Harry Warren on the score for "Diamond Horseshoe," Technicolor musical at 20th-Fox. . . . Stanley Davis has finished the final script of "See My Lawyer," next Olsen and Johnson comedy at Universal, which is scheduled to roll April 10.**

## *'Tarzan,' Show Net $19,500 in Baltimore*

BALTIMORE, April 5.—Business is spotty this week with a rainy weekend plus pre-Easter shopping and Holy week regarded as influences. Top figures go to "Tarzan's Desert Mystery" plus a strong stage show, which is good for $19,500 at the Hippodrome.

Estimated receipts for the week ending April 6:

**"Knickerbocker Holiday" (U. A.)**
CENTURY—(3,000) (35c-43c-55c and 60c weekends) 7 days. Gross: $13,000. Average, $16,000)

**"Lady in the Dark" (Para.)**
KEITH'S—(2,406) (35c-43c-55c-65c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $18,000. (Average, $13,900)

**"Jane Eyre" (20th-Fox)**
NEW—(1,581) (30c-40c-60c) 7 days. Gross: $12,000. (Average, $10,300)

**"The Fighting Seabees" (Rep.)**
STANLEY — (3,280) (35c-44c-55c-65c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $11,000. (Average, $16,900)

**"Tarzan's Desert Mystery" (RKO)**
HIPPODROME: (2,205) (35c-44c-55c-65c) 7 days. Stage show: Mitchell Ayres and Orchestra, The Little Tough Guys, Dixie Dunbar. Gross: $19,500. (Average, $17,500)

**"Cowboy Canteen" (Col.)**
MAYFAIR — (1,000) (20c-40c) 7 days. Gross: $6,500. (Average, $6,400)

**"South of Pago Pago" (Small-U. A.)**
MARYLAND — (1,400) (25c-50c) 7 days. Gross: $6,500. (Average, $7,500)

# Pittsburgh Slumps; 'Uninvited' Strong

PITTSBURGH, April 5.—The usual Holy Week slump was responsible for slackening of attendance here this week. Best comparative business was done at the Ritz, where "The Uninvited," a holdover, brought $5,000.

Estimated receipts for the week ending April 4-7:

**"Phantom Lady" (Univ.)**
FULTON — (1,700) (35c-44c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $6,000. (Average: $8,100).
**"The Impostor" (Univ.)**
HARRIS—(2,200) (35c-44c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $6,000. (Average: $10,100).
**"The Miracle of Morgan's Creek" (Para.)**
PENN—(3,400) (35c-44c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $18,500. (Average: $19,800).
**"The Uninvited" (Para.)**
RITZ—(1,100) (35c-44c-65c) 7 days, 2nd week, moveover from Penn. Gross: $5,000. (Average: $2,700).
**"Swingtime Johnny" (Univ.)**
**"Nine Girls" (Col.)**
SENATOR—(1,750) (35c-44c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $2,600. (Average: $3,400).
**"Broadway Rhythm" (M-G-M)**
STANLEY—(3,800) (35c-44c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $15,000. (Average: $20,900, with stage show).

# 20th-Fox '43 Net Hits $12,900,000

(*Continued from page* 1)

$756,000 on the 42 per cent of National stock then owned by 20th.

The 20th-Fox consolidated net profit for 1943 exclusive of National's portion, equals $5.37 per share on the common stock.

The net profit figure for last year was arrived at after deducting a $23,800,000 provision for Federal income and excess profits taxes and $1,400,000 net profit applicable to minority interests. The deduction for taxes in 1942 was $7,460,000. The operating profit prior to all deductions was $38,100,000 in 1943 and $18,069,000 in 1942.

For the fourth quarter of 1943 the estimated consolidated net profit after all charges was $3,700,000, compared with $3,343,849 for the third quarter of that year and $3,353,071 for the fourth quarter of 1942.

## *Harry Mandel to Promote Wac Drive*

(*Continued from page* 1)

week of May 11-17, and will mark the second time that the Alperson-Mandel combination has functioned in a national WAC war project, their previous effort being United Nations Week last year, in which more than $1,625,000 was raised for the relief of America's allies.

Alperson and Mandel will negotiate with Col. Curtis Mitchell, chief of the Army's bureau of public relations' pictorial branch, to secure the services of a former film star now in the service, to appear in a special trailer. Meanwhile, Mandel has been meeting with military officials connected with recruiting in the Women's Army Corps, so that a special campaign book can be prepared for exhibitors.

## *Skouras Radio Show*

"This Is Our Cause," Skouras Theatres' weekly radio show here, will feature a special Easter - Passover program on Sunday night over WINS, the Skouras war effort department reported yesterday.

# *$1,440,000 for Red Cross From First 3,600 Houses*

(*Continued from page* 1)

J. Payette's report on the District of Columbia area, which took in $85,528, or nearly double the 1943 figure. Payette, co-chairman of the local exhibitor committee for the drive, also pointed out that in personal solicitations, against a quota of $10,000, a total of $17,000 was collected from theatre and exchange employes, with another $500 possible.

C. J. Latta, zone manager for Warner theatres in Albany, reported $20,788 collected in 24 houses under his jurisdiction, compared with approximately $10,000 last year. Arthur Frudenfeld of RKO Theatres, Cincinnati, exhibitor chairman of that exchange area, reported $58,850 for 156 theatres that have sent in returns to date. In cooperation with local distributor chairman Harris Dudelson, salesmen from film companies will contact other exhibitors who signed pledges, but who have not yet made reports in an effort to hasten a complete return from the Southern Ohio area.

Lou Golding, exhibitor chairman in Albany, reported for Si Fabian's upstate theatres, in Cohoes, Catskill, Albany, Troy and Schenectady, which collected $16,475 in the 1944 campaign, against $8,000 last year.

The Capitol Theatre on Broadway here took in $10,585, approximately double the amount of last year. Radio City Music Hall reported $16,062, which is also ahead of 1943. Fred Schwartz of the Century Circuit has reported approximately $35,000, against $18,134 collected last year. Don Jacocks stated that his zone of Warner houses in New Jersey, consisting of about 50 theatres, collected $35,000 in 1943 and $67,000 in 1944.

Harry Arthur, exhibitor chairman for St. Louis, reported a collection of $92,549 against last year's $34,000. This is for 112 theatres and includes Southern Illinois, which turned in $10,917, and Eastern Missouri, $7,415.

**Roxy Collects $21,162**

The personnel of the Roxy Theatre here, assisted by volunteers from Beth Israel Hospital, collected $21,162 for the Red Cross during the 19-day drive ending last Sunday night, the management reported yesterday.

# Studios in Accord With IATSE 'Props'

(*Continued from page* 1)

sound men and general laborers and utility men.

Once the producers reach accords with all IATSE locals they will then attempt to reach agreement on several general proposals affecting all 11 IATSE studio locals which have not yet been settled. Among these are the questions of seniority rights, sick-leave with pay, and allowance for time spent on location. The length of the new agreement is another point which remains to be settled.

General feeling among the IATSE representatives is that the producers are reluctant to grant concessions to them which they might ordinarily have granted in view of the fact that these concessions will also have to be granted to locals which are signatories to the studio basic labor agreement and to the Studio Conference locals, both groups having reached agreements with the producers on this basis. Instead of granting concessions to the 14,000 IATSE studio workers they would be granting them to some 25,000 studio workers.

## *Schwalberg to Join International May 1*

(*Continued from page* 1)

traveling auditor. Subsequently he was contract manager for First National, and was named supervisor of Vitagraph exchanges in 1932. He was made vice-president of Vitagraph in 1942.

International had negotiated earlier with James A. Mulvey, vice-president of Samuel Goldwyn, Inc., but no agreement was reached. International concluded a deal recently by which RKO Radio will handle distribution of a minimum of four productions. RKO Radio also distributes for Goldwyn.

## *Robert Hussey Resigns*

HOLLYWOOD, April 5.—Robert Hussey, Universal's director of radio exploitation here, has resigned. He will leave his post on Friday to join the Young and Rubicam advertising agency here.

# Financing Waiting For Wallis—Report

(*Continued from page* 1)

the producer's negotiations for a new association. Warners contended that Wallis had failed to comply with the terms of his contract which, it is said, had one more year to run. A denial was entered for Wallis in Hollywood by his attorney, Loyd Wright, who said that the contract had been fully complied with and that Wallis had been negotiating with Warners for a mutually agreeable termination of the pact when the contract was abrogated.

Attorneys said that Wallis might find it expedient now to seek declaratory judgment of the courts on the status of his contract before proceeding with future negotiations.

## *Blumberg, Cowdin to Be Reelected Today*

(*Continued from page* 1)

J. O'Connor, vice-president and assistant to the president; Samuel Machnovitch, treasurer and assistant secretary; Adolph Schimel and Edward Muhl, assistant secretaries; Margaret M. Sullivan, assistant secretary-treasurer, and Eugene F. Walsh and Harold S. Brewster, assistant treasurers.

O'Connor is due to arrive in New York today from the Coast in time for the board meeting. Blumberg will leave New York tomorrow for Hollywood.


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# MOTION PICTURE DAILY'S BOOKING CHART

| WEEK OF | COLUMBIA | M-G-M | MONO. | PARA. | PRC | REPUBLIC | RKO RADIO | 20TH-FOX | U. A. | UNIVERSAL | WARNERS |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Mar. 11 | HEY ROOKIE<br>Ann Miller<br>Joe Besser<br>Larry Parks<br>C—77 mins. | (Sixth Block)<br>THOUSANDS CHEER<br>Kathryn Grayson<br>Gene Kelly<br>M—126 mins. (413)<br>(Technicolor) | | (Third Block)<br>MIRACLE OF MORGAN'S CREEK<br>Eddie Bracken<br>Betty Hutton<br>D—99 mins. (4312) | LADY IN THE DEATH HOUSE<br>Lionel Atwill<br>Jean Parker<br>D—(414) | THE BIG SHOW<br>Gene Autry<br>(reissue)<br>O—(3302)<br>HIDDEN VALLEY OUTLAWS<br>Wild Bill Elliott<br>O—56 mins. (378) | (Block Four)<br>TENDER COMRADE<br>Ginger Rogers<br>Robert Ryan<br>D—102 mins. (416) | (March Release. No definite date set)<br>PURPLE HEART<br>Dana Andrews<br>Tala Birell<br>D—99 mins. (422) | KNICKERBOCKER HOLIDAY<br>Nelson Eddy<br>Constance Dowling<br>Charles Coburn<br>M—85 mins. | HAT CHECK HONEY<br>Grace McDonald<br>Leon Errol<br>Walter Catlett<br>C—(8031) | PASSAGE TO MARSEILLE<br>Humphrey Bogart<br>Claude Rains<br>D—110 mins.<br>(3139) |
| Mar. 18 | TWO-MAN SUBMARINE<br>Tom Neal<br>Ann Savage<br>J. Carroll Naish<br>D—62 mins. | THE CROSS OF LORRAINE<br>Pierre Aumont<br>Gene Kelly<br>D—90 mins. (414) | | STANDING ROOM ONLY<br>Paulette Goddard<br>Fred MacMurray<br>C—83 mins. (4314) | | THE FIGHTING SEABEES<br>John Wayne<br>Susan Hayward<br>D—100 mins. (311) | PASSPORT TO DESTINY<br>Elsa Lanchester<br>Gordon Oliver<br>D—64 mins. (417) | 4 JILLS IN A JEEP<br>Carole Landis<br>Martha Raye<br>Dick Haymes<br>C—(423) | | LADIES COURAGEOUS<br>Loretta Young<br>Geraldine Fitzgerald<br>Phillip Terry<br>D—88 mins. (8065) | |
| Mar. 25 | SUNDOWN VALLEY<br>Charles Starrett<br>Jeanne Bates<br>Walter "Dub" Taylor<br>O—55 mins. | LOST ANGEL<br>Margaret O'Brien<br>Marsha Hunt<br>D—91 mins. (415) | | THE UNINVITED<br>Ray Milland<br>Ruth Hussey<br>D—98 mins. (4315) | THUNDERING GUN SLINGERS<br>Buster Crabbe<br>THE AMAZING MR. FORREST<br>(English)<br>D—(413) | MOJAVE FIREBRAND<br>Wild Bill Elliott<br>G. "Gabby" Hayes<br>55 mins.—(377) | THE CURSE OF THE CAT PEOPLE<br>Simone Simon<br>Kent Smith<br>D—70 mins. (418) | | SONG OF THE OPEN ROAD<br>Edgar Bergen<br>and Charlie McCarthy<br>Bonita Granville<br>C | HI GOOD-LOOKIN'<br>Harriet Hilliard<br>Eddie Quillan<br>Ozzie Nelson's Orchestra<br>Jack Teagarden's Orchestra<br>M—62 mins. (8044) | |
| April 1 | THE WHISTLER<br>Richard Dix<br>Gloria Stuart<br>D—59 mins. | MADAME CURIE<br>Greer Garson<br>Walter Pidgeon<br>D—124 mins. (490) | PARTNERS OF THE TRAIL<br>(Roughrider)<br>O—(353) | HENRY ALDRICH, BOY SCOUT<br>Jimmy Lydon<br>C—66 mins. (4311) | | MY BEST GAL<br>Jane Withers<br>Jimmy Lydon<br>Frank Craven<br>C-67 mins. | ESCAPE TO DANGER<br>Eric Portman<br>Ann Dvorak<br>D—84 mins. (419) | | UP IN MABEL'S ROOM<br>Gail Patrick<br>John Hubbard<br>C—76 mins.<br>IT HAPPENED TOMORROW<br>Linda Darnell<br>Dick Powell<br>C—84 mins. | | |
| April 8 | COVER GIRL<br>(Technicolor)<br>Rita Hayworth<br>Gene Kelly<br>Phil Silvers<br>Jinx Falkenburg<br>M—107 mins.<br>JAM SESSION<br>Ann Miller<br>Jess Barker<br>M—80 mins. | SONG OF RUSSIA<br>Robert Taylor<br>Susan Peters<br>D—107 mins. (422) | | TIMBER QUEEN<br>Richard Arlen<br>Mary Beth Hughes<br>D—66 mins. (4313) | GUNS OF THE LAW<br>James Newill<br>Tex O'Brien<br>O | THE LARAMIE TRAIL<br>Bob Livingston<br>"Smiley" Burnette<br>O—56 min. (355)<br>OUTLAWS OF SANTA FE<br>Don "Red" Barry<br>O—56 min. (366) | | (April Releases. No definite date set)<br>BUFFALO BILL<br>(Technicolor)<br>Maureen O'Hara<br>Joel McCrea<br>D—(424)<br>90 mins.<br>TAMPICO<br>Lynn Bari<br>E. G. Robinson<br>D—75 mins. (425)<br>SHRINE OF VICTORY<br>British documentary—45 mins. | WEIRD WOMAN<br>Lon Chaney<br>Anne Gwynne<br>Evelyn Ankers<br>D<br>D—64 mins. (8027) | SHINE ON, HARVEST MOON<br>Ann Sheridan<br>Dennis Morgan<br>Irene Manning<br>M—112 mins.<br>(313) |
| April 15 | | RATIONING<br>Wallace Beery<br>Marjorie Main<br>C—93 mins. (418) | LADY, LET'S DANCE<br>Belita<br>James Ellison<br>Frick & Frack<br>M—84 mins. (301) | FOR WHOM THE BELL TOLLS<br>(Technicolor)—D<br>(Advance Price Engagements)<br>Ingrid Bergman<br>Gary Cooper<br>D—168 mins.(4338) | THE MONSTER MAKER<br>D—62 mins. (419) | ROSIE, THE RIVETER<br>Jane Frazee<br>Frank Albertson<br>Vera Vague<br>C—75 mins. (313) | | | VOICE IN THE WIND<br>Francis Lederer<br>Sigrid Gurie<br>D—85 mins. | HER PRIMITIVE MAN<br>Louise Albritton<br>Robert Paige<br>D—79 mins. (8016) | |
| April 22 | GIRL IN THE CASE<br>Janie Carter<br>Edmund Lowe D<br>WYOMING HURRICANE O<br>Russell Hayden | A GUY NAMED JOE<br>Irene Dunne<br>Spencer Tracy<br>D—120 mins. (416) | HOT RHYTHM<br>M—79 mins.<br>Dona Drake<br>Robert Lowery<br>(314) | (Fourth Block)<br>THE HOUR BEFORE THE DAWN<br>Franchot Tone<br>Veronica Lake<br>D—75 mins. (4317) | SHAKE HANDS WITH MURDER<br>D—(422)<br>PINTO BANDIT<br>O—(456) | OH SUSANNA<br>Gene Autry<br>(reissue)<br>O—(3303) | (Block Five)<br>THE FALCON OUT WEST<br>Tom Conway<br>Barbara Hale<br>D—64 mins. | | LUMBER JACK<br>(Harry Sherman Production)<br>William Boyd<br>O—64 mins. | MOON OVER LAS VEGAS<br>Ann Gwynne<br>David Bruce<br>D—69 mins. (8037) | UNCERTAIN GLORY<br>Errol Flynn<br>Paul Lukas<br>D—102 mins. (314) |
| April 29 | THE BLACK PARACHUTE<br>Larry Parks<br>Jeanne Bates<br>John Carradine<br>Osa Massen<br>D | BROADWAY RHYTHM<br>Ginny Simms<br>George Murphy<br>M—114 mins. (419)<br>(Technicolor) | OUTLAW TRAIL<br>(Trailblazer)<br>53 mins. (364)<br>O | YOU CAN'T RATION LOVE<br>Betty Rhodes<br>Johnnie Johnston<br>C—79 mins. (4318) | MEN OF THE SEA<br>D—(420) | TROCADERO<br>Rosemary Lane<br>Johnny Downs<br>Bob Chester's Orch.<br>M—74 mins. (314) | DAYS OF GLORY<br>Tamara Touranova<br>Gregory Peck<br>D | | | SLIGHTLY TERRIFIC<br>Leon Errol<br>Anne Rooney<br>Evelyn Ankers<br>C—58 mins. (8036) | |
| May 6 | ONCE UPON A TIME<br>Cary Grant<br>Janet Blair<br>James Gleason—D<br>DEATH TO THE INVADER<br>(British)<br>John Clements<br>Mary Morris<br>D | TUNISIAN VICTORY<br>(Special Release)<br>(466)—80 mins.<br>(Documentary) | LAW MAN<br>Johnny Mack Brown<br>O—55 mins. (354) | THE NAVY WAY<br>Robert Lowery<br>Jean Parker<br>D—75 mins. (4316) | MINSTREL MAN<br>Benny Fields<br>Gladys George<br>Roscoe Karns<br>O—(404) | | THE YELLOW CANARY<br>(British)<br>Anna Neagle<br>Richard Greene<br>D | | | COBRA WOMAN<br>(Technicolor)<br>Maria Montez<br>Jon Hall<br>Sabu | THE ADVENTURES OF MARK TWAIN<br>Fredric March<br>Alexis Smith<br>Donald Crisp<br>D—130 mins. (315) |
| May 13 | RIDIN' WEST<br>Charles Starrett<br>Shirley Patterson<br>O | SEE HERE, PRIVATE HARGROVE<br>Robert Walker<br>Donna Reed<br>C—101 mins. (420)<br>THE HEAVENLY BODY<br>Hedy Lamarr<br>William Powell<br>D—95 mins. (421) | DETECTIVE KITTY O'DAY<br>Jean Parker<br>D—61 mins. | | | JAMBOREE<br>Ruth Terry<br>George Byron<br>M—71 mins. (316) | LOOK TO YOUR CHILDREN<br>Bonita Granville<br>Kent Smith<br>D | | | PARDON MY RHYTHM<br>Gloria Jean<br>Patric Knowles<br>M | |
| May 20 | | SWING FEVER<br>Kay Kyser<br>Marilyn Maxwell<br>M—81 mins. (423) | | (Special)<br>LADY IN THE DARK<br>(Technicolor)<br>Ginger Rogers<br>Ray Milland<br>M—100 mins.<br>(4336) | WATERFRONT<br>John Carradine<br>J. Carroll Naish<br>D—(415) | COWBOY AND THE SENORITA<br>Roy Rogers<br>Mary Lee<br>Dale Evans<br>M—78 mins. | SHOW BUSINESS<br>Eddie Cantor<br>Joan Davis<br>George Murphy<br>Constance Moore<br>M | | | | |

First in Film and Radio News Brief, Accurate and Impartial

# MOTION PICTURE DAILY

Alert, Intelligent and Indispensable to the Motion Picture Industry

VOL. 55. NO. 69 NEW YORK, U.S.A., FRIDAY, APRIL 7, 1944 TEN CENTS

COPY REMOVE

# WILLIAM FOX BACK IN BUSINESS AGAIN

## *Opens N. Y. Office, Plans 25 Features Yearly; to Operate from Coast*

By SHERWIN KANE

William Fox, an aggressive, young-old man, looking remarkable fit and vigorous for one who already was established in the industry at the turn of the century, is resuming where he left off, 14 years ago today.

Just returned from a West Coast visit where, among other things, he took an option on a 1,500-acre site for what he believes will be the finest and most modern studio and home office buildings in the industry, Fox said of his new project yesterday:

**"I have never been more serious about anything in my life. Those who are betting I won't do it will lose."**

It was 14 years ago, on April 7, 1930, that Fox disposed of his interest in Fox Film Corp., an industry keystone without peer in its heyday

(*Continued on page 8*)

# See Need for 22 Theatres

WASHINGTON, April 6.—Need for additional theatre facilities at a large number of war-manufacturing and Army camp points throughout the country was indicated today by the Federal Works Agency, which disclosed that 22 of 267 new war public works and service projects just approved by President Roosevelt consist of recreational facilities.

Most of the projects are designed for the benefit of members of the armed forces, in most cases because the recreational facilities of the area are limited in scope and capable of

(*Continued on page 8*)

## *Mike Dolid to Head Warners' Exchanges*

Mike Dolid, head of Warners' contract department, will succeed A. W. Schwalberg as supervisor of exchanges for the company when Schwalberg leaves on April 30 to become Eastern representative for International Pictures, it was learned here yesterday.

# *Pittsburgh Is 'Needed' Area*

The Regional War Manpower Commission at Philadelphia has designated motion picture distribution in the Pittsburgh area as "locally needed," Ned E. Depinet, War Activities Committee distributors' division chairman, disclosed here last night. The classification was approved yesterday by Frank L. McNamee, WMC regional director for Pennsylvania, New Jersey and Delaware, and follows a similar directive covering exchanges in Philadelphia, as reported in MOTION PICTURE DAILY on March 14.

The Pittsburgh negotiations were conducted with Pat T. Fagan, WMC area director, by Leon J. Bamberger, assistant to Depinet, and Herbert

(*Continued on page 6*)

## *Connors in Field Rental Discussions*

PHILADELPHIA, April 6.—Thomas J. Connors, 20th-Fox vice-president in charge of sales, and other company executives have launched a series of meetings with exhibitors in the field to discuss rentals and trade practices. First of the sessions was held here yesterday with a committee of the Eastern Pennsylvania Allied, and it is understood that Connors will leave New York on Monday for a similar visit to Cleveland, Cincinnati and Detroit, to be followed later by other cities.

Other 20th-Fox representatives at

(*Continued on page 6*)

# Para. '43 Net Estimated at $16,077,000

Paramount Pictures estimates its earnings for the year ended Jan. 1, 1944, at $16,077,000, after interest and all charges, including reserves provided for contingencies and estimated provision for all Federal taxes. This amount includes $1,552,000 representing Paramount's direct and indirect net interest as a stockholder in the combined undistributed earnings for the year of partially owned non-consolidated subsidiaries.

Earnings for the year ended Jan. 2, 1943, were $14,631,650, including $1,506,214 share of undistributed earnings of partially owned non-consolidated subsidiaries.

Earnings for the quarter ended Jan. 1, 1944, are estimated on the same

(*Continued on page 8*)

## *Allied Action on Decree May 17-18*

WASHINGTON, April 6.—Consideration of the status of the consent decree and future action in reference to it will be the No. 1 item at the annual Spring meeting of the board of directors of Allied States Association, scheduled for Philadelphia May 17-18, it was disclosed here today by national headquarters.

Allied directors have been asked to submit questions of general interest to their respective territories for inclusion in the agenda. "The meetings will be open to a limited number of observers and consultants, but due to an accumulation of purely organization business the directors will hold one closed session," Allied's statement reported. Martin G. Smith, Allied's new national president, will preside for the first time.

# Reagan Heads Para's Sales; 5-Year Pact

## *Is Named Vice-President And Member of Board*

The appointment of Charles M. Reagan, former assistant general sales manager of Paramount, to the post of general manager of distribution for the company in the United States and Canada, succeeding Neil Agnew, who resigned earlier this week, was confirmed yesterday by the Paramount board of directors. The board also elected Reagan a vice-president of the company.



Charles M. Reagan

The board approved a five-year contract for Reagan. It is one of the first

(*Continued on page 8*)

# OCR Offers Exhibitors Aid

WASHINGTON, April 6.—Exhibitors encountering manpower, equipment or supply difficulties were invited today by George W. McMurphey, chief of the recreation section of the Office of Civilian Requirements to take their problems to the OCR representatives who now are stationed at all of the 13 regional offices of the War Production Board.

These representatives, McMurphey explained, will in many cases be able

(*Continued on page 8*)

## *Blumberg, Cowdin, Others Reelected*

Universal Pictures reelected Nate J. Blumberg, president, and J. Cheever Cowdin chairman of the board at the annual board of directors meeting held at the home office here yesterday. Also reelected were all other officers of the company, as listed in yesterday's MOTION PICTURE DAILY.

Those reelected, in addition to Blumberg and Cowdin, were: Charles D.

(*Continued on page 8*)

# *GE Telecasts by Relay; Theatre Sets Progress*

By JAMES CUNNINGHAM

General Electric's postwar television plans point principally to the use of the radio relay system, made possible for G.E. by the invention of a new electronic disc-seal type out of which there has been developed "a large new family of ultra-high-frequency tubes which now operate (in war applications) in parts of the frequency spectrum impractical of use before the

(*Continued on page 5*)

By MILTON LIVINGSTON

"Two or more types of theatre television projection equipment in addition to the types which have already been demonstrated are under study or development, and some of these seem promising," Dr. Alfred N. Goldsmith, television engineer, told a luncheon meeting of the Radio Executives Club at the Hotel Shelton here yesterday. The new types are Scophony's "Skia-

(*Continued on page 5*)

# Cowdin Outlines His Postwar Tax Plan

PHILADELPHIA, April 6.—A postwar Federal fiscal policy was outlined before the Temple University Institute on Tax Policies here tonight by J. Cheever Cowdin, chairman of Universal and leader in drafting American industry's tax recommendations to Congress. The broad outlines of Cowdin's recommendations were:

Reduction by approximately one half of the present over-all tax load, with a maximum postwar load of $31,000,000,000 annually for all purposes—Federal, state and local.

Reduction of individual Federal income taxes to one third the present rates and a simplified levy on a dollar amount. Relief especially for the "white collar" class.

Establishment of a single flat rate of 25 percent on corporate income, with concessions for new and small companies.

Servicing and eventual retirement of the war debt through a special war-debt tax which would yield $9,000,000,000 annually the first few years and would average $3,000,000,000 annually for 100 years.

Elimination of all Government competition with private business.

Balancing of the Federal budget immediately at the close of the war.

Avoidance of Government experimentation as a means of solving business dislocations.

Simplification of the operating system of the Security Exchange Commission as one means of encouraging venture capital.

Curbing of group advantages and favoritism in all fiscal planning.

# Dismissal of Cameo Damage Suit Denied

Federal Judge John Bright yesterday denied a motion in Federal Court here for dismissal of a treble-damage action alleging violation of the anti-trust laws which the Carmel Co., owner of the Cameo, Jersey City, has brought against the eight large distributors.

Carmel, according to the complaint, charges that the defendants monopolized the distribution of films in the Hudson County, N. J., area by giving first run films to their theatre circuit affiliates, while the plaintiff's house was given fourth runs.

Papers filed in Federal Court yesterday indicate that the Royal Amusement Co., operator of the Cameo, served Skouras Theatres Corp. with a further bill of particulars in its anti-trust action against a number of exhibitors and distributors in the same area of New Jersey. Service of the additional particulars was directed by the Court.

## *Birnbaum, Levy Named*

Bernard Birnbaum and Arthur Levy were appointed comptrollers by the Columbia board of directors at a meeting held here Wednesday.

# *Personal Mention*

LOUIS B. MAYER and FRANK ORSATTI, accompanied by JACK POTTER of M-G-M's studio publicity staff, will arrive in New York on Sunday.

•

W. C. GEHRING, 20th Century-Fox's Western sales manager, will return to the home office today following a sales trip.

•

LEO HANNON, Warner Philadelphia booker, is recuperating in Hahnemann Hospital in that city following a serious operation.

•

VIC BERNSTEIN, head of Monogram's Chicago booking department, has been inducted into the Army.

•

J. E. FLYNN, M-G-M Western sales head, is vacationing at Mt. Clemens, Mich., for several days.

•

FRED E. FORRY, manager of the Colonial, Lancaster, Pa., has entered the armed forces.

•

JOHN NIRENBERG, manager of Warners' Liberty-Tacony, Philadelphia, has left for the Navy.

TOM CONNORS, vice-president in charge of sales for 20th Century-Fox, and A. W. SMITH, JR., Eastern sales manager, have returned to the home office from Philadelphia.

•

MRS. HAL HORNE, wife of the 20th Century-Fox advertising-publicity director, is head of a campaign for funds for the National Jewish Hospital at Denver.

•

NATHAN E. GOLDSTEIN, president of Western Massachusetts Theatres, left for Boston yesterday following a New York visit.

•

CHARLES ZAGRANS, RKO branch manager in Philadelphia, is in the Northern Liberties Hospital, that city, with a heart ailment.

•

ROLAND HAYNES, manager of Warners' Oxford, Philadelphia, became the father of a son born this week to MRS. HAYNES at Hahnemann Hospital.

•

JERRY N. LUBIN of the Warner contract department will leave for the Army today.

# Studio 'IA' Locals Reach Agreements

Negotiations on individual contract demands of the 11 IATSE studio locals for new pacts to replace agreements which expired on Jan. 1 will be concluded when the company heads and their studio labor representatives resume sessions here this morning with IATSE officials at the office of Pat Casey, producers' labor representative.

The producer representatives and the IATSE officials are expected to take up the controversial questions of seniority rights and allowances for time spent on location as they apply to all IATSE studio locals.

The producers reached accord with IATSE studio laborers and utility men locals early yesterday and at a late hour were winding up final points with the studio sound technicians' local.

## *Form Syndicate to Buy Color Process*

Stanley Neal, Leon Leventhal and W. E. MacKee have organized a syndicate to buy the overseas production rights of Brewster Color Process. Cameras now in London will be brought to New York, for remodeling, and additional cameras will be built for color-television and regular productions. The syndicate obtained rights to the United Kingdom and all British possessions with the exception of Canada, and also South America.

The syndicate has arranged with Associated Filmakers, London, to produce color-television and other productions for distribution in the United Kingdom. Neal, president of Associated, was formerly managing director of Revelation Film Co., London, which formerly controlled the rights.

# Charges Americans Escape British Tax

LONDON, April 6.—Valentine McEntee, Socialist Member of Parliament who has lately been a persistent questioner of the government on film affairs, returned to charge at question-time in the House of Commons today that whereas revenue of British films shown in America was subject to heavy taxation, American distributors here, evade "proper" British taxation.

Replying for the government, Chancellor of the Exchequer Sir John Anderson maintained that the bulk of the large sum of money annually remitted from here to America for film rentals represents production costs, which being a capital charge, is not subject to a British tax, but that a tax is strictly levied on distribution and exhibition profits.

Other members suggested that American companies evade the tax here by exaggerating film costs but the Chancellor, declining to be drawn into a discussion, replied that a formal question would have to be proferred.

## *Alperson Due Monday To Set Wac Campaign*

Edward L. Alperson, general manager of RKO theatres, will arrive here from the West Coast Monday to start planning a Women's Army Corps recruiting campaign in 16,000 theatres throughout the country.

Alperson is chairman of the industry's drive, which will start May 11 and continue through May 17.

## *W. H. Barnes Dies*

ROCHESTER, N. Y., April 6.—W. H. Barnes, a film actor from 1914 to 1924, died here today.

## *Seek New Trial in Jackson Park Suit*

CHICAGO, April 6. — Absence of proof of conspiracy and damages was claimed in a motion for a new trial filed today in Federal District Court by defense attorneys in the Jackson Park anti-trust case. Judge Michael Igoe set April 21 for the hearing of arguments.

Thomas C. McConnell, plaintiff's counsel, is expected to insist that a new trial be denied and that the defendant exhibitors and distributors pa within ten days the $360,000 damages awarded to the Jackson Park recently.


NEW YORK THEATRES

RADIO CITY MUSIC HALL
50th Street & 6th Avenue
RITA HAYWORTH • GENE KELLY
"COVER GIRL"
in TECHNICOLOR • A Columbia Picture
Music by Jerome Kern • Lyrics by Ira Gershwin
Gala Stage Show • Symphony Orchestra
1st Mezzanine Seats Reserved. CIrcle 6-4600

Held Over 2nd Week
EXCLUSIVE! SOUTH AMERICAN FRONT — 1944
LATEST MARCH of TIME
20th CENTURY-FOX PICTURE
RADIO CITY MUSIC HALL

RKO PALACE B'WAY & 47th St.
NOW PLAYING
Maria Montez • Jon Hall
Turhan Bey
'Ali Baba and the Forty Thieves'

PARAMOUNT'S
"LADY IN THE DARK"
In Technicolor
IN PERSON
XAVIER CUGAT And BAND
DEAN MURPHY
PARAMOUNT TIMES SQUARE

LOEW'S STATE B'WAY & 45
ON SCREEN
1st N. Y. Showing
'NONE SHALL ESCAPE'
with MARSHA HUNT
IN PERSON
ALLAN JONES
Happy FELTON
Dick BUCKLEY
Added Attraction
CANADA LEE

Kay Francis - Carole Landis - Martha Raye - Mitzi Mayfair
"FOUR JILLS IN A JEEP"
—PLUS ON STAGE—
Harry Richman - The De Marcos
BUY MORE BONDS ROXY 7TH AVE. & 50TH ST.

THE SONG OF BERNADETTE
A 20th CENTURY-FOX PICTURE
CONTINUOUS Doors Open 9:30 A.M. B'WAY & 49th ST. RIVOLI


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# 1429 CONTRACTS IN FIRST 7 DAYS!

## HOTTEST THING IN FILMS TODAY!

# SENSATIONAL "TUNISIAN VICTORY"

### READY! SET! FIRE! BROADSIDES OF SHOWMANSHIP!

Invasion Fleet in action!
Storming the Beaches!
Fall of Casablanca, Oran, Hill 609!
Blasting the Mareth Line!
Americans' Surprise Move! More!



## *ASK M-G-M NOW!*

The Governments of the United States and Great Britain present "TUNISIAN VICTORY" • The Invasion and Liberation of North Africa • An Official Record Produced by British and American Service Film Units • Distributed by the British Ministry of Information • A Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer Release.

*"The Industry's Proudest Offering—'The Memphis Belle' —Technicolor saga of Our Air Heroes. Book It Now!"*

# Coast Flashes

*Hollywood, April 6*

THREE hundred and sixty-six theatres in Los Angeles County are cooperating with the Citizens' Manpower Committee in the showing of a series of manpower films issued by the U. S. Army in cooperation with the committee. No charge for projection is made by the theatres, Victor Adams, Los Angeles coordinator of the WAC Theatres division, said.

•

Jesse L. Lasky, producer of Warners' "The Adventures of Mark Twain" will leave here Saturday for Denver and Chicago appearances with the film. He will also attend ceremonies in St. Louis commemorating Twain, and then go to New York for the premiere.

•

The studio Red Cross drive has equalled the "War Chest" record of 22,570 contributions. In hope of adding $40,000, campaign leaders will seek increased amounts from top-bracket salaried people during the remaining week.

•

Norman Krasna and James S. Burkett have purchased the "Tugboat Annie" stories as a starring vehicle for Marjorie Rambeau. No release date has been set.

•

Carmen Miranda will star in the 20th Century-Fox Technicolor musical, "Rio," for which Ary Barrosa, Brazilian composer, will write the music.

•

Bing Crosby has bought a 10,000 acre stock ranch near Tuscarora, Nev.

•

Columbia has signed the Three Stooges to a new three-year pact for eight shorts and one feature a year.

•

William Bacher will produce "Gay Illiterate," Louella Parsons' autobiography, for 20th-Fox.

•

Edward L. Alperson will leave tomorrow on the Superchief for New York.

•

Columbia has signed Henry Levin to a directing contract.

## 'Memphis Belle' Set For 14 B'way Houses

"The Memphis Belle," the U. S. 8th Army Air Force four-reel Technicolor combat report, distributed by Paramount for the Office of War Information, will open in 14 Broadway theatres on Thursday, April 13, the company announced yesterday.

Theatres that will run the film for a week are: Paramount, Roxy, Astor, Strand, Hollywood, Criterion, Globe, Manhattan, Gotham, Palace, Rialto, Loew's State, Embassy Newsreel and Trans-Lux Newsreel. The picture will open the same day at the Metropolitan, Strand and Fox theatres in Brooklyn. On May 4 it will start on the RKO metropolitan circuit, and a week later in Loew subsequent houses in the Metropolitan area. It will open elsewhere on April 14, when the film will be released nationally.

# Short Subject Reviews

### "Aircraft Carrier"

(*This Is America*)
(*RKO-Pathe*)

RKO Pathe has an authentic story of the Navy's queen of the sea, the aircraft carrier. Little known facts about the operation and construction of these giant ships, hitherto confined to the official files of the Navy, are brought to light in this revealing and exciting "This Is America" subject. Shots of the planes massed on deck for the take-off, wings folded and wheels down, the actual flight and the return of the ships to the floating runway, along with sequences showing life on board, from the recreation room several decks below sea level to the "ready" room where the pilots await last-minute instructions, combine to make an interesting and enlightening film. Director and cameraman Harry W. Smith has done a fine job throughout. Narration by Dwight Weist is excellent. Running time, 18½ mins.

### "Bachelor Daze"

(*Columbia*)

Followers of Slim Summerville will especially like this one. Slim and his pal, Emmet Lynn, toss a coin to see who will woo the local widow, who, though credited with having poisoned several of her previous spouses, constitutes a fatal allure for the two bachelors. Slim wins but subsequent sequences prove he was "roped." Running time, 18 mins.

### "Community Sing"

(*Columbia*)

Number 10 of the current series inclues some singable numbers, including the ever-popular ballad, "I'm Thinking Tonight of My Blue Eyes" and the resurrected hit, "Paper Doll." Others include "Nevada," "My Baby Just Cares for Me" and, of course, "Mairzy Doats." Don Baker is at the organ and the Song Spinners handle the vocals nicely. Running time, 10 mins.

### "Dancing Romeo"

(*M-G-M*)

"Dancing Romeo" features some clever dancing by some newcomers as well as an entertaining story. "Froggy," the youngster, loses his girl because he can't dance. Determined to learn the art, he launches a campaign to get his girl back. The windup is a hilarious modern dance recital by Froggy. The subject was handled very well by Cyril Enfield, director Running time, 10 mins.

### "His Tale Is Told"

(*Columbia*)

Andy Clyde turns inventor in this subject. He goes through a comedy routine which isn't even good slapstick. His invention of an all-purpose tea kettle brings him to the city where he becomes involved in some stereotyped "corn-fed kid in the city" situations. Running time, 17½ mins.

## Deny Conspiracy in Prefect Suit Trial

NEW HAVEN, April 6. — Joseph Berry, chief defense counsel for eight distributors in the Prefect Theatres anti-trust suit, today in U. S. District Court here read denials of an alleged conspiracy agreement between Skouras Theatres and the Century Circuit against the Pickwick Theatre, Greenwich. Berry contended that the only purpose of the pooling arrangement of the two circuits was to obtain better film rental rates.

Arguments claiming the conspiracy were presented by Saul Rogers, plaintiffs' attorney, following the completion of reading of depositions from George Skouras, which has taken place intermittently during the past few weeks. Judge Carroll C. Hincks entered into the discussion with a number of pointed comments and questions. Testimony was finally resumed with the reading of depositions from John J. O'Connor, Universal vice-president.

This morning David Palfreyman, head of the theatre service department of the Motion Picture Producers and Distributors of America, gave testimony as to the authenticity of certain receipt estimates. Following this tetimony, Judge Hincks excluded the *Film Daily Year Book* from admission as evidence.

## Gilson Services Today

Funeral services for Mrs. Marion J. Gilson, wife of Charles E. Gilson, veteran March of Time cameraman will be held this morning at 10 o'clock at the Church of St. Thomas the Apostle in Yonkers. Mrs. Gilson died Monday.

## WLB Gets St. Louis Stagehands Dispute

ST. LOUIS, April 6.—The wage dispute between the St. Louis IATSE Stagehands Local No. 6, AFL, and exhibitors here has gone to a War Labor Board panel after a heated session earlier in the week. The stagehands are seeking a 15 per cent wage increase, two weeks vacation with pay and other concessions. The hearing opened Monday with the union announcement that five of its officials had asked for police protection.

Leroy Upton, president of the union, told police he had received threatening telephone calls warning him to stay away from the hearings and he asked for protection for himself and four other union officers: William Kosted, vice-president; C. O. Newlin, financial secretary; W. W. Spear, recording secretary, and Elmer Moran, business agent.

**'Pressure' Methods Charged**

Moran has been charged by exhibitor witnesses with continuing the "pressure" methods of John P. Nick, his predecessor, now serving a five-year Federal prison sentence for violating the anti-racketeering law.

Two members of the AFL St. Louis Theatrical Employes Union, Local 28, were the first witnesses called. They testified that although they were members in good standing of Local 2B they were forced to pay 15 per cent of their wages to Local No. 6 in order to get employment. Since last August, when they sought to get the payments reduced to five per cent, the amount charged members of Local 2B, they have been unable to obtain work as stagehands, they said.

## Red Cross Receipts Continue Doubled

Eight hundred more theatres reporting on their 1944 industry Red Cross collections yesterday to campaign headquarters of the War Activities Committee continued to show results at least double their 1943 collections.

John Rugar, exhibitor chairman in Salt Lake City, said that $45,000 had been collected by 112 theatres, the showing for this group, according to Rugar, being two-and-a-half times more than 1943. Newsreel Theatres, a circuit of five houses here, took in $8,158, against $4,554 last year, according to S. R. Martin, treasurer. J. Meyer Schine, head of the Schine Circuit, reported that 135 of his theatres collected $65,000, compared with last year's $15,000.

**Connecticut Doubles '43 Figure**

I. J. Hoffman, Connecticut exhibitor chairman, advised that up to Wednesday his territory had taken in $49,826, against $25,290 last year. A. Joseph DeFiore, chairman of Delaware, reported $15,000, with several more houses to be heard from. Zeb Epstein of the Broadway Strand reported $10,875 collected against $5,419 last year. Fabian Theatres reported that the Fox and Paramount in Brooklyn collected $7,185 and the Fabian Theatres on Staten Island $3,443. This represents an approximate 100 per cent increase. Harry Arthur of the St. Louis area with two more days to go, said $132,660 was taken in compared to last year's $60,000. There are approximately 100 houses to be heard from in Eastern Missouri.

Less than one-fourth of all houses have thus far reported. Total reported is nearing $2,000,000.

## 'Honored Hundred' Winners Next Week

Awards for the "Honored Hundred" contest are expected to be made next week, Robert W. Selig, assistant campaign director in charge of the competition, announced here last night. The 100 theatre managers from the U. S., Alaska and Hawaii who sold the greatest number of "E" bonds during the Fourth War Loan will go to Washington early in May as guests of the Treasury to serve on a special advisory committee for the Fifth War Loan, June 12-July 8.

Official audit of the results of "Honored Hundred" nominees, as submitted to Selig by state chairmen is under way now in New York. Upon its completion, the contest judges will make their decisions. Selected by Ted R. Gamble, national director of the Treasury's War Finance Division, they are Walter D. Fuller, president of the Curtis Publishing Co.; Palmer Hoyt, publisher of the Portland *Oregonian*, and Dr. P. N. Odegard, professor at Amherst College.

## Depinet Drive Will Have Mochrie Weeks

Two weeks of RKO's "Ned Depinet Drive" have been designated as "Robert Mochrie weeks" as a tribute to general sales manager Mochrie, during April 21 through May 4, according to drive captain Charles Boasberg.

The Depinet campaign enters its tenth week today and is scheduled to close May 18.

## GPE Holds Third Of Scophony Stock

**General Precision Equipment has the larger interest of the two American film interests which have holdings in Scophony Corp. of America, according to Arthur Levey, Scophony president. GPE's interest, as arranged by Hermann G. Place, former chairman of the executive committee of 20th Century-Fox, is one-third of the Scophony stock. Paramount, the other American film interest with holdings in Scophony, holds less than one-third, with Levey retaining a controlling interest.**

**Levey is understood to be seeking to interest other film companies with theatre holdings in buying into Scophony.**

# GE Telecasts by Relay; Theatre Sets Progress

(Continued from page 1)

war." This, basically, is G.E.'s plan for postwar television, as disclosed by company executives at a press luncheon at the Waldorf-Astoria Hotel here yesterday.

American Telephone and Telegraph Co. recently invited applications for the use of its postwar television coaxial facilities. In addition, for experimentation, A. T. & T. will build a relay system between New York and Boston, with the expectation that atmospheric and geographic conditions through the U. S. will require the use of the relay system where coaxial is not practical, while in other sections the opposite will be necessary.

**In this dual application A.T. & T. is supported by Dr. W. R. G. Baker, vice-president in charge of General Electric's electronics department. Dr. Baker told the press gathering yesterday that "all the words written to date by copywriters and all of the pretty advertisements about television are just so much fluff. They will come true someday," he added, "but we do not know when."**

GE officials yesterday disclosed also that the company has instituted a reservation plan for the purchase of postwar television broadcasting equipment and that GE is planning to install an experimental "two-way" television relay network between New York and Schenectady. This will involve four ultra-high frequency radio relay stations, and will allow a complete interchange of programs between Schenectady and New York. GE has been relaying New York television programs to Schenectady for years.

General Electric plans to make newtype television receivers available to markets where television broadcast services now exist, as soon as Government authorization allows. G.E.'s television receiver line will consist of both direct and projection view models, the company announced.

(Continued from page 1)

tron" and RCA's "Langmuir-Donald" method.

Dr. Goldsmith said that "television pictures may be projected in the theatre either from a point in the middle of the orchestra, or on the stage from back of a translucent screen, or preferably from the projection room from which film performances are projected." In his opinion, television is ready now with a wide-angle theatre-size screen.

### Won't Wait for Color

Dr. Goldsmith said that both films and "live" talent will be used in the production of television shows, either alone or in combination, with each having its own sphere of application. He further stated that postwar television development will not await the perfection of color and third-dimensional television, but will proceed on the basis of the types of television broadcasting available before the war.

The Society of Motion Picture Engineers is considering the idea of training personnel in theatre television projection, Dr. Goldsmith said.

Among the REC guests at yesterday's luncheon were Allen B. Du Mont, DuMont Television; Arthur Levey, Scophony; Keith S. McHugh, A.T. & T.; Ralph Austrian, RKO television consultant; Orrin E. Dunlap, RCA, and Worthington Miner, CBS. Murray E. Grabhorn, REC president, presided.

### Announce Lecture Series

Announcement was made at the meeting of an REC series of 15 television lectures to run from May to October with 35 television experts including O. B. Hanson and John T. Williams of NBC, and Austrian and Levey conducting sessions. All will be open to all REC members. The sixth lecture in the series will deal with motion pictures and radio and with television.

# Subpoenas Issued For Schine Hearing

BUFFALO, April 6.—Federal Judge John Knight today granted the Government permission to subpoena four persons from Cumberland, Md., to appear in U. S. District Court here at 11 A. M. on Monday, when an offer of Schine Chain Theatres Inc. to purchase the Liberty Theatre in Cumberland will be aired and Schine counsel will move for invalidation of sections of a temporary court order of two years ago, which called for the circuit to dispose of a number of houses. The Cumberland witnesses are Richard Schuette and Grace M. Fisher, both of the Maryland Theatre, Edward K. Magruder of the Garden Theatre and Frank R. Blaul.

### Subpoena Correspondence

Subpoenas *duces tecum* also were directed at Schine Chain Theatres, Gloversville, requiring its executives to produce all correspondence relating to a sale of Schine interests in the following theatres: Strand, Cumberland; Memorial, Mt. Vernon, O.; Opera House, and Ado Meade, Lexington, Ky.; Viv, Corbin, Ky.; State and Appalachian, Appalachia, Va.; Margie Grand, Harlan, Ky.; Liberty, Pikeville, Ky., and Plaza, Malone, N. Y.

Also to be acted upon on Monday will be a proposal for appointment of trustees to operate and maintain the several Schine houses which the circuit has thus far failed to dispose of under the court's divestiture order.

In the meantime, attorney Maurice Feldman of New York is in Buffalo going through the voluminous Federal Court file on theatre litigations as they affect the Schine interests. His connection with the case was not made clear.

## M-G-M Films Overseas

Four new M-G-M films have been shipped overseas on 16mm prints by the Army Pictorial Service. The pictures are: "Rationing," "Meet the People," "Andy Hardy's Blonde Trouble" and "Broadway Rhythm." "Rationing" is scheduled to open at the Globe here tomorrow and "Broadway Rhythm" will have its premiere at the Capitol on April 13.

## Bankers Trust to Finance Votion

Arrangements have been completed by Jack W. Votion, Inc., for the financing of all future productions of the Lum and Abner series through Bankers Trust. Previous financing was from outside sources or by Bankers Trust on individual pictures. With Votion now serving in the Armed Forces, the series is to be produced under the supervision of Frank Melford. RKO distributes.

"Two Weeks to Live" and "So This Is Washington," two of the Lum and Abner features, are being sold away from RKO in England, it was learned here yesterday. Arrangements are now being made for the distribution of these by another company there.

## SPG and Companies Resume Arbitration

Arbitration hearings on the job classification and salary dispute between the Screen Publicists Guild and film company home offices will resume at the headquarters of the American Arbitration Association here today after a recess since Tuesday.

## SAG Names Postwar Membership Body

HOLLYWOOD, April 6.—Determined to arrive at a fair basis for handling applications of returning servicemen seeking to join the Screen Actors Guild, while at the same time protecting the postwar jobs of approximately 2,000 SAG members now in service, the guild has appointed a committee to confer on this problem with similar committees to be appointed by other studio unions.

The committee includes Franchot Tone, Paul Harvey, Dick Powell, Morgan Wallace, Lucille Gleason and Pat Somerset, assistant SAG secretary. A special office is expected to be set up under a joint committee, representing all unions, through which applications may be channelled.

The plan was revealed after an attack before the local National Labor Relations Board hearing on the Screen Players Union's petition for a bargaining election for extras, in which the guild was accused of granting special work permits to hundreds in an effort to flood the extra ranks with members. This accusation was denied on the stand by Somerset.

# 3,000,000 Stock Shares Transferred By Film Executives

Mainly because of the 'stripping down' of their film-stock portfolios, transactions of officers and directors and principal stockholders in the securities of film companies totalled nearly 3,000,000 shares in 1943, *Motion Picture Herald* will say today, basing its report on the records of the Securities and Exchange Commission in Philadelphia. Only 500,000 shares were traded in 1942.

The largest volumes of the year were involved in the disposition by Chase Bank of 152,913 shares of common stock of General Precision Equipment Corp., formerly General Thetres Equipment Corp., and 197,858 shares of common and 671,916 shares of preferred stock in 20th Century-Fox; 316,328 shares of common stock, 555,254 warrants for common and 44,757 shares of preferred stock in RKO by RCA and 203,829 shares of the same company's common stock held by Rockefeller Center; and 154,173 shares of common and 31,250 shares of part preferred stock in Consolidated Film Industries held by Setay Co., Inc.

### Individual Operations Limited

Operations of individual officers and directors, generally, were limited, some of the larger transactions being the purchase and subsequent resale of 9,500 shares of Loew's, Inc., common by Nicholas M. Schenck; the sale of 3,277 shares of Monogram common by Alton A. Brody, 1,000 shares by Norton V. Richey, 3,200 shares by Samuel Broidy and 3,300 shares by W. Ray Johnston.

In 20th Century-Fox, William Goetz sold 40,000 shares of common and 13,500 shares of preferred held direct, and 21,100 shares of common and 6,500 of preferred held through his wife. The most important transactions in Universal Pictures stock were the sale by Charles R. Rogers of 12,500 shares of common and 10,100 common voting trust certificates, and the disposition by gift of 10,500 common voting trust certificate warrants by Nathan J. Blumberg.

Of interest currently because of the efforts of J. Arthur Rank to enter the American market was a report to the SEC last July showing that his General Cinema Financial Corp. had redeemed $1,000,000 worth of Universal debenture bonds which it held, but still had 134,375 of the company's common voting trust certificates which at the present time have a value of approximately $3,000,000, as previously reported.

## Cassidy Inc. Formed; 'Green Mansions' Set

HOLLYWOOD, April 6.—Formation of a new producing company, James B. Cassidy, Inc., was announced here today. The company plans to make two films annually, the first of which will be an adaptation of W. H. Hudson's novel "Green Mansions."

This picture is to be undertaken with the purported encouragement of the U. S. and South American governments. It will be in Technicolor, and preliminary estimates call for a budget of $2,000,000.

# Two New Cases and An Appeal Filed

Two new clearances cases have been filed at the Buffalo and Boston tribunal and an appeal of a clearance complaint has been dismissed at the New York tribunal and an appeal of a clearance award filed at the Los Angeles tribunal, the American Arbitration Association reported here yesterday.

At the Buffalo tribunal, Basil Bros. Theatres, operating the Colvin Theatre, Kenmore, N. Y. filed a clearance complaint against RKO. Plaintiff stated that all contracts provide for the exhibition of RKO's product ten days after Shea's Kenmore, Kenmore, and less than 17 days after the features are exhibited at Shea's North Park, Buffalo. Basil Bros., demand the right to exhibit such pictures 30 days after first-runs in Buffalo.

### At Boston Tribunal

Ayer Playhouse Company, Inc., operators of the Playhouse Theatre, Ayer, Mass., filed a clearance complaint at the Boston tribunal against the five decree consenting companies. The operators charge unreasonableness of present clearance and seek an award eliminating all clearance over Ayer and directing the consenting defendants to make available features on national release date or reasonable time thereafter. Named as intervenors were: Metropolitan and Plymouth Theatres, Leominster; Fitchburg and Shea, Fitchburg, and M and P Theatres, Lowell, all in Massachusetts.

Joseph R. Kelley, arbitrator at the New York tribunal, dismissed the clearance complaint filed by the Schuyler Theatre, Inc., operating the Schuyler, Manhattan, against Loew's, RKO and 20th-Fox.

At Los Angeles, L. W. Allen, operator of the Southgate Theatre, Southgate, Cal., has filed an appeal from an award entered in favor of the complainant by James L. Patten, arbitrator, against the five decree companies. The arbitrator had reduced the 49-day clearance held by the Vogue over the Southgate to 42 days, provided that the Southgate charge an adult evening admission price of at least 25 cents, exclusive of tax.

# *Cleveland Grosses Take Sharp Dip*

CLEVELAND, April 6.—Cab Calloway and "The Falcon and the Co-Ed" at the RKO Palace drew an estimated $24,000. Business this week was generally lower than previous weeks.

Estimated receipts for the week ending April 5:

**"Tender Comrade" (RKO)**
ALLEN—(3,000) (44c-55c-65c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $6,500. (Average: $8,500).
**"The Purple Heart" (20th-Fox)**
WARNERS' HIPPODROME — (3,500) (44c-55c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $18,500. (Average: $22,100).
**"Gung Ho" (Univ.)**
WARNERS' LAKE—(714) (44c-55c-65c) 7 days, 3rd week. Gross: $2,100. (Average: $3,200).
**"The Fighting Seabees" (Rep.)**
LOEW'S OHIO—(1,268) (43c-65c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $5,500. (Average: $5,000).
**"The Falcon and the Co-Eds" (RKO)**
RKO PALACE—(3,300) (50c-60c-85c-95c) 7 days. Stage: Cab Calloway and vaudeville. Gross: $24,000. (Average: $25,400).
**"Bridge of San Luis Rey" (UA)**
LOEW'S STATE—(3,300) (43c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $15,000. (Average: $19,000).
**"Broadway Rhythm" (M-G-M)**
LOEW'S STILLMAN—(1,900) (43c-65c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $10,000. (Average: $10,000).

## *Carter's Stratagem Forestalls Panic*

**Boston, April 6. — G. L. Carter of the Strand, in Woburn, a Boston suburb, has been commended by the local Safety Council for a stratagem that saved an audience of 1,000, mostly children, from possible panic when his house was destroyed by a $20,000 fire.**

**When the blaze, unseen by the customers, was discovered, Carter walked to the stage and announced that he wished to have a fire drill to test the theatre's escape system. The people marched into the street without disorder, and seconds later the entire building was ablaze.**

# 'Hostages' on Dual Hits Record $12,500

KANSAS CITY, April 6.—Good product and fine weather brought out weekend crowds; business all over town has been good. The Uptown with "Chip Off the Old Block" netted $8,500. The Orpheum broke records with "Hostages" and "Around the World," taking $12,500.

Estimated receipts for the week ending April 5-8:

**"Chip Off the Old Block" (Univ.)**
ESQUIRE—(800) (45c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $7,500. (Average: $5,500).
**"Cry Havoc" (M-G-M)**
**"Sailor's Holiday" (Col.)**
MIDLAND — (3,600) (40c-60c) 7 days. Gross: $14,500. (Average: $14,000).
**"The Desert Song" (WB)**
NEWMAN—(1,900) (46c to 65c) 7 days. Gross: $10,000. (Average: $11,000).
**"Around the World" (RKO)**
**"Hostages" (Para.)**
ORPHEUM — (1,900) (45c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $12,500. (Average: $10,000).
**"Tumbling Tumbleweed" (Rep.)**
**"Cowboy Canteen" (Col.)**
TOWER—(2,200) (40c-60c) 7 days. Gross: $11,000. (Average: $9,400).
**"Chip Off the Old Block" (Univ.)**
UPTOWN — (2,000) . (45c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $8,500. (Average: $5,000).
**"Chip Off the Old Block" (Univ.)**
FAIRWAY—(700) (45c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $2,000. (Average: $1,450).

# *'Corvette' Dual Is Best in Providence*

PROVIDENCE, April 6. — The RKO-Albee Theatre's strong dual bill, "Phantom Lady" and "Corvette K-225" proved the biggest money-maker of the week, grossing $14,000.

Estimated receipts for the week ending April 6:

**"Phantom Lady" (Univ.)**
**"Corvette K-225" (Univ.)**
RKO-ALBEE — (2,239) (35c-44c-55c-60c) 7 days. Gross: $14,000. (Average, $12,800)
**"Cover Girl" (Col.)**
STRAND—(2,200) (44c-55c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $11,500. (Average, $10,500)
**"Swing Fever" (M-G-M)**
**"Return of the Vampire" (Col.)**
LOEW'S STATE—(3,232) (35c-44c-55c) 7 days. Gross: $13,000. (Average, $17,700)
**"In Our Time" (W. B.)**
**"Find the Blackmailer" (WB)**
MAJESTIC—(2,250) (35c-44c-55c) 7 days. Gross: $10,000. (Average, $12,100)
**"The Sullivans" (20th-Fox)**
CARLTON—(1,526) (35c-44c-55c) 7 days, 3rd week, moveover after two weeks at the Majestic. Gross: $3,000. (Average: $4,000).
**"Laramie Trail" (Rep.)**
FAY'S—(1,800) (35c-44c-55c) 7 days. On stage: Norvell, Freddie Stritt, Maxine & Ketron, Bernice Foley, George Ross, Alston & Young. Gross: $7,000. (Average: $6,500).
**"Sweethearts of the U.S.A." (Mono.)**
METROPOLITAN—(3,050) (50c-60c-70c) 3 days. On stage: Charlie Spivak and orchestra. Gross: $8,500. (Average: $7,900).

# 'In Our Time' Is Over by $7,800

DENVER, April 6.—"In Our Time," on a dual at the Denver, was expected to gross $20,800 for top honors this week, while the Paramount was in second place with "Leopard Man" on a twin "scare" bill. The Denham, showing "Standing Room Only" for the third and final week, pointed to $8,200.

Estimated receipts for the week ending April 3-6:

**"Jane Eyre" (20th-Fox)**
**"Hi Good Lookin'" (Univ.)**
ALADDIN—(1,400) (30c-40c-50c-60c) 7 days. Moveover. Gross: $8,750. (Average: $5,000).
**"This Is the Army" (WB)**
BROADWAY—(1,040) (30c-40c-50c-60c) 7 days, return engagement. Gross: $5,000. (Average: $2,500).
**"Standing Room Only" (Para.)**
DENHAM—(1,750) (30c-40c-55c-65c) 7 days, 3rd week. Gross: $8,200. (Average: $7,000).
**"In Our Time" (WB)**
**"Two Man Submarine" (Col.)**
DENVER—(2,600) (40c-50c-60c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $20,800. (Average: $13,000).
**"In Our Time" (WB)**
**"Two Man Submarine" (Col.)**
ESQUIRE—(740) (40c-50c-60c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $4,950. (Average: $3,000).
**"The Leopard Man" (RKO)**
**"The Return of the Vampire" (Col.)**
PARAMOUNT—(2,200) (30c-40c-50c-60c) 7 days. Gross: $14,850. (Average: $9,000).
**"Passage to Marseille" (WB)**
**"Hat Check Honey" (Univ.)**
RIALTO—(900) (40c-50c-60c-65c) 7 days. Moveover. Gross: $6,900. (Average: $4,600).

# Dorsey, 'Racket Man' Get Record $35,000

MILWAUKEE, April 6. — Tommy Dorsey and his orchestra with Gene Krupa and Bob Allen are breaking house records at the Riverside this week. Together with "The Racket Man" on the screen it looks like $35,000.

Estimated receipts for the week ending April 7:

**"A Guy Named Joe" (M-G-M)**
WISCONSIN—(3,200) (40c-60c-80c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $13,500. (Average: $13,000).
**"The Song of Bernadette" (20th-Fox)**
PALACE—(2,400) (76c-$1.10) (road show engagement) 7 days, 3rd week. Gross: $10,000. (Average: $9,500).
**"Jane Eyre" (20th-Fox)**
**"Nine Girls" (Col.)**
STRAND—(1,400) (40c-60c-80c) 7 days, 2nd week downtown. Gross: $3,750. (Average: $4,000).
**"Ali Baba and the Forty Thieves" (Univ.)**
WARNER—(2,400) (50c-72c) 7 days. Gross: $17,500. (Average: $14,000).
**"Tender Comrade" (RKO)**
ALHAMBRA—(1,900) (50c-72c) 7 days, 2nd week downtown. Gross: $8,500. (Average: $9,000).
**"The Racket Man" (Col.)**
RIVERSIDE—(2,700) (65c-85c) 7 days. On stage: Tommy Dorsey and his orchestra, Gene Krupa and Bob Allen. Gross: $35,000. (Average: $14,000).

## *Approve Anti-Axis Films*

RKO's. home office reported here yesterday that the Argentine censor at Buenos Aires has licensed RKO's "Hitler's Children" and "Behind the Rising Sun," both of which were previously banned for anti-Axis sentiments.

## *Columbia Dividend*

The board of directors of Columbia Pictures has declared a quarterly dividend of 68¾ cents per share on the company's $2.75 convertible preferred stock, payable May 15, to stockholders of record May 1, 1944.

# *Pittsburgh Is 'Needed' Area*

(*Continued from page* 1)

Greenblatt, Pittsburgh WAC distribution chairman, Bamberger has prepared, or is preparing, similar applications for Buffalo, Cleveland, Detroit, Los Angeles, Portland, San Francisco, Washington, Albany, Atlanta, Boston, Chicago, Dallas, Indianapolis, Milwaukee, New Haven, New Orleans, Oklahoma City, Omaha, Salt Lake City and Charlotte. They will be filed with the WMC area directors after meetings with all exchanges.

Such meetings were held in Pittsburgh, and the application there was signed by the branch managers of all distributing organizations and executives of independent exchanges, including: Arthur Levy, Columbia; Bryan D. Stoner, Loew's; Perry Nathan, National Screen; David Kimmelman, Paramount; Sam Seplowin, Republic; Clay Hake, 20th-Fox; Mort Magill, United Artists; Peter Dana, Universal; Forrest Moore, Vitagraph; Max Schulgold, Crown Film; Louis Kreiger, Film Classics; Mark Goldman, Monogram; Louis Lefton, PRC, and Herbert Greenblatt, RKO.

### 397 Workers Represented

These 14 exchanges represent 397 workers of which 63.22 percent are women. Under the budget manpower plan, new system of labor priorities advocated by the WMC in Washington and already in effect in Pennsylvania, motion picture distribution was placed in the group of industries permitted to hire only males or females 18 years of age or under, honorably discharged veterans of World War II or part time workers. It is expected that the exchanges will be grouped with the more essential industries which have been allocated a "hiring quota" of mature workers, based on their labor turnover plus military withdrawals.

# *Connors in Field Rental Discussions*

(*Continued from page* 1)

the session here were A. W. Smith, Jr., Clarence Hill, Sam Gross and A. J. Davis. The Allied committee, which included Sidney A. Samuelson, Morris Wax, Milt Rogasner, Charles Moyer and Sam Resnick, will report on the conference at Allied's general membership meeting April 12.

# *Mexico's Studios Set 70 Films for Year*

MEXICO CITY, April 6.—Current estimates of Mexican production indicate that four producers: Clasa Films, Film Mundiales, Filmex and Producciones Grovas are expected to deliver about 50 films for 1944-45. Contingent upon raw stock and equipment these companies may boost their combined total to about 60.

Smaller producers may yield an additional 20 pictures to bring Mexico's estimated total to about 70 to 80 pictures. This will more than permit Mexico to hold the lead as top producer of Spanish-language films and to continue as a strong competitor of Hollywood product.




**THE 1944-45 INTERNATIONAL MOTION PICTURE ALMANAC IS NOW IN PREPARATION. THIS WILL BE THE FIFTEENTH ANNUAL EDITION OF THE INDUSTRY'S WORLDWIDE FACTUAL AUTHORITY AND WILL PROVIDE THE MOST UP-TO-THE-MINUTE SCREEN REFERENCE**

**EDITED BY TERRY RAMSAYE**

QUIGLEY PUBLICATIONS
ROCKEFELLER CENTER NEW YORK (20)

# Para. '43 Net Estimated at $16,077,000

(Continued from page 1)

basis at $4,422,000. These earnings do not include $354,000 representing the amount of dividends received by the company and its consolidated subsidiaries from non-consolidated subsidiaries in excess of Paramount's direct and indirect net interest as a stockholder in the combined earnings of such subsidiaries for the quarter, such excess representing a partial distribution of share of earnings of previous quarters.

**$5,353,000 Last Year**

Earnings for the corresponding quarter ended Jan. 2, 1943, were $5,353,000, not including $447,000 representing the amount of dividends received by the company and its consolidated subsidiaries from non-consolidated subsidiaries in excess of Paramount's direct and indirect net interest in the combined earnings of such subsidiaries for the quarter.

Fourth quarter 1942 earnings included the company's share of film rentals and earnings of subsidiaries operating in England, Australia, New Zealand and India applicable to the first nine months of 1942 to the extent not previously reflected in earnings during that period due to restrictions on remittances then in effect.

The $16,077,000 of estimated combined consolidated and share of undistributed earnings for 1943 represent $4.28 per share on the 3,752,136 shares of common stock outstanding on Jan. 1, 1944, which compares with $4.74 per share for the year ended Jan. 2, 1943, on the 2,933,717 common shares then outstanding, after providing $728,706 for dividends on the then outstanding first preferred shares.

**Common $1.18 Per Share**

Estimated combined consolidated and share of undistributed earnings of $4,422,000 for the quarter ended Jan. 1, 1944, represent $1.18 per share on the 3,752,136 shares of common stock outstanding, which compares with $1.76 per share for the quarter ended Jan. 2, 1943, on the 2,933,717 common shares then outstanding, after providing $182,177 for accrued dividends on the then outstanding first preferred shares, but including the additional film rentals and earnings from England, Australia, New Zealand and India.

## *See Necessity for 22 New Theatres*

(Continued from page 1)

caring only for the population prior to the war impact.

The 22 projects, at an estimated cost of $1,042,870, are wanted in Coronado and San Diego, Cal.; Miami and Pensacola, Fla.; Providence; Ocean View and Newport News, Va.; Wahiawa and Haleiwa, Hawaii; Contra Costa County, Bencia and Tracy, Cal.; Pueblo, Colo.; Lake City, Lake Wales, and Panama City, Fla.; Glen Burnie, Md.; Westerly, R. I.; El Paso, Tex.; Ogden, Utah; Williamsburg, Va., and Seattle, Wash.

# *Wm. Fox Finds Operations 'Obsolete,' Has New Ideas*

(Continued from page 1)

and, perhaps, unrivaled since. When he withdrew he agreed not to reenter the industry or make use of his name within it for a period of five years, which expired in 1935. In the nine years since, he said, he never once has abandoned the determination to resume where he left off, and of going on from there.

The start has been made. Fox has opened business offices in the Lefcourt Building, Fifth Avenue and Forty-third Street. His new company will be named Fox Pictures Corp. Incorporation papers will be drawn by his attorneys, Becker, Ross & Stone, and will be filed in the near future. It will be a cooperative producing company, an international distributing company, which will offer a year's output of 25 or 26 top-grade features at one time, Fox said.

In the near future he plans to start on a tour of key cities to acquire real estate as sites for new exchanges. Later he will go to Latin America for the same purpose, he said. His worldwide distribution organization will be administered in Hollywood, where his modern home office will be located adjacent to his studios.

**"There is no good reason why distribution and administration headquarters should be located in New York," he said. "There are many good reasons why they should be on the West Coast."**

He is not ready yet to speak for publication concerning plans for financing the new company. He did say that it will be a "cooperative in the fullest sense of the word" and that he hoped its stockholders would be comprised entirely of industry people—directors, writers, performers, exhibitors and cameramen. It will be a cooperative of and for the creative and essential industry factors, Fox said.

**May Function by Year's End**

He proposes to begin functioning as soon as materials for the new studio and for exchanges in every key city are available. He believes that there is a good chance that this may be before the end of this year. If not, then whenever it is physically possible to go ahead. Establishment of his distribution organization will be limited only by the same restrictions which apply to the domestic scene—as soon as possible.

It is his conviction that present-day production and distribution facilities are "obsolete." He plans studio and exchange plants built new from the ground up, and which he says will embody innovations which he regards as his constructive contribution to the industry in general, his passport should one be needed, for re-admission.

"My plans," he said, "are entirely constructive. I do not feel that there is any antipathy that would put obstacles in my way. There was, of course a time when, because I would not sell out to the old Motion Picture Patents Co., I was denied access to film. It became necessary for me to go to President Taft and Attorney General Wickersham, with the result that the Motion Picture Patents Co. was dissolved. It was by that action that the industry was opened to the men who are at the head of it today."

Fox is convinced that the industry needs, and has needed, a genuinely cooperative unit within it. Only two attempts have been made in that direction, he claims. The first was the old First National company, a cooperative insofar as exhibitors were concerned; the second, United Artists, a cooperative for producers. There never has been exactly what he now proposes, a cooperative for creative workers in association with exhibitors, he contends.

He objected mildly to the use of the word "manpower" when questioned concerning his ideas of available personnel for a large, new enterprise.

"Let's call it the 'staffing' problem," he said. "If manpower is not available when we are ready we'll use women. Lots of businesses are getting along all right with them today."

**As for executive associates, he admitted he has talked to a number of prospects but "it would not be fair to mention names at this stage."**

Questioned about his age, Fox replied: "I feel better now than when I was 40."

This writer saw Fox not at 40 but at 50. It is possible to say unequivocally that Fox looks better today than he did in 1929.

"Have you ever stopped to think," he asked, "that most of the men who head the industry are about my age and some are older? Marcus Loew would be about my age and Carl Laemmle, Sr., was older than I. They were my contemporaries in pioneering the industry. Nicholas Schenck and Louis B. Mayer are about my age. Harry Warner, Joe Schenck, Sam Goldwyn, Adolph Zukor and others are older than I."

Listening, you are reminded of the saying: "A man is no older than he feels."

**Sees Nothing New**

Fox said: "I have been looking around recently to discover what innovations, new methods, procedures, have been introduced into or adopted by the industry since my withdrawal from it. I have found nothing new. Yet I can think of no other industry that has not added something vital to itself in the past 15 years. I do not say that disparagingly, nor critically, but simply as a factual report on my recent observations. If I am wrong, correct me. I know there are plenty of things, new things, the industry ought to have and could have. Perhaps I can contribute some of them.

"I never was referred to as 'Fox,' in the old days. I was known throughout the industry as 'The Lone Wolf.' My new company will be run independently, too. I am sure the exhibitors will welcome me back. There always is room for a good company and always a market for good pictures."

Fox paused reflectively.

"I hope to develop the greatest of all motion picture companies," he said.

Workmen still are busy getting Fox's new offices on Fifth Avenue in readiness. Furnishings have not been delivered yet. The room in which Fox was interviewed was bare, except for the two chairs on which we sat. There was not a letter, a desk, a typewriter nor a telephone in that room, but in it was the makings of a new major company.

# Reagan Is Named to Agnew's Para. Post With Five-Year Pact

(Continued from page 1)

contracts given by Paramount to distribution executives since the company's reorganization in 1935. The appointment is regarded in the trade as a popular one with the company's sales organization and advertising-publicity department, and is viewed as completely averting upheavals that ordinarily follow upon the withdrawal of a department head within the industry.

In making the announcement of Reagan's appointment, Barney Balaban, president, said: "The executives of this organization are proud to announce the promotion of Charles M. Reagan and we are proud of the company that can produce men of his calibre."

**Started in 1920**

"He has been with Paramount since 1920 and I have known and admired him ever since he became affiliated with the organization.

"I know the entire industry will join with us in wishing him success in his new duties."

Reagan joined Paramount in 1920 as a salesman in the Cincinnati office. In 1922 he was promoted to branch manager of the Indianapolis exchange and in 1925 to district manager with supervision of the Cincinnati, Indianapolis and Louisville exchanges. In 1932 he was transferred to Chicago as district manager supervising Chicago, Detroit, Milwaukee and Indianapolis.

Reagan succeeded to the position of Western division sales manager in 1934 and in 1941 was promoted to assistant general sales manager.

## *Blumberg, Cowdin, Others Reelected*

(Continued from page 1)

Prutzman, vice-president and general counsel; William A. Scully, Joseph H. Seidelman and Clifford Work, vice-presidents; John J. O'Connor, vice-president and assistant to the president; Samuel Machnovitch, treasurer and assistant secretary; Adolph Schimel and Edward Muhl, assistant secretaries; Margaret M. Sullivan, assistant secretary-treasurer, and Eugene F. Walsh and Harold S. Brewster, assistant treasurers.

## *OCR Offers Aid of Staff to Exhibitors*

(Continued from page 1)

to give effective assistance in providing adequate labor, equipment and supplies and in solving problems of construction of new facilities. At the same time the services of the Washington staff will be made available to aid in solving other problems common to many areas, he said.

First in Film and Radio News Brief, Accurate and Impartial

# MOTION PICTURE DAILY

Alert, Intelligent and Indispensable to the Motion Picture Industry

VOL. 55. NO. 70 NEW YORK, U. S. A., MONDAY, APRIL 10, 1944 TEN CENTS

REMOVE

# Kodak Gets Aid For Plans On Television

## *Designs for Equipment From Talks Here*

Exploratory conferences between executives of Eastman Kodak and film, radio and television interests, held here during the past several days, have developed material which Kodak engineers at Kodak Park, Rochester, are expected to use in moulding blueprints for the postwar manufacture of television projectors, cameras, parts and new types of raw-film, if the latter is needed.

**Eastman officials first conferred, last week, with Paramount executives, as reported in *Motion Picture Daily* on**

(*Continued on page 7*)

# Goldenson Named to Paramount Board

Leonard Goldenson, vice-president of Paramount in charge of theatre operations, has been elected to the Paramount board of directors, filling the vacancy created by the resignation of Neil Agnew. Indications are that the next ensuing vacancy to occur on the company's board will be filled by Charles M. Reagan, who was named vice-president and general manager of domestic distribution last week, and was voted a five-year contract.



**Leonard Goldenson**

Goldenson became associated with

(*Continued on page 6*)

## *RKO Heads Honor Boasberg, Kranze*

Robert Mochrie, RKO general sales manager; Nat Levy, Eastern district manager, and Harold Mirisch, chief buyer and booker of the RKO theatre circuit, left New York over the weekend for Cleveland to attend the testimonial dinner being given in that city tonight to Charles Boasberg, captain of the 1944 Ned E. Depinet Drive,

(*Continued on page 6*)

## *WAC Calls for Aid For the Wacs*

**Promotional suggestions for the industry's forthcoming national recruiting drive in behalf of the Women's Army Corps from May 11 to 17 are requested of all War Activities Committee public relations chairmen in the field. Oscar Doob of Loew's, WAC public relations chairman, has sent word to the field chairmen to rush ideas for an industry pressbook to Harry Mandel at WAC New York headquarters.**

# McMurphey West on New House Survey

WASHINGTON, April 9.—George W. McMurphey, chief of the Office of Civilian Requirements recreation section, left Washington tonight for a two-week trip to the West Coast. He will make a swing down the Coast from Seattle to San Diego, conferring with OCR, War Production Board, Federal Security Agency and other regional officials, members of the area production urgency committees and the committees for congested areas.

The purpose of the trip will be to see that the major policies of the various Federal agencies are fairly standardized, to insure the finding of all communities where new theatres are needed and to avoid undue delay in the handling of exhibitors' applications in areas where houses are really needed.

# US CRACKS DOWN ON TICKET SWITCHING

## *New 'U' Pact For O'Connor*

John J. O'Connor, Universal vice-president and assistant to Nate J. Blumberg, president, has been voted a new four-year contract by the company's board of directors it was learned at the weekend.



**John J. O'Connor**

Term of the contract, it is understood, was designed to parallel those of other Universal executives, who were voted new seven-year contracts early in 1941. The contracts were voted at that time to J. Cheever Cowdin, chairman

(*Continued on page 7*)

## *General 'IA' Demands To Be Heard Today*

Producer representatives and IATSE officials will meet today to discuss general union proposals, commonly demanded by all 11 studio locals, which will replace agreements which expired on Jan. 1. On Friday

(*Continued on page 6*)

## *Treasury Will Insist On Uninterrupted Serial Numbers*

U. S. Treasury officials here told MOTION PICTURE DAILY that the Government intends to "enforce rigorously" the provisions of the Revenue Act forbidding the widely prevalent practice of switching ticket rolls in the box office to preclude consistency of serial numbers of tickets issued to the public.

**"The rule laid down by a recent Treasury Department decision is mandatory and violators are liable to the punishment features attached," a spokesman said last week when asked for an interpretation of the intent of the order.**

According to the ruling, "serially numbered tickets must be issued consecutively in the order of the serial numbers of that particular series, and also consecutively in the order of the letters of the alphabet if any."

This ruling, while not intended to, is seen as enabling distributors to further check on theatres to determine gross admissions for percentage rental

(*Continued on page 7*)

# Warners Reassigns Wallis Schedule

HOLLYWOOD, April 9.—Jack Warner, vice-president in charge of production has reassigned all Warner productions which were on Hal Wallis's schedule, following the Wallis-Warner split which occurred last week.

Henry Blanke will take over Vicki Baum's "Grand Hotel—1943"; Herman Shumlin, whose last picture was

(*Continued on page 7*)

## *U. S., Schine Argue Motions Today*

BUFFALO, April 9.—The U. S. District Court here tomorrow will consider motions by the U. S. Government for appointment of a trustee for nine Schine theatres not disposed of in conformity with a court order of May 19, 1942. The court will also hear a counter motion by the Schine Circuit for relief from that order.

Action was deferred last week until tomorrow when a hearing on an application by the Schine interests to acquire the Liberty Theatre in Cumberland, Md., is also scheduled to be heard.

# *U.S. Names 13 Agents To Aid Exhibitors*

WASHINGTON, April 9.—Following last Thursday's invitation by George W. McMurphey, chief of the recreation section of the Office of Civilian Requirements, extended to exhibitors, and others in amusements, to take manpower, equipment or supply difficulties to OCR field representatives in 13 areas, the OCR has published the names of the 13 representatives and the regions to which they have been assigned.

**The basic intention is in line with the OCR to assist in maintaining essential consumer goods and services at a level sufficient to keep the civilian economy functioning in such a manner that it will best serve the war program.**

The 13 regional representatives, all

(*Continued on page 6*)

## *Berne Elected Head Of Singer Circuit*

Joseph M. Berne of Cleveland was elected president of the Mort Singer Theatres Corp. at a board of directors meeting held here at the weekend to fill the vacancy caused by the death of Mort Singer on March 29. The circuit operates 28 theatres in the Midwest, with offices in Chicago. RKO has an interest in the circuit.

Berne was associated with the late Singer in the formation of the Singer circuit in 1933 and has been active in exhibition for some 20 years. He announced here Friday that no changes are contemplated in the operation of the circuit.

# Personal Mention

NATE J. BLUMBERG, Universal president, left for the Coast on Friday.

•

G. B. J. FRAWLEY, Paramount home office executive, has become a delegate-at-large and member of the board of governors of the Amateur Athletic Union of the United States.

•

HAL HORNE, 20th Century-Fox advertising and publicity director, and JACK GOLDSTEIN, Eastern publicity manager, left over the weekend for Hollywood.

•

LT. ROBERT WOOD GOTTLIEB, son of HARRY GOTTLIEB, 20th-Fox salesman in Iowa, was married to FLORENCE RUBIN at Miami Beach.

•

E. H. MAYER, Quigley Publications correspondent in Cincinnati, is a pneumonia patient in the Jewish Hospital there.

•

LOU LEPOVITZ, Des Moines theatre operator, has been accepted for military service in the Navy.

•

ROBERT LEONARD, manager of the Paramount, Des Moines, has been inducted into the Navy.

•

WALTER GOULD, United Artists foreign manager, is expected back from the Coast today.

•

JOHNNY BOURKE, Republic unit manager, returned to the Coast over the weekend.

•

IRVING GOLDER of 20th Century-Fox's press book department, has joined the U. S. Navy.

•

SAM SPRING, industry attorney, left New York for the Coast on Friday.

## $847,000 in Loew, Warner Collections

Red Cross collections totalling $847,000 have been reported to the War Activities Committee by Loew's and Warners' circuits, it was disclosed at campaign headquarters here at the weekend. The drive in over 400 Warner houses netted approximately $500,000, which is the largest circuit figure to date and compares with $250,000 taken in last year. Loew's theatres, according to Oscar Doob, have realized $347,000.

The Philadelphia area is expected to triple its 1943 collection, exhibitor chairman Earl Sweigert has notified national industry chairman Joseph Bernhard. Up to the weekend, receipts in five counties comprising that territory were estimated at $250,000, compared with $80,000 for the same group last year.

The New York Paramount Theatre collected $13,408 in 13 days, more than double last year's figure, according to Robert M. Weitman, managing director.

# Tradewise . . .

By SHERWIN KANE

IN the ten days since word came from Hollywood that William Fox was ready to start in business again, the most common reaction encountered in and about home offices was one of undisguised skepticism. "He'll never do it." "It's impossible to launch a new major company at this time." "He's too old to make a comeback." "He's dreaming." Those and other comments in a similar vein are typical of what was to be heard. Fox heard those comments, too. His reply was: "I was never more determined about anything in my life. Those who are betting against me will lose."

Fox says it convincingly. It is easy to get the impression that, his physical condition permitting (and there is no flaw in his physical condition apparent to the casual observer), Fox will go ahead with his plan just as rapidly as current conditions permit. How soon that will be, he himself does not profess to know. He has set up shop here in town. He is hopeful that building materials will be made available before the end of this year. If so, construction on his studios and home office building on the West Coast will be started, he says. Meanwhile, he will visit key cities in this country and Canada to purchase or option sites for his exchanges, and plans to visit Latin America later for the same purpose.

• •

Fox believes present day film exchanges are outmoded. He plans to construct modern buildings incorporating new principles from cellar to roof. He is particularly interested in the postwar foreign market. He believes that the international distribution organization created during the 1920s by Fox Film Corp. was the most extensive and smoothly functioning in the industry and blazed the trail for others. He regards Movietone City at Westwood, which was started during his regime, as the best of all studios today. He hopes to surpass the 280-acre development there when his new studios and home office adorn the 1,500-acre tract which he has under option on the West Coast.

Fox's sole misgivings about his reentry into the industry appear to be concerned with the kind of reception that will be given him. He inquires about industry opinion of himself today. He gives the impression that he is uncertain whether he will meet with a friendly, a live-and-let-live or an openly hostile attitude from the organized industry on his return. This concern sets him to thinking of the important part he played in the break-up of the old Motion Picture Patents Co. He retells that chapter of industry history with enthusiasm and a remarkable exposition of interesting detail.

Listening, you do not doubt the man's fighting qualities and ability to contend for "elbow room" in the arena of his choice. He was a giant once and, make no mistake about it, the characteristics have not been shed or misplaced in his 14 years of inactivity.

• •

The appointment of Charles Reagan to head Paramount's domestic sales and distribution, succeeding Neil Agnew, was a popular one throughout the industry. It was particularly welcome news to the Paramount sales organization and to its advertising publicity department. It means that none of the changes within the organization which many regarded with apprehension, and which already were seeping into the stages of broadcast rumor, are likely to occur. The Paramount sales organization likewise was enthused over news of the five-year contract voted to Reagan. It was the first contract given a home office executive since 1935. To the distribution department it spells stability within the organization, instead of uncertainty and change.

The appointment was a sound move and a smart one.

• •

Lots of interest around the big city on incompleted film deals among several metropolitan circuits. Universal is selling away from Skouras Theatres in some spots, for an example of what the interest is all about. The shortage of product resulting from some of the incompleted deals has made it necessary for many houses to go to two changes a week instead of their former three.

• •

George J. Schaefer has effected a settlement of certain claims based on promises of participation in improved earnings of RKO during his latter tenure as president of the company. The settlement, engineered by Floyd B. Odlum, RKO chairman, is reported to have averted a trip to the courts.

# Coast Flashes

*Hollywood, April 9*

H. J. YATES has set a record advertising budget for "The Man from Frisco," which will premiere in San Francisco, Oakland and Richmond, Cal., in early May.

•

Twentieth-Fox has purchased the rights to "Boomerang," a story of a naval exploit in the South Pacific, written by Commander William Chamblis, who was 20th-Fox's home office exploiteer prior to a call by the Navy as a reserve officer before Pearl Harbor.

•

The Screen Actors Guild and the IATSE unions have approved Darryl Zanuck's use of the Army Air Corps stage cast in the film version of "Winged Victory."

•

Republic has contracted to distribute Sydney M. Williams' independently produced "Next Comes Love," starring Lupe Velez. Lazslo Vadney will direct the film from his own script.

•

Twentieth-Fox has signed Joan Blondell to a term contract. Her first assignment will be "A Tree Grows in Brooklyn," to be produced by Louis D. Lighton.

•

Johnny Long, orchestra leader, has been signed as an associate producer by M-G-M.

•

RKO has signed Dudley Nichols to write the script of "Elizabeth Kenny" and produce the film.

•

Red Skelton and Muriel Morris, screen actress, have applied here for a marriage license.

## M-G-M Executives at Ingram Luncheon

E. K. (Ted) O'Shea, Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer Eastern sales manager; Henderson M. Richey, exhibitor-relations head, and M. L. Simons, editor of M-G-M's *The Distributor*, will attend an exhibitor luncheon in Memphis April 17 at the Peabody Hotel, honoring Louis C. Ingram, newly appointed manager. Charles E. Kessenich, M-G-M's Southern district manager, is also expected to attend.

Ingram was sales manager at the Atlanta office for 20 years. He succeeds J. F. Willingham.

## Boston Industry Dinner

BOSTON, April 9.—The Cinema Club here has set April 23 for the Spring dinner. It will be held at the Mayfair Club. Organization headquarters also reports that a new club magazine will be sent to members in the armed forces.

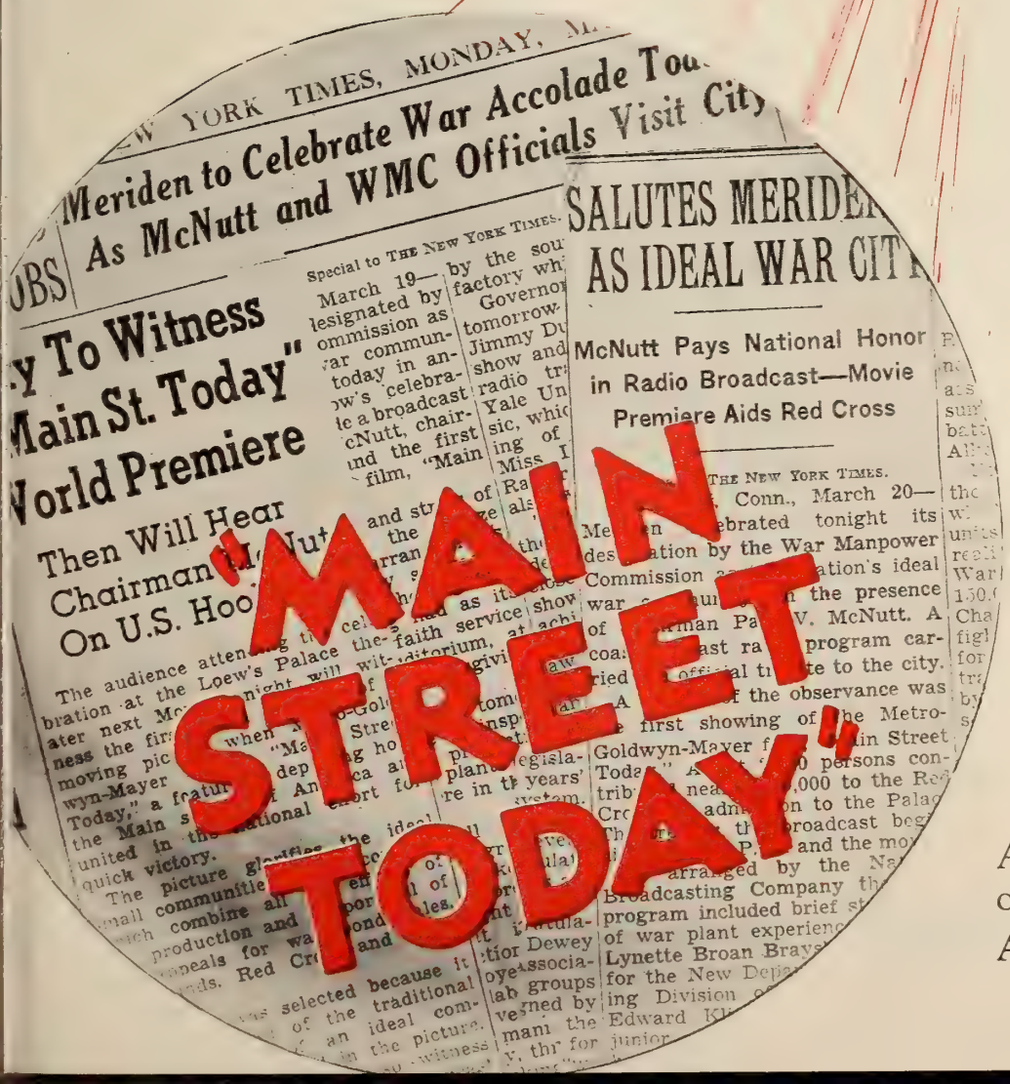
## Soviet Lauds Korda

LONDON, April 9.—Following the Russian success of his "Lady Hamilton," Sir Alexander Korda received today cabled congratulations from the Soviet Government on "The Thief of Baghdad's" Russian showing.

MOTION PICTURE DAILY, Martin Quigley, President and Editor-in-Chief; Colvin Brown, Publisher; Sherwin Kane, Executive Editor. Published daily except Saturday, Sunday and holidays by Quigley Publishing Company, Inc., 1270 Sixth Avenue, Rockefeller Center, New York, 20, N. Y. Telephone CIrcle 7-3100. Cable address, "Quigpubco, New York." Martin Quigley, President; Colvin Brown, Vice-President; Red Kann, Vice-President; T. J Sullivan, Secretary; Sherwin Kane Executive Editor; James P. Cunningham, News Editor; Herbert V. Fecke, Advertising Manager; Chicago Bureau, 624 South Michigan Ave., Leonard Gneier, Correspondent; Hollywood Bureau, Postal Union Life Bldg., William R Weaver, Editor; London Bureau, 4 Golden Sq., London W1, Hope Burnup, Manager; Peter Burnup, Editor; cable address, "Quigpubco, London." All contents copyrighted 1944 by Quigley Publishing Co., Inc. Other Quigley Publications: Motion Picture Herald, Better Theatres, International Motion Picture Almanac, Fame. Entered as second class matter, Sept. 23, 1938, at the post office at New York, N. Y., under the act of March 3, 1879. Subscription rates per year, $6 in the Americas and $12 foreign; single copies, 10c.

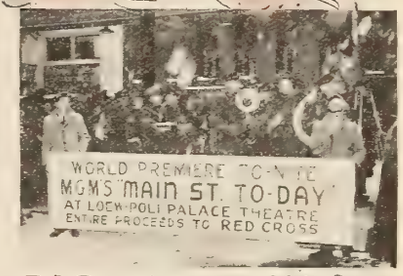
# M-G-M STARTS THE BALL ROLLING!

Newspaper headlines reach every corner of the nation! N. B. C. Radio hook-up blankets America. From Main Street in Meriden, Conn., the World Premiere of **"MAIN STREET TODAY"** is broadcast to *your* public. Never such advance ballyhoo! A Big Show to launch a Big Short!










**BIG** excitement on Main Street, Meridan, Conn., chosen as ideal war city for premiere on "Main Street Today."



**BIG** talk at pre-premiere dinner attended by 400 war workers; (*l. to r.*) Jimmy Durante, Mayor Danaher, Senator Maloney, Paul V. McNutt, Luise Rainer, Sen. Danaher.



**BIG** news when AP, UP, INS, photo services, newsreels, newspapers and magazine feature writers covered premiere event.



**BIG** broadcast over NBC network of premiere ceremonies featuring (*above*) Mr. McNutt, Gov. Baldwin, Capt. Glenn Miller's A. A. F. Band.

## THE BIG SHORT

A Story of the People for the People on the Main Streets of America

An M-G-M 2-REEL SPECIAL

Narrated by

JOHN NESBITT

# 'Jane Eyre' on Dual Rolls Up a Big $27,500 in 'Frisco

SAN FRANCISCO, April 9. — "Jane Eyre" and "Ghost That Walks Alone" hit a terrific $27,500 in the opening week at the Paramount, topped only by the Golden Gate's "Curse of the Cat People," backed by Charlie Barnett's band and Benny Youngman on stage, which got $28,500.

Estimated receipts for the week ending March 31-April 5:

**"Chip Off the Old Block" (Univ.)**
**"Klondike Kate" (Col.)**
ORPHEUM—(2,440) (20c-35c-60c-75c) 7 days. Gross: $13,500. (Average: $14,800).

**"Knickerbocker Holiday" (UA)**
**"Men On Her Mind" (PRC)**
UNITED ARTISTS—(1,200) (20c-35c-60c-75c) 7 days, 3rd week. Gross: $9,500. (Average: $11,000).

**"Johnny Apollo" (20th-Fox)**
WARFIELD—(2,680) (20c-35c-55c-75c) 7 days. Stage: Vaudeville. Gross: $21,000. (Average: $21,800).

**"Curse of the Cat People" (RKO)**
GOLDEN GATE—(2,850) (35c-55c-75c) 7 days. Stage: vaudeville. Gross: $28,500. (Average: $25,000).

**"Lady in the Dark" (Para.)**
**"Coastal Command" (RKO)**
STATE—(2,306) (20c-35c-55c-75c) 7 days, 4th week. Gross: $12,000. (Average: $12,100).

**"Passage to Marseille" (WB)**
ST. FRANCIS—(1,400) (20c-35c-55c-75c) 7 days, 2nd week, moveover from Fox. Gross: $13,800. (Average: $11,600).

**"Jane Eyre" (20th-Fox)**
**"Ghost That Walks Alone" (Col.)**
PARAMOUNT—(2,740) (20c-35c-55c-75c) 7 days. Gross: $27,500. (Average: $19,600).

**"Lost Angel" (M-G-M)**
**"Rationing" (M-G-M)**
FOX—(5,000) (20c-35c-55c-75c) 7 days. Gross: $22,500. (Average: $24,000).

## *Television Preview For M-G-M Short*

The first television "preview" of a motion picture has been set from Coast to Coast at eight o'clock tonight, when M-G-M's two-reel special, "Patrolling the Ether," will be televised over WNBT, New York; WRGB, Schenectady; WPTZ, Philadelphia; W9XZV, Chicago, and W6XAO, Los Angeles.

James Lawrence Fly, chairman of the Federal Communications Commission, will appear before the NBC cameras here to introduce the film, which is the latest in the "Crime Does Not Pay" series and dramatizes the war activities of FCC's radio intelligence division. The broadcast, reviewed in the NBC press department office, will be followed by a dinner in the Ritz Carlton Hotel, for Fly, G. E. Sterling, chief of the division, and New York newspaper and tradepress critics. Similar critics' gatherings are being arranged in Chicago, Philadelphia and Los Angeles.

## *N. Y. Strand Books 'Tars and Spars'*

Warners' New York Strand has booked "Tars and Spars," the Coast Guard all-service musical show with a cast headed by Victor Mature, film star now in the Coast Guard, and with lyrics and skits written by Howard Dietz, as the stage attraction with "Between Two Worlds," opening May 5.

The show, which opened last week in Miami, was directed by Max Liebman of M-G-M. It will play the country.

# *Review*

## *"Blazing Frontier"*

*(PRC)*

ALL ST. JOHN'S comedy relief is the saving feature of "Blazing Frontier," a sub-par Western that features Buster Crabbe in another Billy the Kid portrayal. The film has not been over generous with such action requisites as shooting and hard riding, although Crabbe does become embroiled in some mild fisticuffs. Main stumbling block is a story that demands too much explanation.

Crabbe and St. John are called upon to secure evidence against the Western Railroad's land agent and chief detective, whom the settlers of Red Rock Valley suspect of having defrauded them of their land. With money raised from some neat cattle rustling the pair buy a ranch from the railroad's agent and in so doing, discover that the deed has been altered. The settlers are subsequently restored to the land by the railroad. Sam Newfield directed from Patricia Harper's screenplay. Sigmund Newfeld produced.

Running time, 59 mins. "G."* Release date, Sept. 1, 1943.

CHARLES RYWECK

**"G" denotes general classification.*

# 200 Air Shows for 200 'Twain' Shows

Warners' will launch a new-type radio campaign for "The Adventures of Mark Twain" with the inauguration of a schedule of five 15-minute programs over 200 CBS, NBC and Mutual network stations. The radio show, being written by radio writer-director Arch Oboler, is part of the advance campaign being carried out under the direction of Mort Blumenstock for the 200-theatre day-and-date premieres of the picture set for the week of May 6.

More than 90,000,000 listeners will be reached by the radio series, which will be augmented by spot announcements and other features representing approximately $250,000 in radio time, Warners said here at the weekend. Exhibitors will be supplied with a radio coverage map and publicity kits in connection with the broadcasts. Original material will be used in the air shows, rather than adaptations of the film itself.

Warners will distribute this week a special folio of promotional material to operators of the 200 theatres which will play "The Adventures of Mark Twain" for limited advance-price engagements the week of May 6.

Among material in the folder is a pictorial map of the life of Twain; Mark Twain war bond poster; a copy of the scroll presented to Jack Warner and producer Jesse Lasky by the Mark Twain Commission of Hannibal, Mo.; book jacket of Grosset & Dunlap's special film edition of "Mark Twain"; folder of publicity material for newspapers, magazines and radio; set of 12 stills, size 11 x 14, and a set of material sent by publishers to booksellers in connection with window display contests for which winners will receive war bonds.

## *New Butterfield House*

DETROIT, April 9.—W. S. Butterfield Theatres has announced the opening in 60 days of a new theatre, unnamed as yet, at nearby Willow Run. The new house, constructed as a Government project to furnish entertainment for defense workers in the area, will seat 1,200 and will operate as a first-run.

# 982 British Quota Defaults in Year

LONDON, April 9.—Nine hundred and eighty-two British exhibitors defaulted in the quota year ending last September, against 1,814 defaults for the previous year, it was learned at the Board of Trade here today. Officials, however, point out that this apparent improvement is only moderate when the fact that the statutory quota percentage was reduced for the year reviewed, and the fact that 62 British features were registered last year compared with 46 in the previous year.

The Film Council will, in due course, review details of the offenses in order to consider prosecution for the defaults. These are, however, unlikely to be many since it is BOT's policy to prosecute only willful and determined offenders. Only four exhibitors were prosecuted during the previous year, with the BOT losing one case. The present quota percentage is in effect until September, 1945, but the BOT is now considering ultimate revision upon the war's end.

## *'Rationing', Dual Get $17,600 in Buffalo*

BUFFALO, April 9.—Grosses generally will be lighter this week, although "Rationing," coupled with "Passport to Suez," will bring the Buffalo $17,600. "Knickerbocker Holiday" and "Jeannie" will take $10,000 at the Hippodrome.

Estimated receipts for the week ending April 8:

**"Rationing" (M-G-M)**
**"Passport to Suez" (Col.)**
BUFFALO — (3,489) (40c-50c-60c-70c) 7 days. Gross: $17,600. (Average, $17,400)

**"The Miracle of Morgan's Creek" (Para.)**
GREAT LAKES—(3,000) (40c-50c-60c-70c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $13,200. (Average, $16,600)

**"Knickerbocker Holiday" (U. A.)**
**"Jeannie" (British)**
HIPPODROME — (2,100) (40c-50c-60c-70c) 7 days. Gross: $10,000. (Average, $9,700)

**"The Rains Came" (20th-Fox)**
**"Under Two Flags" (20th-Fox)**
20TH CENTURY—(3,000) (40c-50c-60c-70c) 7 days. Gross: $9,000. (Average, $12,200)

**"Gung Ho" (Univ.)**
**"You're a Lucky Fellow, Mr. Smith" (Univ.)**
LAFAYETTE—(3,000) (40c-50c-60c-70c) 7 ways, 2nd week. Gross: $9,000. (Average: $12,400).

# *Hollywood*

By JACK CARTWRIGHT

*Hollywood, April 9*

COLOR, which has splashed across screens of the country in increasing amounts of late, is destined for even more prominence. At present there are 14 Technicolor pictures ready for release, nine on the stages, and 10 others in preparation. The nine in work include: Paramount's "Bring on the Girls," "Columbia's "At Night We Dream," "The Climax" at Universal, 20th-Fox's "Irish Eyes Are Smiling," "Kismet," "Meet Me in St. Louis," and "National Velvet" at M-G-M, "Wilson," at 20th-Fox and International's "Belle of the Yukon," for RKO.

•

*The past week saw the launching of the new Vanguard trademark at RKO-Pathe studios in Culver City when Dore Schary started production on his "Double Furlough," co-starring Joseph Cotten and Ginger Rogers. The trademark is separate and distinct from David O. Selznick's own film label. Following "Double Furlough" on the Vanguard program will be Alfred Hitchcock's "The House of Dr. Edwardes."*

•

**The Masquers Servicemen's Morale Corps has been doing a great job of entertaining servicemen with special shows, dinners and general fun at the Masquers' club house in Hollywood. Last week the Morale Corps marked its first anniversary of such activities with returned overseas veterans from the Santa Ana Air Base Hospital and officers and men from the U. S. S. *Kalinen Bay*, an escort aircraft carrier, as guests of honor. Ronald Colman was host with Edward Arnold, president of the club. Director Edward Earle presided.**

•

Arnold Pressburger's Bougainville beach-head world premiere of "It Happened Tomorrow" was helped along to nationwide publicity by Army press releases. It was these releases that prompted CBS to network excerpts of the picture on the Lockheed program. . . . Ariel Health, blonde glamour girl seen in a number of RKO pictures, is being tested for additional dramatic roles in which she will be de-glamourized again as she was in PRC's "Career Girl."

## *AFM Urges WLB to Require Contracts*

WASHINGTON, April 9.—Members of the American Federation of Musicians "don't care" if they never work again for the Columbia Recording Corp. and RCA-Victor, who have refused to sign the contract accepted by Decca and other record manufacturers, Joseph A. Padway, counsel for the union, told the War Labor Board at the weekend.

Padway appeared before the board in argument against the recent panel report, which recommended that the AFM be required to resume working relations with the two companies. He urged that the board disregard the arguments of the two companies and issue an order requiring them to sign the contract which the AFM has said contains the only conditions under which it will permit the resumption of record production.




**You've heard of persons who are always getting in somebody's hair. Well—er—we're kind of that way too—except that we get in their eyes and ears. The smartest theatre brains of this country sign up a paper with us, that says practically: "We contract with you to go out and explore every eye and ear in this town; tell them what's on our screen, and do it effectively and completely." Sure enough, that's just what we do. P.S. We don't apologize for being in your own eyes right now as you read this ad. It's—er—a habit.**

NATIONAL Screen SERVICE
PRIZE BABY OF THE INDUSTRY

# U. S. Names 13 Agents To Aid Exhibitors

(Continued from page 1)

located in regional offices of the War Production Board, will be available for consultation with any operator of a theatre or other recreational establishment to help solve any local problems that actually or threaten to interfere with the availability of the theatre or other recreational service. Following are the area directors and the regions assigned to them:

Region No. 1, Edward V. Hickey, 17 Court St., Boston, covering Connecticut, Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Rhode Island and Vermont; No. 2, L. H. Luce, Empire State Building, New York, for Northern New Jersey and New York; No. 3, Virgil J. Reder, 1617 Pennsylvania Blvd., Philadelphia, for Delaware, Maryland, Southern New Jersey, Pennsylvania (except Pittsburgh area), Virginia and the District of Columbia.

Region No. 4, Sam I. Subose, Candler Building, Atlanta, for Alabama, Florida, Georgia, Mississippi, North and South Carolina and Tennessee; No. 5, Carl H. Becker, Union Commerce Building, Cleveland, for Kentucky, Ohio (except Toledo area), Pittsburgh area of Pennsylvania and West Virginia; No. 6, Howard H. Richardson, 226 West Jackson Blvd., Chicago, for Illinois, Indiana, Iowa and Wisconsin.

Region No. 7, N. S. Riley, Mutual Interstate Bldg., Kansas City, Mo., for Arkansas, Kansas, Missouri and Nebraska; No. 8, Frank Mason, Mercantile Bank Building, Dallas, for Louisiana, Oklahoma and Texas; No. 9, M. S. Coursen, Continental Oil Building, Denver, for Colorado, New Mexico, Utah and Wyoming; No. 10, Russell Longstreetch, 1355 Market St., San Francisco, for Arizona, California, Idaho and Nevada.

Region No. 11, Carleton Havens, 1310 Woodward Ave., Detroit, for Michigan and the Toledo area of Ohio; No. 12, W. G. Duryee, Midland Bank Building, Minneapolis, for Minnesota, Montana and North and South Dakota; No. 13, Allan L. Willard, White-Henry-Stuart Building, Seattle, for Oregon and Washington.

## Nickelodeon Grinds Again in Chicago

**Chicago, April 9.—As in the days of 1910, a Nickelodeon is flourishing here, some 1,800 persons paying five cents each at every performance to see such shows as William S. Hart in "Revenge on the Range," while a pianist improvises the accompaniment.**

**It's the most popular attraction at the Chicago Museum of Industry and Science, with authenticity confirmed from photographs in "A Million and One Nights," by Terry A. Ramsaye, editor of *Motion Picture Herald*. Outside the 'flicker store' a Keystone cop patrols "Yesterday's Main Street," where electric and gas automobiles of the early 20th Century are parked.**

## Urges Cooperation For Television

Cooperation between television broadcasters, film companies, unions and advertising agencies was urged at the weekend by Richard Hubbell, television director-writer, in the opening lecture of a New School for Social Research television course.

"Television broadcasters must take the lead in program development in most cases by setting up well-equipped studios and training production units," Hubbell stated. Film companies and networks will be able to set up their own studios, and therefore will be able to train their own production units more easily than advertising agencies, which will have to buy network-packaged shows or special film productions for the next few years, according to Hubbell.

## Rogers WAC Chairman

MEMPHIS, April 9.—J. J. Rogers, Columbia branch manager here, has been named chairman of the distributors' division of the War Activities Committee for this area, replacing J. Frank Willingham, who has been transferred to St. Louis by M-G-M.




## WB Houses Collected $421,806 for 'Dimes'

A total of $421,806 was collected by Warner Theatres in the March of Dimes campaign, it was reported here by Joseph Bernhard, circuit manager, at the weekend.

The check for the entire amount, minus deductions paid local chairmen, has been turned over to Walter Vincent, national industry treasurer for the drive.

## Goldenson Named to Paramount Board

(Continued from page 1)

Paramount in 1933, when, as an attorney, he handled the reorganization of the company's New England theatres. In 1937 he was named assistant to Y. Frank Freeman, then in charge of Paramount theatre operations, and succeeded to Freeman's post in 1941, when the latter was appointed to head the Paramount studio. Goldenson was elected a vice-president of Paramount in 1942.

## RKO Heads Honor Boasberg, Kranze

(Continued from page 1)

recently promoted from the post of East Central district manager to Metropolitan New York district manager, and B. G. Kranze, successor to Boasberg in Cleveland.

Mochrie, Levy and Mirisch are expected to return to New York on Wednesday to attend the final meeting on the "Ned Depinet Drive" in the RKO exchange here.

## Mrs. Braunagel Resigns

LOGAN, Utah, April 9.—Mrs. DeLon Braunagel has resigned as city manager of Intermountain Theatres' three houses here, the Capitol, Roxy and Lyric, to join her husband, Lt. Jack Braunagel, who was Logan city manager for Intermountain until his induction into the Army.

## General 'IA' Demands To Be Heard Today

(Continued from page 1)

company heads and studio labor representatives, meeting at the offices of Pat Casey, producers' labor contact, reached virtual accord on proposals of the 11 locals, with completion of discussion on soundmen's proposals. This agreement is contingent, however, upon the controversial questions of seniority rights, allowances for time spent on location, paid sick leave, a five per cent payment by producers on gross salaries to benefit IATSE members, and other demands.

## 'Pep' Club Elects

Paramount's Pittsburgh Pep Club has elected the following officers: William Brooks, president; Harry Passarell, vice-president; Roseanne Feinberg, secretary; Lenore Goldstein, treasurer. The home office here also reported the formation of a Pep Club in Detroit with Edward Stuckey, president; Lillian Neff, vice-president; Betty Fussner, secretary, and John Gentile, treasurer.

## Fick Is Injured

OMAHA, April 9.—While en route to Seattle on a new assignment with Ross Federal Service, H. V. Fick was injured when his automobile crashed near York, Neb. Mrs. Fick was also hurt. L. A. Rassler has succeeded Fick here.

## New Univ. Contract For J. J. O'Connor

(*Continued from page* 1)

of the board; Blumberg; W. A. Scully, Charles D. Prutzman, Joseph Seidelman, Cliff Work and Matthew Fox, vice-presidents. Fox currently is on leave of absence with the armed forces. O'Connor entered the company later that year with a three-year contract which has just expired. His new contract, it is reported, will expire simultaneously with those of the other executives.

The management contracts range from $75,400 to $117,000, currently, it is understood. They include participation in earnings above a specific level of operating income and provide for stock purchase warrants.

## *Warners Reassigns Wallis Schedule*

(*Continued from page* 1)

"Watch on the Rhine," will direct and will arrive here May 1 to start preparations. Robert Buckner will do "God Is My Co-Pilot," screen version of Col. Robert L. Scott's novel, with Robert Florey directing.

Arthur Schwartz will produce the Cole Porter biography, "Night and Day." Jack Chertok has been assigned to "The Conspirators," now shooting, and will follow this with "The Corn Is Green," Bette Davis's next, with Irving Rapper directing.

# *U. S. to Enforce Ruling to Prevent Ticket Switching*

(*Continued from page* 1)

payments. The ruling specifically provides that a theatre cashier must sell tickets from one ticket roll of a particular price designation until all tickets in that roll have been exhausted, and must then follow with the next numbered ticket roll rather than arbitrarily select a different ticket roll with the same price designation.

Ruling on the use of letters after the first series of numerals from 1 to 500,000 has been exhausted, the Internal Revenue Bureau directs that the next 1 to 500,000 series must be preceded or followed by a letter beginning with A and working through the alphabet as each series is exhausted. Also, if two or more rolls of a series of tickets of the same established price bearing identical serial numbers are on sale at the same time, they must be distinguished by different letters. This is designed to cover cases where tickets are being sold by more than one ticket window at the same time.

The general intent of the Treasury rulings is to simplify tax collections and check-ups and has nothing to do with helping distributors "police" theatre owners to see that they provide accurate box office statements for picture percentage purposes, Treasury officials here indicated.

Exhibitors who furnish distributors with percentage-paying box office statements are affected by a Treasury Department regulation which states that, "Whenever in the course of business a report is prepared by a treasurer or manager for the benefit of the proprietor, or by the proprietor, treasurer, or manager for the benefit of some other interested party (distributor), whether the report be made daily or at regular intervals, or at any time, a sworn copy of the report must be attached to and made a part of the (revenue return) records for the period covered thereby."

Some distributors are understood to have sought a general Federal licensing system on tickets, last year, but nothing came of the project.

## *Guaranteed-Lesser Deal*

Guaranteed Pictures here has acquired worldwide reissue rights, except for United Kingdom, to "That Uncertain Feeling," a Sol Lesser production, originally distributed by United Artists. The producer was represented in the negotiations by Seymour Poe, Eastern sales representative.

## *Maria Bard Dies*

LONDON, April 9.—Maria Bard, 43, who appeared in German films under the name of Migo Bard, died in Berlin, according to a radio report picked up here from that city. She was the wife of Werner Krauss, actor in Germany and Austria, and appeared in "The Emperor of America" and "The Man Without a Name," among other films.

# Kodak Gets Aid For Plans On Television

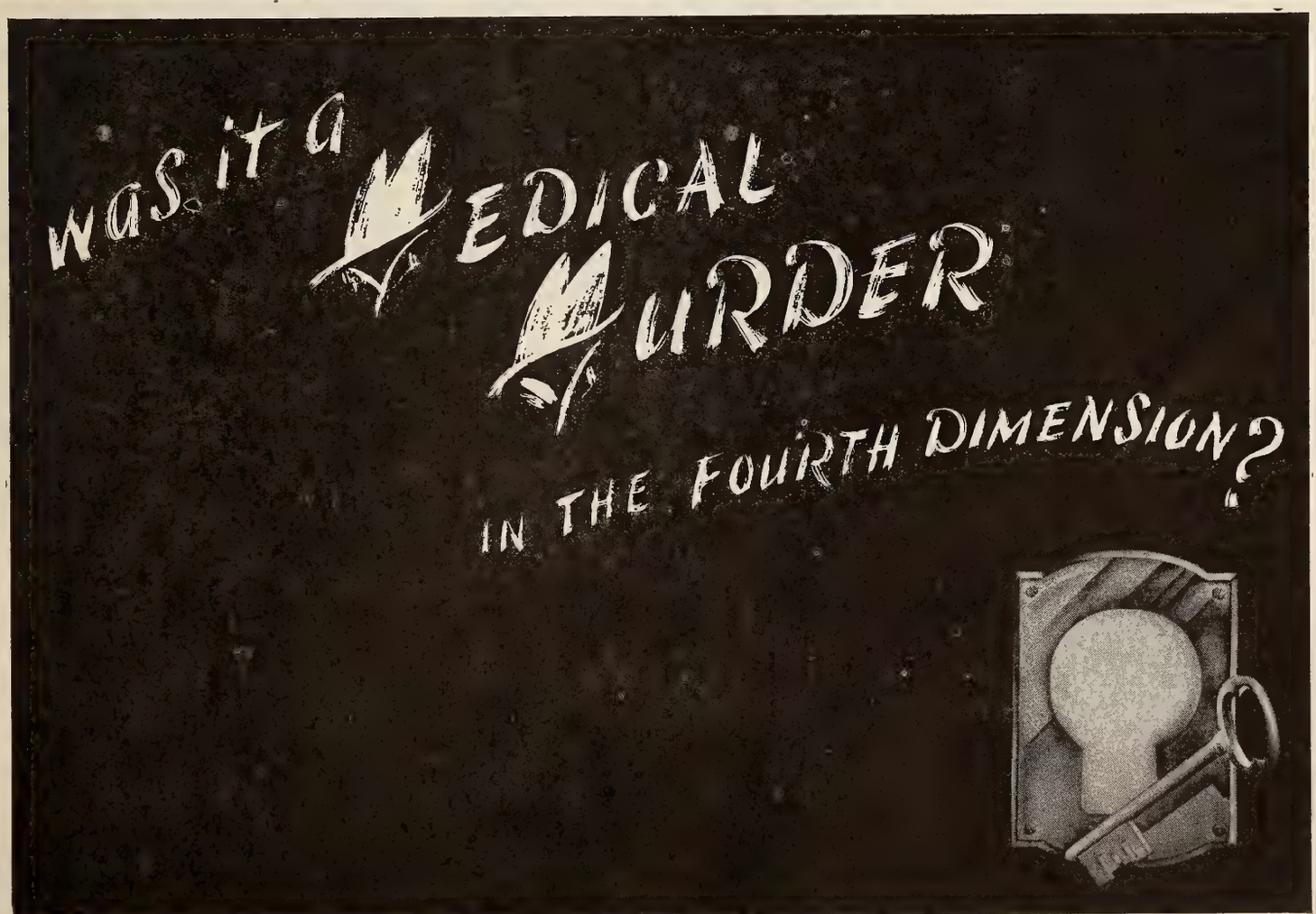
(*Continued from page* 1)

**March 30, and later met with representatives of RCA, National and Columbia broadcasting systems and Paramount-DuMont Television, Don Hyndman, Kodak executive, disclosed here yesterday.**

The conferences were undertaken to determine television equipment and raw-film needs of both the film and radio-television fields before Kodak engineers started designing the tools for television manufacture. Actual manufacture must await lifting of the war ban on new equipment for industry.

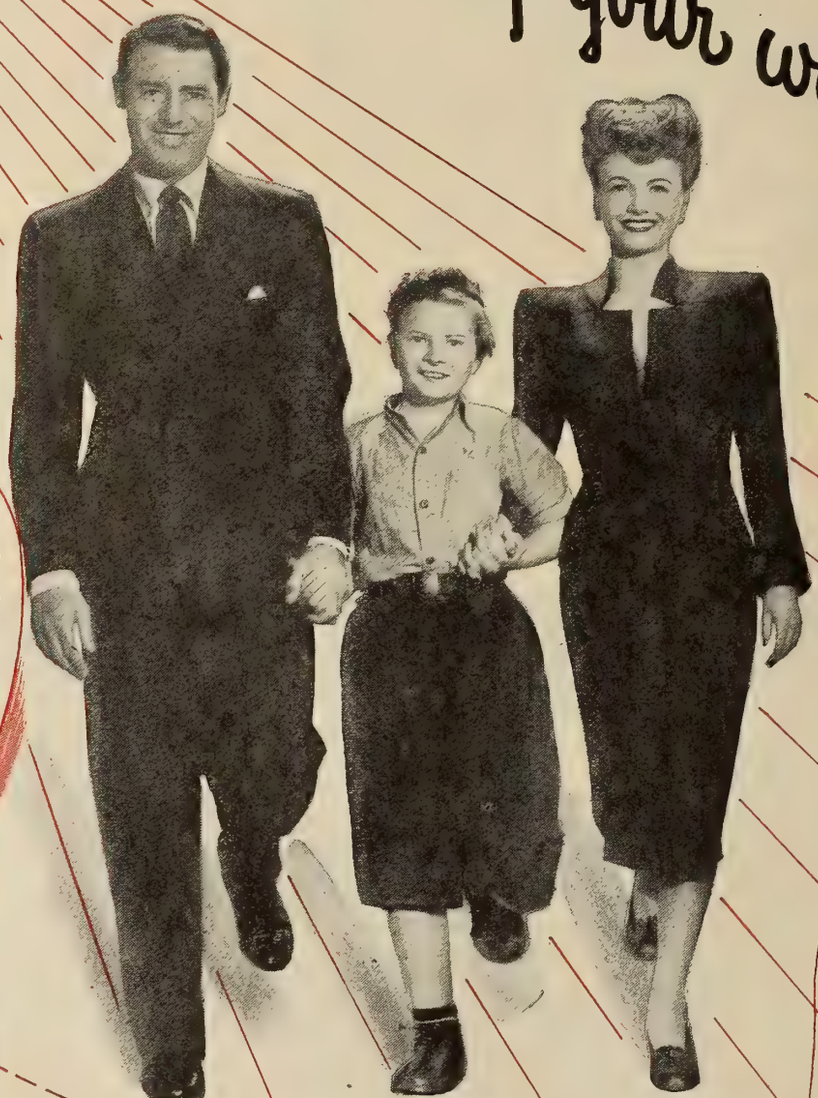
Hyndman emphasized that Eastman has no intention of entering the field of television electronic manufacture on such items as transmitters or receivers, leaving those to existing electronic makers. The company, he said, will not compete, for example, with the electronics of RCA, DuMont and similar manufacturers.

Emphasis has been placed on Paramount's television activities and postwar plans because of the company's interests in theatre television, Hyndman disclosed. He also revealed that he has had discussions with Ralph Austrian of RKO in view of RKO's apparent desire to keep posted on the development of television for theatres.



# SOMETHING WONDERFUL

## is coming your way!



*This is the fabulous story of a fabulous guy... and the wonderful things that happen to him... and to YOU! A timeless tale of today ...whimsically woven of romance ... and tenderness... laughter ...and that thing called "heart"...*

*I'm Something Wonderful, too!*



# Cary GRANT

IN ALEXANDER HALL'S

# Once Upon A Time

with JANET BLAIR JAMES GLEASON · TED DONALDSON

Screen play by Lewis Meltzer and Oscar Saul

*Directed by* ALEXANDER HALL · A COLUMBIA PICTURE

COLUMBIA PICTURES

First in Film and Radio News Brief, Accurate and Impartial

# MOTION PICTURE DAILY

Alert, Intelligent and Indispensable to the Motion Picture Industry

VOL. 55. NO. 71 NEW YORK, U. S. A., TUESDAY, APRIL 11, 1944 TEN CENTS

## Leo to Roar in All Theatres June 22 to 28

### *Seek Full U. S. Coverage On MGM Anniversary*

Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer will endeavor to have all theatre owners, whether regular M-G-M customers or not, play either a feature, short subject or newsreel bearing the company's Leo-the-Lion trademark at least once between June 22 and June 28, M-G-M 20th anniversary week. Many circuits throughout the country, it is understood, have agreed to cooperate.



Leo-the-Lion

Although all plans for the celebration have not

(*Continued on page 7*)

## *M. & R. Units Win $301,361*

BOSTON, April 10.—George S. Ryan, attorney for Aetna Amusement Enterprises and various other circuit organizations controlled by Morse and Rothenberg which circuit other theatres and various distributors on anti-trust charges, has announced that Philip A. Hendrick, Federal master, in a report filed in United States District Court here, has recommended that damages be awarded in the following amounts: Aetna Amusement Enterprises vs.

(*Continued on page 8*)

## $1,350,000 Goldman Suit Is Dismissed

PHILADELPHIA, April 10.—The anti-trust suit, seeking triple damages of $1,350,000, brought by William Goldman, head of William Goldman Theatres, against Warner Bros., three Warner affiliates and eight distributors, was dismissed in U. S. District Court here in a decision handed down

(*Continued on page 8*)

## *Consent Decree 'Corrupt', Schine Counsel Claims*

BUFFALO, April 10.—Attacking the consent decree as a "corrupt bargain" in that it "permits the big five to acquire theatres anywhere in the world without going into court to ask permission," while the Schine Chain Theatres Inc. "must come in and show that the acquisitions we wish to make are not contrary to the public interest," attorney Clarence N. Goodman, in U. S. District Court here today, made clear that the Schine circuit does not seek an extension of time for disposing of 10 houses which were to have been sold under a 1942 divestiture order but seeks, rather, a modification of the order so that some or all of the theatres may be retained.

Climaxing the first day's session of a Government anti-trust suit which had been held in abeyance since the temporary court order of May 19, 1942, Goodman's attack on the decree was prompted by the testimony of Leon Bernard Scott, holder of a 50 percent interest in the Margie Grand Theatre, Harlan, Ky., who said he will leave for Navy service on April 25 and has arranged with the Schine interests to operate the house in his absence, so as "to provide for my

(*Continued on page 8*)

## UA Trend: 'Fewer, Better' Films

HOLLYWOOD, April 10.—United Artists was seen here today as returning to a closer adherence to its founders' original policy of "fewer and better productions," with David O. Selznick and his Vanguard Films heading the movement.

It is reported that "Song of the Open Road" will be Charles R. Rogers' last production for United Artists; "It Happened Tomorrow," the last from Arnold Pressburger; and "Jack London," Samuel Bronston's last.

Neil F. Agnew, newly-appointed Vanguard distribution vice-president, arrived here today from the East and immediately started meetings with the company's executives and partners, including Selznick; Edward Raftery, UA president; Gradwell Sears, vice-president; Carl Leserman, sales manager; and Daniel T. O'Shea, Vanguard president. The conferences will continue through tomorrow and Wednesday, perhaps resulting in a formal announcement of the conclusions reached. Agnew expects to return to New York at the weekend.

## Business at 1st Run Broadway Houses Is Above Last Year

Easter business at downtown New York first-run theatres is running as much as ten per cent higher than last year. Weather conditions, though not ideal, helped theatres attain record or near-record grosses on Easter Sunday, attributable in some degree to a three-hour light rain which sent customers into theatres to avoid wilting Easter finery.

Registering $77,000 on the first four days of the second week of "Cover Girl" and the combined "Glory of Easter" and "Spring Rhythm" stage

(*Continued on page 8*)

## Draft Easing Gives Industry Relief

WASHINGTON, April 10.—Many branches of this and allied industries which were facing new losses of manpower to Selective Service will benefit from the policy adopted over the weekend by Major General Lewis B. Hershey, Selective Service director, whereby induction of all men 26 years of age and over will be delayed from 60 to 90 days, if they are engaged in "war supporting activities." Raw stock and equipment manufacturing, service film production, newsreels, film laboratories and other branches of

(*Continued on page 7*)

## Would Bar Truants From Theatres

WASHINGTON, April 10.—Motion pictures in themselves are not contributing to juvenile delinquency, but attendance of young boys and girls at places of commercial amusement where constructive supervision is lacking is one of the factors contributing to delinquency, it was declared by the House District Committee in a report on its investigation of the problem.

The committee recommended that action be taken by school authorities, and other city officials, if necessary, to bring about the full cooperation of

(*Continued on page 8*)

## Adjustments if Needed, Says Tom Connors

### *Sales Head Gives Pledge Of Percentage Relief*

PHILADELPHIA, April 10.—"If an exhibitor does not have a profit on a 35 or 40 per cent picture and his overhead can be agreed upon, that man is entitled to a price adjustment," said Tom Connors, vice-president in charge of sales for 20th-Fox, in clarifying the company's policies on percentage pictures, it was learned here today. He spoke to Lewen Pizor, president of the United MPTO of Eastern Pennsylvania, Southern New Jersey



Tom Connors

(*Continued on page 8*)

## *Four Millions In for Drive*

Another $1,000,000 in theatre collections for the Red Cross, placing the total to date well over $4,000,000, was reported by exhibitors over the weekend to Joseph Bernhard, national chairman of the motion picture industry's 1944 drive. Returns from several thousand theatres are still to

(*Continued on page 7*)

### *Affiliation of Wallis With Rank Looms*

**Hollywood, April 10.—Hal B. Wallis, whose contract as Warners' executive producer was abrogated last week, acknowledged here today that he had spoken to Arthur W. Kelly of Eagle-Lion Films regarding an affiliation with the interests of J. Arthur Rank.**

**When asked about a report that a New York banking group had offered him $10,000,000 to finance his own producing unit, Wallis said, "There's something to it."**

# 250 at Dinner for Boasberg, Kranze

CLEVELAND, April 10.—With more than 250 exhibitors, branch managers and salesmen present, Charles Boasberg and Bernard G. Kranze, RKO sales executives, were honored here tonight at a testimonial dinner in the Hollenden Hotel, held under the auspices of the local Variety Club.

The affair, commemorating their recent promotions, Boasberg from Eastern Central district manager to Metropolitan New York district manager, and Kranze from Cleveland branch manager to succeed Boasberg, was presided over by Lester Zucker of Columbia. Arrangements were handled by Meyer Fine and Moe Horowitz. Following the dinner, Boasberg left for New York to assume his new post and to hold the final meeting of the Ned Depinet Drive, of which he is the 1944 captain.

**Among Those Present**

Attending the dinner were Robert Mochrie, RKO general sales manager; Nat Levy, Eastern division sales manager; Harold Mirisch, chief buyer and booker of the RKO circuit; Al Kolitz and the sales staff of the Cleveland branch; Stanley Jacques and the sales staff of the Cincinnati branch; M. E. Cohen and the Detroit sales staff; and M. Lefko and the Indianapolis sales staff.

Other guests were Tom Baker and Marc Wolff, Indianapolis; Manny Marcus, Maury White, George Fetick, Jack Goldhar and Moe Duddleson, Cincinnati; Harry Davis of Publix; Harris Duddleson, Jim Sharkey and Ollie Brooks, Detroit; A. G. Constant and George Delis, Steubenville; George Otte, Wheeling; Martin Smith, Toledo; Jay Golden, Rochester, and Elmer Lux, Bob Murphy and Max Yallen, Buffalo.

# $100,000,000 U. S. 'Lab' Business

The United States Army is operating the largest photographing, processing and film printing plant in the world in Italy, estimated to represent, in terms of personnel and equipment, what would be a $100,000,000 business in civilian life, according to press dispatches from an American air base in Italy. Col. Karl Polifka is in charge.

Consuming 85 per cent of all photographic supplies in the Mediterranean theatre, last January alone it turned out 1,250,000 prints.

Main function of the unit is to aid the ground forces in preparations to attack enemy defenses. Production and distribution of aerial photography studios, analyses of maps and verbal reports based on swift European sorties by fast planes equipped with cameras are made. Films are developed and then interpreted by experts, sometimes from the negatives. The unit prepares detailed photographic maps and charts for navigators, bombardiers and ground force officers.

# Personal Mention

JAMES MULVEY, vice-president of Samuel Goldwyn, Inc., returned to New York from the Coast yesterday.

•

JOE SHEA, Eastern publicity director for William Cagney Productions, recuperating at the Polyclinic Hospital, is expected to be dismissed in about ten days.

•

MARVIN SAMUELSON of the Warner Theatre booking department here, inducted into the Marines last week, is enroute to the Marine base at San Diego, Cal.

•

SAM BURGER, M-G-M international department special representative, has returned from an extended tour of the company's offices and theatres in Latin America.

•

FRANK X. P. GRAVATT, operating theatres in Atlantic City, celebrated his 25th wedding anniversary last week.

•

WALTER GOULD, United Artists foreign manager, returned to New York yesterday after two weeks in Hollywood.

•

HARVEY BURCH, manager of Warner's New York Strand, was married on Easter Sunday to Encarnacion Diaz.

•

J. K. MCGUINESS, M-G-M studio executive, is due here from the Coast April 22.

•

JACK CUMMINGS, M-G-M producer, will leave Hollywood on Sunday for New York.

•

MAX FINN, general manager of the E. M. Loew circuit, Boston, was in Hartford last week.

H. M. RICHEY, M-G-M exhibitor relations head, returned to New York yesterday from a ten-day tour of exchanges.

•

TOM CONNORS, 20th Century-Fox vice-president in charge of distribution, accompanied by L. J. SCHLAIFER, Central sales manager, left yesterday on a tour of exchanges.

•

CLAUDE MORRIS, United Artists Chicago district publicity director, returned last week from El Reno, Okla., where he visited with his 80-year old father, who is ill.

•

JOHN J. MALONEY, M-G-M Central sales manager, arrived yesterday from Pittsburgh to attend home office executive meetings.

•

E. K. O'SHEA, M-G-M Eastern and Southern sales manager, is home ill. He expects to return to his desk in a few days.

•

I. J. HOFFMAN and DAN FINN of Warner's New England office, were in Hartford last week on an inspection.

•

NAT FELLMAN and LOUIS KAUFMAN, Warner theatre executives, are in Cleveland for a few days.

•

RUD LOHRENZ, United Artists Chicago district manager, returned from Hollywood over the weekend.

•

LUCIEN PERRIGO of Warner's Chicago publicity staff, is visiting in New York.

•

IRVING GOLDER of 20th Century-Fox's press-book department here, left yesterday to join the Navy.

•

RODNEY BUSH, 20th Century-Fox exploitation chief, left for Boston yesterday.

## *Exchange Workers Delay Walkout*

SEATTLE, April 10.—IATSE film exchange service employes here including shippers, inspectors and poster clerks, at a meeting over the weekend, decided to delay for 30 days their plan to resign "en masse" to force a ten per cent wage increase. Approval of the increase, which the distributors are willing to grant, has been pending before the War Labor Board.

IATSE exchange service employes in the exchange centers of the country were recently provided an interim opportunity for increased earnings by working overtime, but several locals are understood to have turned down the opportunity.

## *Laemmle Mustered Out*

Carl Laemmle, Jr., former independent producer, after 26 months in the U. S. Army Signal Corps, has been given a medical discharge.

## *Wilkie Stays with Para.*

Al Wilkie, publicity manager for Paramount, has withdrawn his resignation.

## *LaGuardia, Farley In Film for Fund*

Mayor La Guardia and former Postmaster General James A. Farley will appear with three screen actors in a motion picture that will be used in the 1944 campaign of The Greater New York Fund, which will start on April 18. With the Mayor and Farley in the filmed appeal on behalf of the 403 voluntary hospitals, health and welfare agencies which participate in the fund, will be Paul Muni, Paul Robeson and Humphrey Bogart. All three actors are New Yorkers.

The film, titled "New York Cares for Its Own," will be distributed to 500 houses throughout Greater New York, the release to first-run houses being scheduled for April 17, the day before the campaign opens. The film was written and produced under direction of Richard de Rochemont, producer of March of Time and member of the fund's publicity committee, with the cooperation of Jack L. Warner of Warner Brothers studios, who produced two of the sequences in California.

## *Lazarus Almost Not in Army*

**Paul Lazarus, Jr., 33, on Friday left his post as advertising-publicity director of United Artists, and his family, including three babes, for the Army. On arriving at the induction center at Grand Central Palace he was given the opportunity, with others, of returning home for the Easter holiday weekend and reporting back yesterday. He rejected the offer and went on to Camp Upton.**

**Saturday morning Selective Service ordered the immediate cancellation of all calls for men over 26.**

## *Colbert Christens Ship*

WILMINGTON, Cal., April 10.—Claudette Colbert christened the *U. S. S. Appling,* 13,000-ton naval transport ship, at ceremonies held in the Consolidated Shipbuilding Yards here Saturday. Judith Goetz, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. William Goetz, was Miss Colbert's maid of honor.


# NEW YORK THEATRES

RADIO CITY MUSIC HALL
50th Street & 6th Avenue
RITA HAYWORTH • GENE KELLY
"COVER GIRL"
in TECHNICOLOR • A Columbia Picture
Music by Jerome Kern • Lyrics by Ira Gershwin
Gala Stage Show • Symphony Orchestra
1st Mezzanine Seats Reserved. CIrcle 6-4600

Held Over 2nd Week
EXCLUSIVE! SOUTH AMERICAN FRONT – 1944 LATEST MARCH of TIME
RADIO CITY MUSIC HALL

RKO PALACE B'WAY & 47th St.
NOW PLAYING
Maria Montez • Jon Hall
Turhan Bey
'Ali Baba and the Forty Thieves'

PARAMOUNT'S
"LADY IN THE DARK"
In Technicolor
IN PERSON
XAVIER CUGAT And BAND
DEAN MURPHY
PARAMOUNT TIMES SQUARE

LOEW'S STATE B'WAY & 45
ON SCREEN
1st N. Y. Showing
'NONE SHALL ESCAPE'
with MARSHA HUNT
IN PERSON
ALLAN JONES
Happy FELTON
Dick BUCKLEY
Added Attraction
CANADA LEE


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## Pennsylvania Hits Film Standards

PHILADELPHIA, April 10. — The Pennsylvania board of motion picture censors, in its annual report to the State Department of Public Instruction, charges that the film industry, while 50 years old now, commercially, still fails almost daily to satisfy the requirements of the censors. Pointing out in its report for the past year on the need of censorship despite vigilance within the industry, the board said the following matters are cause for elimination daily from films reviewed: Sabotage, propaganda, sex, cruelty to children and animals, brutality, sacrilege, indecent exposure and new methods of crime.

Although Governor Martin said recently that motion picture censorship is unnecessary because a "filthy" picture would not be patronized, the censor board's statistical report showed seven films were rejected in the 1,850 reviewed and that an average of 164 films undergo approximately 388 deleions a year.

While the budget for the board is only $62,500 a year, the report showed that gross receipts from reviewing fees paid by distributors amount to approximately $165,000 a year. The censor board, originally created 29 years ago, is headed by Mrs. Edna R. Carroll and includes John Clyde Fisher and Mrs. Lucy H. Love.

## Studios, 'IA' Agree On Location Pay

Film company heads and studio labor representatives reached accord here yesterday with the IATSE at the office of Pat Casey, producers' labor contact, on the demands of the 11 IATSE studio craft locals for more money for time spent on location.

General contract proposals of the IATSE for new agreements to replace those which expired on Jan. 1 for the studio craft locals which remain to be settled are those involving the question of seniority rights, setting up of grievance machinery and several minor points. Length of the new agreements also remain to be settled. Practically all details affecting individual studio unions have been settled and several of the union representatives are understood to be preparing to return to the Coast.

Meetings will resume this morning at Casey's office.

## Seek Single Drive to Help All Charities

HOLLYWOOD, April 10.—A resolution calling for the industry to set up a permanent charities committee to conduct one annual charity drive covering all causes was passed here today by representatives of the producers and the studio unions, meeting to report results in the 1944 Red Cross War Fund campaign.

The report showed an all-time record for donations, with the labor group accounting for 19,847.

## RKO Party Tomorrow

RKO will be host to the press at a reception in honor of Joan Davis, in the Hampshire House, 150 Central Park South, tomorrow afternoon.

# Review

## "Moon Over Las Vegas"

*(Universal)*

"MOON OVER LAS VEGAS" is a cozy little musical patterned after the style of what appears to be a Universal musical tradition. There is action which sustains interest, and musical numbers, some pleasantly reminiscent, others so freshly minted that they haven't had time to tarnish, are logically interspersed in appropriate spots and not plucked from mid-air as so often happens.

Anne Gwynne and David Bruce, a young couple whose marriage has reached the point where she files suit for separate maintenance, nevertheless remain secretly devoted. They individually attempt to inspire jealousy, one with the other, and thus become reunited. In Las Vegas, where Anne has gone with Vera Vague, her aunt, to awaken the green-eyed emotion in Bruce's heart, she inconveniently runs out of money and has to turn to Alan Dinehart, a gambling proprietor, for a job. Bruce meanwhile arrives there, too, with Vivian Austin, an attractive brunette fleeing from a jealous husband, firmly attached to him. Finally, when they are going to become divorced, a pet gorilla, of all things, frightens them into each other's arms.

Musical interpolations are supplied, and nicely so, by Connie Haines, Lillian Cornell, Ann Triola, Jimmy Dodd and his "Sportsmen," and Gene Austin and the Sherrell Sisters. Cappella and Patricia do a neat dance turn. Lee Patrick, Joe Sawyer and Milburn Stone are others in a cast that is uniformly adequate. Jean Yarborough produced and directed from a screenplay by George Jeske and Clyde Bruckman, from Jeske's story.

Running time, 69 mins. "G"* Release date, April 28.

CHARLES RYWECK

*"G" denotes general classification.

## WFC Bond Luncheon Set for April 18

HOLLYWOOD, April 10.—In recognition of the outstanding sustained record of war bond sales over past two years, Chairman Henry Ginsberg and members of the industry War Finance Committee, will be luncheon guests on April 18 at the Beverly Hills Hotel. Robert H. Moulton, WFC Southern California chairman, will preside. Speakers include Howard D. Mills, regional war finance director; Charles E. Drivers, executive vice-chairman; vice-chairman Elwood Robinson, and M. Penn Phillips, and George Harshbarger, promotion director.

## Paramount Lists 5 in Next Block

Paramount's fifth block will contain five pictures, which were announced here yesterday as follows:

"And the Angels Sing" and "Henry Aldrich Plays Cupid," which will be nationally tradeshown on Thursday, April 20; "Double Indemnity," tradeshown Friday, April 21; "The Hitler Gang" and "Gambler's Choice," tradeshown Monday, April 24, with the exception of Albany, where they will be screened Tuesday, April 25.

## RKO Trade Showing Schedule Altered

RKO's "Show Business," starring Eddie Cantor, will be tradeshown April 18, instead of April 19 as previously announced, and "Seven Days Ashore" will replace "Look to Your Children" in the group of five films which RKO will tradeshow in April.

Screenings of "Seven Days Ashore" will take place Wednesday, April 19, except Boston and St. Louis, when it will be shown Thursday, April 20.

## Film Stars Appear At Service Hospitals

Gale Sondergaard and Martha O'Driscoll will spend this week making personal appearances in seven Army hospitals in Tennessee, Arkansas and Texas, USO Camp Shows reports. Others in roadshow service tours include Lynn Bari and Ray Mayer who are scheduled to arrive in El Paso April 14 for a two-weeks tour of hospitals in that state and in Oklahoma, Missouri, Kansas, Colorado, Utah, Washington and Oregon.

Maria Montez and Lois Collier will do one-day stands at hospitals in California, starting April 23, while Lynn Merrick and Betty Alexander will end a nine-day tour of Texas hospitals tomorrow.

## Laffmakers' Showing Of 'Mabel's Room'

Comedians from the stage, screen, circus, radio, etc., will attend a midnight preview of the Edward Small-United Artists comedy, "Up In Mabel's Room," at the Gotham Theatre here Thursday, at the invitation of the Laffmakers of America.

Invitations have gone to Una Merkel, Melville Cooper, George Givot, Henny Youngman, Oscar Levant, Fred Keating, Harry Gribbon, Teddy Hart, Kenny Baker, Jimmy Durante, Milton Berle, Joan Davis, Eric Blore, Billie Burke, Zasu Pitts, Charles Butterworth, Lulu McConnell, Harry Hirshfield, Tom Howard, Joe Laurie Jr., Senator Ford, Patsy Kelly, Howard and Dorothy Stickney, Walter O'Keefe, Virginia Field and Arlene Francis.

## Assistant Comptrollers

Bernard Birnbaum and Arthur Levy, previously reported as having been appointed comptrollers by the Columbia board of directors, have, instead, been named assistant comptrollers.

# Coast Flashes

*Hollywood, April 10*

BRIGADIER GENERAL Benjamin O. Davis, highest ranking Negro officer in the Army, was honor guest at a reception held this afternoon at Ira Gershwin's home as a prelude to Thursday's showing of "The Negro Soldier." The hosts included Samuel Goldwyn, Harry Cohn, Mark Rex Sandrich, Y. Frank Freeman, Walter Wanger, Ulrich Bell, Robert Rossen, Kenneth Thomson and Marc Connelly.

•

Cecil B. DeMille has arrived here from Washington, where his Paramount picture, "The Story of Dr. Wassell," had a preview. He was accompanied by Sidney Biddell, executive assistant; Ken Whitmore of Paramount's publicity staff, and his secretary, Gladys Rosson.

•

Prints of "The Hairy Ape," which Al Santell directed from the Eugene O'Neill play, have been sent to the United Artists home office. Santell plans to go East for the New York premiere when he will announce plans for several productions.

•

The War Manpower Commission has ordered Lincoln Quarberg, RKO publicist dismissed while in Washington, D. C., publicizing a picture, reinstated on the basis of an appeal by Ted Tayelor, the Screen Publicists Guild business manager.

•

RKO has bought "The Greatest Gift," an original by Philip Van Doren Stern, which David Hempstead will produce, with Cary Grant starred.

•

Marlene Dietrich has arrived in Algiers for a three-month tour of Army camps in the Mediterranean war theatre.

•

Pat O'Brien has signed with RKO for two pictures following "Having Wonderful Crime."

•

Danny Kaye has started rehearsals for his next vehicle, Samuel Goldwyn's "The Wonder Man."

•

Edward Golden, producer, will arrive here Wednesday from New York.

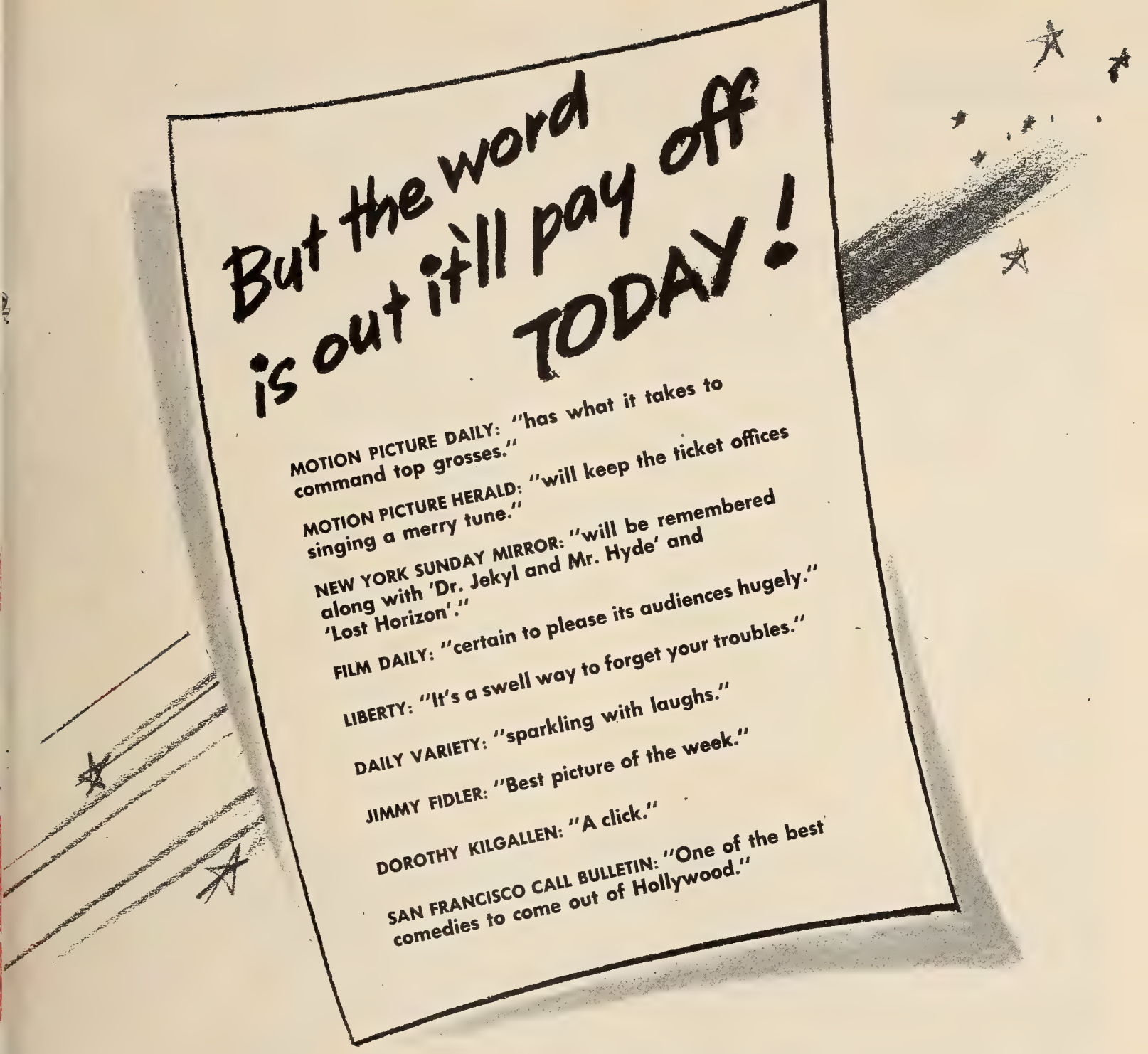
## Prefect to Rest Case In a Day or Two

NEW HAVEN, April 10.—Presentation of testimony by plaintiffs in the Prefect Theatre anti-trust suit against eight distributing companies is expected to be completed in Federal District Court here on Wednesday or Thursday, with the defense then consuming from three to five weeks. The trial began on March 7 but had a one-week layoff because of the illness of jurors.

Following a recess since last Thursday afternoon, the hearing will be resumed this morning with reading of depositions from John J. O'Connor, Universal vice-president. When that has been completed the plaintiffs are expected to offer additional proof of damage before resting their case.

# It Happened Tomorrow






# that's all* you need to know to make a lot of dough!

*** That's all—except that you get it at good old United Artists!**

Arnold Pressburger presents DICK POWELL · LINDA DARNELL · JACK OAKIE in RENE CLAIR'S "IT HAPPENED TOMORROW"
with Edgar Kennedy · John Philliber · Sig Ruman · Directed by RENE CLAIR · Screenplay adapted by Dudley Nichols and Rene Clair

# Showmanship Flashes . . .

**$10,000 for Duplication of 'Morgan's Creek' Miracle**

CLEVELAND, April 10.—Loew's State here offered $10,000 to the couple able to duplicate Betty Hutton's "miracle" in the "Miracle of Morgan's Creek." Howard Buckhardt, State manager, promoted the award through 1,000 cards and newspaper publicity. Extensive word-of-mouth publicity resulted. J. Maxwell Joice, Paramount district ad representative, sent a card with two "hard-to-get" buttons to newspaper film editors and radio commentators. The card read: "You'll laugh so hard at 'The Miracle' the buttons may pop off your vest. So here are a couple of genuine bone prewar 'spares.'"

**Jennifer Jones at Tulsa 'Bernadette' Debut**

TULSA, Okla., April 10.—Personal appearance of Jennifer Jones featured promotion of 20th-Fox's "Song of Bernadette" at the twin-theatre Southwestern premiere at the Ritz and Orpheum here. Tulsa newspapers gave 1,200 inches of space to the film. This was in addition to an advertising campaign launched before the opening. The Tulsa *World* issued a special edition for Miss Jones' appearance, with a three-column art spread on the front page, the story also giving full credits to the star, picture and premiere. Ralph Talbot, operator of the two theatres, supervised the campaign.

**'Henry Aldrich' Enlists Aid of Boy Scouts**

GLOVERSVILLE, April 10.—Schine Theatres enlisted the cooperation of Boy Scouts and other local civic organizations to promote Paramount's "Henry Aldrich, Boy Scout." Richard Felman of RKO Schine Keith's in Syracuse, tied up with National Boy Scout Week and both the Syracuse *Herald-Journal* and *Post-Standard* ran editorial comment on the picture. Walter Powers, manager of the Oswego Theatre, Oswego, N. Y., secured attendance of uniformed scouts. In Perry, N. Y., Robert Emory got the Scouts to sell tickets.

**Jap Atrocity Angle Exploited by 'London'**

CHICAGO, April 10.—Manager Edward Dlouhy exploited the national publicity given to Jap atrocities in promoting United Artists' "Jack London" at the Apollo here. Local dailies used features and art on the film's players, backed by an advertising campaign. Tie-ups included one with Adams Hat and the Marshall Field book department. Daily spot announcements were used on stations WJJD and WIND. A trailer promoting "Jack London" was shown two weeks prior to its opening.

**'Lady in Dark' Wedding Staged for Boston Pair**

BOSTON, April 10.—Harry Browning, publicity man for M. and P. Theatres, seized upon the "Cinderella wedding" of Maybritt Irene Johnson and Michael F. Brugliera and staged the most elaborate wedding here in years. The star of "Lady in the Dark," Ginger Rogers, whose fantasy wedding was used as a model, had her $4,000 wedding gown sent here. The wedding cake weighed 85 pounds.

# NBC Resumes 'Live' Television Shows

National Broadcasting presented the first film premiere ever to be presented by television last night when the new M-G-M short subject, "Patrolling the Ether," was telecast over NBC station WNBT here last night, and was picked up and re-telecast by WRGB in Schenectady and WPTZ in Philadelphia. James Lawrence Fly, chairman of the Federal Communications Commission, appeared before the NBC cameras and introduced the film which was televised from NBC, marking NBC's resumption of presenting "live" television shows.

Prior to the telecast, M-G-M was host at a reception for the newspaper and trade press at the French Cafe at Radio City with NBC following the telecast with a dinner at the Ritz Carlton Hotel.

"Patrolling the Ether" is the latest in M-G-M's "Crime Does Not Pay" series, and dramatizes the war activities of FCC's radio intelligence division. NBC's television station in Los Angeles also participated in the premiere, transmitting the film last evening. A showing scheduled in Chicago last night was called off as an air express delivery of a 16mm print authorized by a Government priority was mysteriously intercepted between Los Angeles and Kansas City.

## *Bert Silver, 83, Dies; Veteran Exhibitor*

GREENVILLE, Mich., April 10.—Bert C. E. Silver, 83, one of Michigan's oldest exhibitors, died here recently. He operated the Silver Theatre here for many years, opening it in 1909 when he ran three-reel shows and paid a dollar a reel for them. He retired from operation of the Silver in 1937 and Butterfield Theatres took over.

Silver, who was in show business for 73 years, organized Silver Consolidated Wagon Shows in 1904. He was mayor of Greenville in 1923-27, and was supervisor for seven terms, having been reelected prior to his death.

## *WAC Warns Workers On Job Switching*

PHILADELPHIA, April 10.—Notices posted in local exchanges here by the War Manpower Commission warn employes that they can not change their jobs except for certain specified reasons, without WMC approval as a result of the industry obtaining an official "locally needed" classification.

The WMC posters also proclaim that the industry's distribution branch has been declared "locally needed," as previously reported in MOTION PICTURE DAILY. Pittsburgh also received a similar rating.

## *Negro Feature Completed*

HOLLYWOOD, April 10.—The completed negative on "Go Down, Death!", all-Negro religious feature, produced by Spencer Williams for distribution through Sack Amusement Enterprises, Dallas, has been shipped to New York for release printing, which will be done by H. E. R. Laboratories. Shooting will begin immediately on an all-Negro Western, "The Chocolate Kid," to be released in the Summer.

## *Mother Gets Son's Flowers, He Dies*

**Mrs. Lillian Murphy, mother of seven, including John Murphy, assistant to Joseph R. Vogel, vice-president in charge of Loew's out-of-town theatres, received flowers from another son, Bill, at 11 Easter Sunday morning. At 11:10 a War Department telegram informed her that Bill, holder of the Distinguished Flying Cross and the Air Medal with four Oak Leaf Clusters, had been killed Saturday night when his fighter plane crashed into the Napa River, Napa, Cal. Another brother, Paul, is manager of Loew's Prospect, Flushing.**

## *Exhibitors Agree to Tax Compromise*

MEXICO CITY, April 10.—Exhibitors of the Mexican states of Guanajuato and Nayarit who temporarily shut down their theatres because of what they termed an excessive tax levied on them, have resolved their conflict with those state governments, the National Cinematographic Industry Chamber reports. The taxes will be assessed on a more equitable basis, it is understood, by scaling the amount of taxation down from the important theatres, which will pay most, to the smaller ones. The exhibitors accepted the government's proposal to present free shows weekly to children attending the states' schools.

The Chamber, at its annual meeting here, reported progress during the past year. Jesus A. Grovas, prominent producer and the Chamber's president, presided. The following new members were elected to the board of directors: Oscar Dancigers and Aurelio G. Yevenes, representing producers; Juan Pezet and Valentin Gascon, distributors; Antonio G. Osio and Guillermo Carter, exhibitors; Leonardo Ocamp and Manuel Espinosa, provincial exhibitors, and Ernesto Santos Galindo and Francisco Castillo Para, studios and laboratories.

## *Delinquency Solution*

BALTIMORE, April 10.—Local Variety Club, through its welfare committee headed by Frank H. Durkee, is sponsoring the first unit of the Baltimore Police Boys' Club here. Variety will finance a clubroom for the boys at a local police station and will provide equipment. The project is part of a plan to curb juvenile delinquency; the groups will be referred to as Boys Protective Clubs. Members of the committee in charge include Rodney Collier, chief barker; Owen D. Weems, Lauritz C. Garman, J. Louis Rome, C. William Hicks, Bernard Seaman and I. M. Rappaport.

## *Jesse Lasky in Denver*

DENVER, April 10.—Jesse L. Lasky, producer of Warners' "The Adventures of Mark Twain," arrived here yesterday from Hollywood to take part in the promotion here of that film. From here Lasky will go to St. Louis, Chicago and several other cities before proceeding to New York for the Broadway premiere at the Hollywood Theatre on May 3.

# 'Harvest Moon' Tops Baltimore Take

BALTIMORE, April 10.—The holiday weekend, nice weather and strong product, brought heavy business. Ace grosser appears to be "Shine On, Harvest Moon," safe for $20,000 at the Stanley, while "Broadway Rhythm" looks like an easy $17,000 at the Century.

Estimated receipts for the week ending April 13:

**"Broadway Rhythm" (M-G-M)**
CENTURY—(3,000) (35c-43c-55c and 60c weekends) 7 days. Gross: $17,000. (Average, $17,500)

**"Lady in the Dark" (Para.)**
KEITH'S—(2,406) (35c-43c-55c-65c) 7 days, 3rd week. Gross: $14,000. (Average, $15,000)

**"Four Jills in a Jeep" (20th-Fox)**
NEW—(1,581) (30c-40c-60c) 6 days. Gross: $12,000. (Average, $11,000)

**"Shine On, Harvest Moon" (WB)**
STANLEY—(3,280) (35c-44c-55c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $20,000. (Average: $18,000).

**"Beautiful But Broke" (Col.)**
HIPPODROME—(2,205) (35c-44c-55c-65c) 7 days. Stage show: Charlie Spivak and Orchestra, Grace & Mickey Carroll, Wally West. Gross: $18,000. (Average: $18,500).

**"Phantom Lady" (Univ.)**
MAYFAIR—(1,000) (25c-45c) 7 days. Gross: $7,500. (Average: $7,000).

**"Weird Woman" (Univ.)**
MARYLAND—(1,400) (30c-55c) 7 days. Gross: $7,500. (Average: $8,200).

**"Swing Fever" (M-G-M)**
VALENCIA—(1,200) (35c-45c-55c and 60c weekends) 7 days. Gross: $5,500. (Average: $5,500).

## *Allied Pictures Will Supplant Germans'*

American and British films will replace Nazi propaganda and other pictures now shown in Holland theatres as soon as the Germans are driven from Holland, declared Charles J. M. Welter, chairman of the temporary committee of film examiners for the Netherlands, in London, according to a dispatch received here by the Netherlands Information Bureau. Welter, former Dutch minister of colonies, was appointed to his new post in London, this week, it was said.

Welter told British and American film men, present at his London installation, that their product would be welcomed by the Netherlands committee. Prior to the Nazi invasion, the American industry was the principal supplier of pictures for the Dutch market, closely followed by French product.

## *Legion Finds 6 Films To Be Acceptable*

The Legion of Decency approved all six films reviewed this week. Rated Class A-1, unobjectionable for general patronage, were: "Hidden Valley Outlaws," Republic; "The Laramie Trail," Republic; "Riding West," Columbia; "Trocadero," Republic, and the British film, "Yellow Canary," Wilcox-RKO. In class A-2, unobjectionable for adults, was "Sweethearts of the U. S. A.," Monogram.

## *Edward Place to RCA*

Edward R. Place, former assistant to the director general of the War Production Board, has joined the Radio Corp. of America's department of information here. He has served as radio editor of the *Providence Journal*, managing editor of *Labor Management News*, editor and publisher of *Playtime* magazine, columnist on the old *Boston Transcript* and New England publicity director for N. W. Ayer.

# *Four Millions In for Drive*

(*Continued from page* 1)

come, and the work of compiling a complete report of the 15,000 or more theatres that participated in the campaign will take another two weeks.

Among the larger sums reported in yesterday's mail was $134,000 from Nat Wolf, exhibitor chairman for Cleveland. This amount was taken in by 244 theatres, making an average of about $550 per theatre. There are about 240 houses still to be heard from in that area. A. H. Blank, Des Moines exhibitor chairman, advised Bernhard that two-thirds of the exhibitors in his territory had checked in a total of $65,000. Col. Arthur Frudenfeld, exhibitor chairman in Cincinnati, reported $115,248 for 327 theatres, with about 270 houses yet to come.

**$61,780 from Dallas**

From Dallas, chairman R. J. O'Donnell advised that $61,780 had been collected in that city, including $26,817 from theatre collections and $34,963 subscriptions by theatre firms and employees. James O. Cherry, Lou Bissinger, Paul Thompson and J. J. Rodriguez comprised the collection committee. E. V. Richards, New Orleans exhibitor chairman, reported $46,292 for that city, including $35,045 from theatre collections.

## *MOT Sets 'IrishQuestion'*

"The Irish Question" is the title of the next March of Time film scheduled for national release April 21.

# *Easing of Draft Rulings Gives Industry Relief*

(*Continued from page* 1)

the business are considered war-supporting.

A Selective Service memorandum to all local boards ordered deferment of men who had passed their 26th birthdays even if they had taken their pre-induction physical examinations and been approved for service. Such "drastic action," General Hershey said, was imperative in view of the Army's and Navy's urgent need for young men. The directive also distinguished between men in the 26-29 class and those over 30, stating that the yardstick of whether or not a man is necessary in a war-supporting activity will be less strictly applied in the latter group than in the former.

**McNutt, Hershey Check**

At the same time, General Hershey and Paul V. McNutt, chairman of the War Manpower Commission, called upon men classified 4-F to check with local offices of the United States Employment Service on whether their work is war-supporting. The country's 1,000,000 4-F's not in activities listed as nationally essential or listed in their communities as locally needed were told to enter such work. The WMC has classed motion picture distribution in Philadelphia and Pittsburgh as locally needed, and the industry's War Activties Committee is preparing petitions to have other exchanges so designated.

Meanwhile, representatives of the raw stock manufacturers will confer with Lincoln V. Burrows, chief of the motion picture section, and other WPB officials to explore the possibilities of securing definite action by the commission whereby key employes subject to induction may be given deferments.

The meeting was described by Burrows as designed to erect safeguards against future possible extension by Selective Service of the "draft-all" policy now being applied to men in the 22-26 year age group.

**Raw Stock Relief Seen**

The present policy of deferring the induction of men above 26, he said, will relieve the raw stock industry to a very considerable extent and it will be necessary to seek the deferment of only a very small number of key workers. Even if the policy is extended to men up to 30, the industry will be in comparatively good shape. Since the inception of the current drastic induction policy, raw stock manufacturers have been working out their problems with the local urgency committees, composed of representatives of the WMC, Selective Service, WPB and Army and Navy, and with state Selective Service authorities, who have recognized the importance of films in the war and have been highly cooperative.

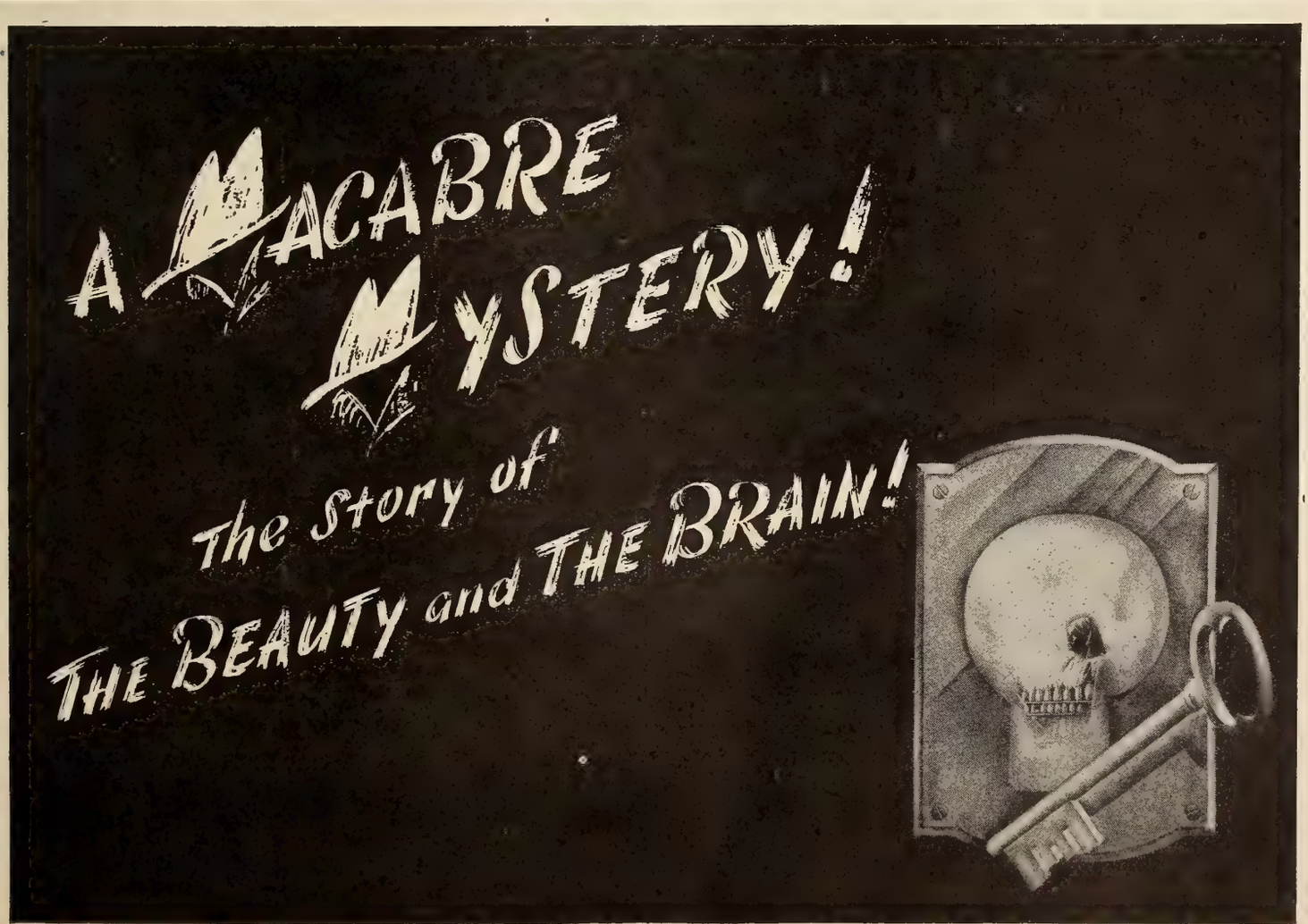
# Leo to Roar in All Theatres June 22 to 28

(*Continued from page* 1)

yet been completed, it is reported that practically every medium of advertising and publicity available will be utilized. Over 10,000 billboards have been reserved; the radio will carry scores of spot announcements, plus M-G-M stars on nearly every important air show; and newsworthy events will take place at the studio, home office and branch offices, as well as in Hollywood Bowl, where a special celebration is scheduled. Anniversary press books for exhibitors and manuals for exchanges are being prepared.

The company will refrain from seeking "All M-G-M Weeks" in theatres; any exhibitor, however, who wishes to book a solid week of M-G-M product can do so, if enough prints are available. The campaign's momentum is designed to carry on beyond June 28, with particular stress being placed on films set for release during the late Summer and Fall.

The specific event to be celebrated is the birth of Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer in 1924, when Metro Pictures Corp., which had been acquired by Marcus Loew, of Loew's, Inc., four years earlier, was merged with Goldwyn Pictures Corp. At about the same time certain assets of Louis B. Mayer Pictures, Inc., were turned over to Metro-Goldwyn.



# Business at 1st Run Broadway Houses Is Above Last Year

(Continued from page 1)

show, Radio City Music Hall is headed for a near record week of $127,000. The length of the combined show held down the gross. The show will go into a third week Thursday.

With a record Sunday's gross of $23,250 claimed for "Four Jills in a Jeep" and a stage show featuring the DeMarcos and Harry Richman at the Roxy, the theatre expects to wind up with $98,000 on its first week with this bill which will hold over. "Buffalo Bill" will follow. The Paramount will finish its seventh week of "Lady in the Dark" and Xavier Cugat featured on the stage with about $64,000. The picture will go into its eighth week tomorrow to equal the record run of "Star Spangled Rythm".

**Strand Does Capacity**

The Strand had capacity Easter business with "Uncertain Glory" and a Ted Lewis stage show. The theatre expects to do $55,000 on its first week and will hold over the combined bill. Third and final week of "The Heavenly Body" and a stage show featuring Jimmy Durante at the Capitol is expected to yield around $40,000. M-G-M's "Broadway Rhythm" and a show with Ginny Simms, Mitzi Mayfair and Frankie Carlo's orchestra will open at the Capitol on Thursday.

Returning to Broadway after six years, Walt Disney's "Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs" finished its first week at the Manhattan Theatre with close to $32,000 and capacity business for the 1,200 seat house. Several weeks are expected for this revival at the Manhattan before RKO generally releases the film in the New York area. The 11th week of "The Song of Bernadette" at the Rivoli is expected to yield upwards of $27,000 and the film will continue.

**"Lost Angel" Will Hold Over**

"Lost Angel" will finish its first week at the Criterion with about $30,000 and will hold. Universal's "Follow the Boys" is set to follow. The third week of "See Here, Private Hargrove" at the Astor will realize $28,000 and the picture will hold. "Passage to Marseille" at the Hollywood will yield $17,000 on its eighth week and will continue. Fourth and final week of "Ali Baba and the 40 Thieves" at the Palace is expected to bring about $17,500. RKO's "Yellow Canary" will open at the Palace on Thursday.

The Rialto is headed for $12,000 on its first week of "The Lady and the Monster" and will hold over. "Rationing" is not expected to better $11,000 on its initial week at the Globe but indications are that it will be held over. "Voice in the Wind" will wind up its fourth week at the Victoria with about $10,000 and will remain for a fifth. Final six days of the third week of "Women in Bondage" at the Gotham will bring about $9,500. Although United Artists' "Up In Mabel's Room" has been announced to open at the Gotham on Friday there is still a possibility that the current film might continue.

# Consent Decree 'Corrupt', Schine Counsel Claims

(Continued from page 1)

wife and three sons." He added, "If Schine were compelled to sell its interest in the Margie Grand, everything I've arranged for would be torn down." Scott said he had borrowed money to purchase the house from his father in 1940 and had persuaded the circuit to buy in after he had gotten into trouble through absorbing the new Federal tax rather than adding it on.

Goodwin vigorously condemned "any order that unjustly would force a new partner upon this young man" and declared he saw no reason why "Paramount, for example, should be permitted to continue expansion while Schine, with 165 theatres, most of them in one-horse towns," is denied the same privilege.

**Quotes Magruder Letter**

Concerning Schine's proposed purchase of the Liberty Theatre, Cumberland, Md., attorney Robert L. Wright of the U. S. Department of Justice quoted a letter of objection to the deal from Edward K. Magruder of the Garden Theatre in that city. Magruder, he said, was unable to appear in court because of illness.

Mrs. Grace M. Fisher, owner, of the Maryland and Embassy Theatres in Cumberland, testified that on March 2 she made an offer of $140,000 for the Liberty Theatre—$130,000 to go to Thomas Burke, the owner, and $10,000 to a real estate agent. She said she took the step in an effort to keep Warner Brothers from getting the house and that her $5,000 deposit was accepted and has been retained, despite her later attempt to withdraw from the deal after she learned that Schine, not Warners, was the competing bidder. "Warner Brothers hurt me once or twice," Mrs. Fisher explained, adding that neither the Liberty nor the Strand, the latter a Schine house, had ever affected the operation of her business.

**Exhibit "A"**

Attorney Wright offered as Exhibit "A" a letter about the $5,000 down payment, written to the Assistant Attorney General on March 15 by Richard Schutte, Mrs. Fisher's advertising agent, while his employer was in Florida. She testified that he had done this without her approval.

Judge John Knight is presiding at the trial, and considerable time this morning was spent refreshing his memory on details of the case. Unapproached as yet is the question of the appointment of trustees to operate the theatres which the Schine circuit retains.

# M. & R. Theatres Win $301,361 Awards

(Continued from page 1)

Maine and New Hampshire Theaters, for alleged monopoly, $51,670; Aetna vs. Maine and New Hampshire Theaters and seven distributors (not including Columbia), for alleged conspiracy, $51,670; Commonwealth Amusement Enterprises vs. Colonial Theaters Co., Inc., and distributors (except Warners), alleged conspiracy, $21,714; Nashua Theaters vs. Colonial Theaters Co. and (except Warner) distributors, alleged conspiracy, $56,193.

Also: Fidel Amusement Enterprises vs. Paramount and other distributors (except Metro, Warners, U. A.), alleged conspiracy, $44,792; Elite Amusement Enterprises vs. Paramount and other distributors (except Metro, M-G-M and U. A.), alleged conspiracy, $30,796, and Standard Amusement Enterprises vs. Paramount and other distributors (except Metro, M-G-M, Fox, Columbia), alleged conspiracy, $4,526.

# Would Bar Truants From Theatres

(Continued from page 1)

exhibitors to bar children of school age from theatres during school hours, unless accompanied by parents or guardians.

"Juvenile delinquency is not something that occurs over night," the report declared, in discussing the underlying factors. "It starts in the home and is progressive."

The committee specified certain amusements at which unhealthy conditions existed, but did not include motion picture theatres in that category.

# Adjustments Need Seen by Connors

(Continued from page 1)

and Delaware, and a committee which met with 20th-Fox officials in New York over the weekend. Present for 20th, in addition to Connors, were Andy Smith, Jr., William Gehring, Clarence Hill, W. T. Tubber, and Graham Gross, local branch manager.

Connors also explained that complete local autonomy has been given branch managers in respect to adjustments on contracts and prices to be made where necessary. On the question of adjustments, repeats and conditions of buying, Connors said it rested entirely with the local branch manager.

He also advised that if an exhibitor plays a current film he can repeat the show at flat rentals if agreed upon except for such pictures that are released each season carrying a special percentage tag, of which there has been a minimum of two thus far this season.

**Philadelphia No Higher**

Connors assured the committee that allocations for the Philadelphia area will be no higher than any other part of the country. He also pointed out that the company was spending approximately $27,000,000 for 28 or 30 pictures as compared to previous years when $18,000,000 went for 52 pictures. Connors emphatically requested exhibitors to insist upon salesmen putting all their promises in writing.

Last Wednesday Connors and other 20th-Fox officials held a similar trade-practices meeting here with representatives of the Eastern Pennsylvania Allied and indicated that in the near future he would visit more exchange areas for the same purpose.

# $1,350,000 Goldman Suit Is Dismissed By Federal Court

(Continued from page 1)

over the weekend by Judge William H. Kirkpatrick.

Goldman, operator of a circuit here and in Eastern Pennsylvania, brought action Dec. 8, 1942, charging that the distributors refused to supply him with first-run pictures for his Erlanger, in competition with first-run Warner theatres. This was the result, he claimed, of a conspiracy among the 12 defendants from which he said he suffered a loss of $450,000. He asked triple damages and an injunction requiring the defendants to put him on an equal basis with Warner theatres.

Federal Judge Kirkpatrick, in a 17-page decision, held that Goldman "failed to show any restraint of interstate commerce." He added that Warner Bros. holds "a commanding position" in the exhibition of first-run pictures in this area.

Goldman failed to show, Judge Kirkpatrick held, that the 12 defendants conspired to drive him out of business in Philadelphia. The judge agreed, however, that the Erlanger could not be operated in competition with Warner theatres unless it had equal access to first-run pictures. If Warners have a monopoly, he added, it is only local and has no effect on interstate commerce.

**Rejects Block-booking Claim**

Judge Kirkpatrick also rejected Goldman's claim that block-booking results in "overbuying and dissipation of film products." Other findings by Judge Kirkpatrick in favor of the defendants were:

It does not appear there is "any great need for another first-run in Philadelphia or that the Warner theatres do not adequately serve the needs of the public; it has not been shown that admission prices at Warner theatres are exorbitant or unreasonably high; it has not been shown to my satisfaction that the exclusive control which its contracts with exhibitors have given Warners has been injurious to the public; also, "There is no evidence of a purpose to injure the plaintiff or drive him out of the motion picture business in Philadelphia."

Defendants were: Warner Bros. and affiliates, Loew's, Paramount, RKO, 20th Century-Fox, Columbia, Universal and United Artists.

**Cleveland Exhibitors Meet Connors Today**

CLEVELAND, April 10.—Tom Connors, 20th Century-Fox vice-president in charge of sales, and Jack Schlaifer, Central sales manager, will hold the second in a series of regional field meetings to discuss rentals and trade practices with exhibitors at a luncheon here tomorrow at the Statler Hotel. The first meeting was held in Philadelphia last week with Eastern Pennsylvania Allied.

Leading exhibitors in and around Cleveland have been invited. District manager James J. Grady; branch manager, I. J. Schmertz, and the local 20th Century-Fox sales force, including Edwin R. Bergman, Sam Lichter, Tom Alley and Ray Schmertz, will also attend.

First in Film and Radio News Brief, Accurate and Impartial

# MOTION PICTURE DAILY

Alert, Intelligent and Indispensable to the Motion Picture Industry

VOL. 55. NO. 72 NEW YORK, U. S. A., WEDNESDAY, APRIL 12, 1944 TEN CENTS

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## Rentals from Italy Held in U.S. Escrow

### *Hollywood Product Now Shown in 300 Houses*

By MILT LIVINGSTON

The U. S. Army is now supervising the showing of Hollywood films to natives in 300 "theatres" in Southern Italy and Sicily, to bolster morale and advance the American way of life. Whatever surplus monies are received therefrom is being held in escrow over there for American film companies, it was disclosed here yesterday by Robert Riskin, chief of the overseas film division of the Office of War Information, in an interview on his return from four-and-a-half months in United Nations' camps of the European war theatre. Riskin revealed that the original intention was to turn over commercial distribution to American companies "when our troops reach Rome."

**"The motion picture is the most potent medium in psycho-**

(*Continued on page 6*)

## $283,816 Estate Left By Late Joseph Rank

LONDON, April 11.—A probate granted for the late Joseph Rank's will reveals an estate amounting to only $283,816. Joseph Rank, father of J. Arthur Rank, established the family flour milling fortune from practically nothing, becoming head of a $32,000,000 concern.

During his lifetime, however, he gave virtually the whole of his private estate to charity, including $8,000,000 to the Methodist Church and nearly $2,000,000 to the poor of his native town of Hull. In addition, other bequests are understood to have been made privately. The estate was left in thirds to J. Arthur Rank, his brother, J. V. Rank, noted racehorse owner, and Sidney Askew, Rank's partner.

## *Studios, 'IA' Argue Seniority Rights*

The question of seniority rights of IATSE studio craft workers to be provided for under new contracts being negotiated by film company heads, their studio labor representatives and IATSE officials here at the office of Pat Casey, producers' labor contact, formed the basis of discussions at yes-

(*Continued on page 6*)

## *MPTOA for No Lawsuit*

Joseph Bernhard, vice-president of Warner Brothers and general manager of Warner Theatres, resigned yesterday as a director and trustee of the Motion Picture Theatre Owners of America, wiring Ed Kuykendall, MPTOA, at the latter's headquarters at Columbus, Miss., that he objected to "certain resolutions" which Bernhard claimed were passed at an MPTOA meeting unattended by him.

Bernhard was unavailable yesterday, but it is understood he objected to a reported recommendation by the MPTOA's executive committee to Assistant U. S. Attorney General Tom C. Clark in February that the consent decree be "junked" and that the Government reopen the prosecution

(*Continued on page 6*)

## Red Cross Reports Still Doubling '43

Reports on the industry's 1944 Red Cross drive show the highest average collection to date for a large circuit is $138,482 for 106 Warner houses in Philadelphia, receipts averaging over $1,300 per theatre.

Brandt Theaters, representing over 40 houses in New York City, took in approximately $40,000. Collections averaged close to $800 per theatre.

Other highlights from late reports

(*Continued on page 7*)

## *MPTOA Hits Allied Tax Action Delay*

**The delay of Allied in naming representatives to the national exhibitors' coordinating committee on taxation apparently is the subject of criticism in a bulletin sent from MPTOA headquarters here yesterday over the signature of Ed Kuykendall, president.**

**"The delay in establishing the plan is unfair to those associations which take their responsibilities against sudden threats of heavy special taxation seriously," the statement declared in part.**

## *N.Y. Business Is Soaring*

Estimates of high Easter week grosses made Monday by downtown New York first-runs were revised even higher yesterday as a result of capacity business and the long overflow lines which are giving several theatres their best Easter business in their histories. An important factor contributing to better Easter business this year than last is the New York Board of Education's ordering of a school holiday this year whereas last year the Easter week holiday was dispensed with as a result of a week granted in February as a fuel conservation measure. Light rains both

(*Continued on page 7*)

## *Program Offered for 5th War Loan Participation*

Industry leaders in New York and Hollywood and workers in the field who will be asked by the War Activities Committee and the U. S. Treasury Department to conduct the participation of the film business in the Fifth War Loan campaign, June 12 through July 8, are offered a detailed program for promoting the fifth drive in the industry's Fourth War Loan campaign committee report issued here yesterday. Charles P. Skouras, National Theatres president, was chairman of the last film bond drive.

The report states that some exhibitor leaders have been critical of the "Free Movie Day" idea. The complaints, held to be "not without foundation," claimed that theatres should

(*Continued on page 7*)

## *WPB Expects Larger 16mm Stock Output*

WASHINGTON, April 11.—War Production Board officials are hopeful that the 16mm situation may clear up in the near future as a result of new allocation provisions which prevent the Army and Navy from drawing on the film allocated for civilian use.

They said, however, that it is doubtful whether any great amount of 16mm raw stock will be available for general distribution, because of the heavy demands of the Office of Education and other Government agencies, which are taken out of the 23,000,000 feet quarterly set aside for non-military use.

Recent reports to Washington com-

(*Continued on page 6*)

## See Raw Film Covered in Draft Ruling

### *Workers Expected to Be In Deferred Category*

By BERTRAM F. LINZ

WASHINGTON, April 11.—Selective Service today issued a list of critical activities under 12 war agencies in which men in the 18-to-26 age group may be considered as eligible for occupational deferment, which, while not specifying it by name, is expected to cover the manufacture of raw stock. Neither the film industry or any of its related fields were specifically mentioned in the new order.

The list was issued as representatives of raw film manufacturers met with War Production Board, Selective Service and Army and Navy representatives to discuss the situation threatened by the current "take-all" policy of induction applied to registrants between 18 and 26 years of age.

Following the meeting, Lincoln V.

(*Continued on page 6*)

## Connors' Trade Aims Told in Cleveland

CLEVELAND, April 11.—Authority to make equitable price and overselling adjustments on 20th-Fox product was given local exhibitors today by Tom Connors, sales vice-president, and Jack Schlaifer, Central sales manager, who addressed a luncheon attended by more than 50 showmen in the Statler Hotel.

The talks, emphasizing that 20th-Fox aims at fairness in distribution contracts, were largely a reiteration of promises made by Conners at the weekend in New York, where he met with MPTO representatives from Eastern Pennsylvania, Southern New Jersey and Delaware. The two sales executives will leave here tomorrow for Cincinnati, where a similar session is to be held.

## *Allied Ratifies N. E. Unit as a Member*

WASHINGTON, April 11.—Allied States headquarters here reports that the application of New England Independent Exhibitors, Inc.—of which Arthur Howard is business manager—to become a member of National Allied has been approved by unanimous vote of the board of directors, with all directors voting.

# Personal Mention

EARL HUDSON and JACK KEEGAN of United Detroit Theatres have arrived in New York.

•

FIRST LT. LOU MELAMED, formerly assistant to MAURICE GRAD, Columbia sales promotion manager, is now in New York on furlough and was married to MISS MARILYN MARCUS last week.

•

TED RODIS, manager of Skouras' Broadway Theatre, Astoria, L. I., who was to have reported for service in the Army today, has been excused and will return to Skouras.

•

CHARLES SCHLAIFER, 20th Century-For advertising manager, accompanied by LOUIS SHANFIELD, art director, left yesterday for the Coast.

•

J. FRANCIS WHITE, Film Classics Charlotte franchise holder, returned to that city last night after a visit at the home office.

•

GEORGE A. HIRLIMAN, president of Film Classics, will return today from a Southern exchange tour.

•

FRED MEYERS, Universal Eastern division sales manager, will be in Washington tomorrow and Friday.

•

CHARLES BOASBERG, RKO Radio metropolitan district manager, is due in from Cleveland this morning.

•

R. J. O'DONNELL of Interstate Circuit is expected in New York from Dallas today.

•

JOE LUTZ, 20th Century-Fox Philadelphia projectionist, celebrated his 20th wedding anniversary last week.

## George Furness, 60, Was Radio Pioneer

George C. Furness, 60, an executive of National Carbon Co., who pioneered in commercial radio broadcasting, died this week in Harkness Pavilion of the Columbia Presbyterian Medical Center here after a short illness.

Furness supervised the Eveready Hour radio show which first was heard on July 26, 1923. This is said to have been the first sponsored broadcast to use a network. Furness participated in meetings of broadcasters and Government officials to clarify confusion that existed during the industry's beginnings. He leaves a widow, the former Margaret Rogers, and a daughter, Betty Furness, screen-radio actress.

## Pat West Dead at 55

HOLLYWOOD, April 11.—Arthur Pat West, 55, an actor for 30 years, died yesterday at his home in Van Nuys, Col.. He came here 17 years ago and appeared in films until a few weeks ago when he was forced out of Warners' "To Have and Have Not" by illness. He is survived by his widow and two daughters.

## Qualified Veterans Eligible for IMPOU

**Discharged servicemen qualified to hold projectionists' licenses are eligible for immediate admittance to the Independent M. P. Operators Union here, according to a resolution adopted by the executive board and submitted to the American Legion. Charles Axelrod is president of IMPOU.**

## Washington Officials At 'Tunisian' Preview

WASHINGTON, April 11.—High ranking United Nations, military, Government and diplomatic officials, press writers and radio commentators were on hand tonight at the National Press Club auditorium here for the premiere of M-G-M's "Tunisian Victory." Speakers included Col. Frank Capra; Lt. Col. Geoffery Keating, who was in charge of filming; Sgt. Donald Dexter, cameraman, and Undersecretary of War Robert Patterson.

"Tunisian Victory" will open its regular Washington run at Loew's Columbia Theatre on Thursday. Handling arrangements for both showings are Jack Winocour of the British information service; Jesse Pulcipher of Loew's and Tom Baldridge of M-G-M.

## Writers Hit Alliance; Seek Probe of Aims

HOLLYWOOD, April 11.—Branding as "untrue" the charges made by the Motion Picture Alliance to the effect that the industry is dominated by "Communist radicals," the Screen Writers Guild last night adopted a resolution calling for an "industry-wide meeting on the MPA's aims."

This action was taken after the writers had voted down a resolution, offered by James McQuinness, which provided for the appointment of an SWG committee to meet with MPA representatives and cooperate on the Alliance program.

## Dick Purcell Dies of Heart Attack at 36

HOLLYWOOD, April 11.—Stricken with a heart attack following a golf match, Dick Purcell, actor, 36, dropped dead today at the Riviera Country Club.

A native of Greenwich, Conn., Purcell attended Fordham University and appeared on the stage in "Sailor Beware," "Men in White" and other plays before starting his film career in 1935. Since then he has taken part in more than 50 films.

Funeral services will be held on Thursday at St. Mary of Magdalena Church.

## Miriam Quirk Will Wed

Miriam Quirk, secretary to Maurice Bergman, Universal's Eastern advertising-publicity manager, will leave Friday for Alliance, Neb., to marry Lt. Charles N. Lockwood, Jr., of the Army Air Forces.

## SMPE 55th Annual Meeting Monday

A symposium on television and a special "Army-Navy Day" will highlight the 55th semi-annual technical conference of the Society of Motion Picture Engineers to be held in the Hotel Pennsylvania, New York, April 17-19, according to the complete conference program announced yesterday by W. C. Kunzmann, convention vice-president.

The television forum will mark the opening session, with Thomas T. Goldsmith, Jr., director of research of Allen Dumont Laboratories, discussing "Recent Technical Advances in Television," and Sherman Price of Filmedia Corp,. New York, speaking on "The Scientific Approach to Television Program Production." These papers replace two which had been previously scheduled. The conference will also be highlighted by the presentation of the Society's "Journal Award."

Army-Navy Day will be observed April 18 when officers of the armed forces will lead discussions on training films and photographic science as applied to war needs.

## O'Connor Says Runs Same as in 1920's

NEW HAVEN, April 11.—The present general system of clearances in the New York area has been in effect since the early 1920's, John J. O'Connor, Universal vice-president, stated in a deposition read in Federal District Court here today during the trial of the Prefect Theatres' anti-trust suit against eight distributing companies. New York City has always had clearance over Westchester County, and four towns there have always had it over Portchester, O'Connor explained.

His deposition took up the morning and early afternoon, after which the plaintiffs introduced a deposition from William Whitman, RKO assistant-secretary, who testified to the circumstances of his company's acquisition of the Embassy Theatre, Portchester, in 1934.

## Boasberg Holds Final 'Drive' Meet Today

Charles Boasberg, new RKO Metropolitan district manager here, serving as captain of the 1944 Ned Depinet Drive, will hold the final drive meeting at the New York exchange this morning, assuming his new duties immediately.

The meeting, which will be attended by branch manager Phil Hodes and the local sales staff, will also be joined by Robert Mochrie, general sales manager, and Nat Levy, Eastern division sales head. The drive, now in its tenth week, will end on May 18.

## Bomber Named 'Barker'

An American bomber, believed to be based in England, has been christened "The Barker," in honor of the Variety Clubs of America, and will soon bear on its fuselage a reproduction of the Variety symbol—the showman with the high silk hat.

## Coast Flashes

*Hollywood, April 1*

HAL B. WALLIS left here today on the Superchief for a two-week trip to Washington and New York where he will confer with his attorney, Loyd Wright, and possibly complete arrangements for his future production activities.

•

Perc Westmore, head of the Warner studio makeup department, is completing the final draft of a book on the art of makeup.

•

Paramount has signed Hal Walker to a new directorial contract. His first assignment will be "Out of This World."

•

Jack Chertok's production schedule at Warners has been augmented by "The Land I Have Chosen."

## Chicago Local Names 8 for IATSE Meet

CHICAGO, April 11.—Eight delegates were elected at the week-end by 500 members of the projectionists' union Local No. 110 to represent them at the convention of the IATSE at St Louis, opening May 25.

The eight are: Eugene Atkinson, business manager; James Gorman, president; Frank Galluzzo, vice-president; Clarence Jalas, assistant business manager; Charles McNeil and Sam Klugman, executive board members; Larry Strong and Joseph Rossberger of the membership at large.

## Burt Balaban, 22, is In South Pacific

Burt B. Balaban, 22 years old, son of Barney Balaban, president of Paramount Pictures, is a combat photographer with the Marines in the South Pacific.

He joined the Marines in the Fall of 1942 and after training at Quantico was assigned to further studies in photography at 20th Century-Fox and Paramount studios in Hollywood.

## Grainger to Conduct Coast Sales Meet

James R. Grainger, president of Republic Pictures, will conduct a sales meeting at the company's Hollywood studio during the week of April 21-28. He left New York yesterday for the Coast, stopping over in Minneapolis, Seattle and San Francisco.

Grainger will arrive in Hollywood April 21 and is not expected to return here until May 1.

## Morrison Named to Selznick Agency

HOLLYWOOD, April 11.—David O. Selznick, brother of the late Myron Selznick, as a trustee of the estate, today appointed Charles Morrison to represent him in the continuation of the Myron Selznick Agency.

Morrison will assume charge of the talent agency immediately.

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# M-G-MUSIC!




Dough!




Lewis Stone, Mickey Rooney,
Herbert Marshall, Bonita Granville

Cash!




Charles Boyer, Ingrid Bergman,
Joseph Cotten

Mazuma!




Lucille Ball, Dick Powell

Coin!




Lionel Barrymore, Van Johnson,
Marilyn Maxwell

Shekels!




Van Johnson, June Allyson, Gloria
DeHaven, Jose Iturbi, Jimmy Durante,
Harry James, Xavier Cugat, Gracie Allen,
Lena Horne and many more


Slave to a secret she has sworn to keep... her very charm and beauty are a curse that tempt her to dream of and do things that are forbidden!

THE CURRENT BEST THRILLER!

ANNA NEAGLE RICHARD GREENE

in

# Yellow Canary

with

NOVA PILBEAM · LUCIE MANNHEIM · ALBERT LIEVEN

Produced & Directed by HERBERT WILCOX

RKO RADIO PICTURES

# See Raw Film Covered in Draft Ruling

(*Continued from page* 1)

Burrows, chief of the WPB motion picture section, explained that relief for raw stock manufacturers was seen in that section of the Selective Service list giving WPB authority over component parts of approved critical programs when such production is not under the direct supervision of the Army, Navy or other claimant agencies.

While "component parts" generally are defined as electronic and similar equipment, Burrows expressed the belief that raw stock actually could be considered in that category since without film, cameras, X-ray machines and other apparatus would be useless.

**Agree with Burrows**

Selective Service representatives at the conference agreed with Burrows that the definition should be so extended, and it is believed appropriate action to insure uninterrupted continuance of film manufacture will be taken immediately. Issuance of the Selective Service list has made the set-up much clearer, Burrows said, and Army and Navy representatives and WPB local divisional managers will be able to step in and endorse or countersign special requests for deferment to be submitted by raw stock manufacturers to State Selective Service directors, who will be empowered by today's orders to approve them.

While the new critical list was seen as protecting the supply of raw stock, there were no provisions for deferment of men engaged in any other of the categories of motion picture and broadcasting operations carried in the former lists of essential occupations, but Burrows expressed the belief that the motion picture industry, as such, would not be unduly handicapped.

**Wage Controls Block Operators' Raises**

WASHINGTON, April 11.—Exhibitors in many sections today were disclosed to have a new labor problem for which they are attempting to work out a solution. Reports to the Wage Stabilization Board show that in many areas, projectionists are asking for increased pay and the exhibitors, experiencing capacity business, are anxious to give it to them but find themselves up against the 15 percent limitation of President Roosevelt's wage control program.

Quite generally, it was said, operators' wages have already been increased ten percent, leaving only a five percent leeway under control rulings, necessitating an application to the Government for approval of greater increases.

A similar situation is said to prevail in other industries.

**N. Y. Stops All Over 26**

Col. Arthur V. McDermott, New York City Selective Service chief, yesterday stopped inducting all men over 26 until Washington can define to his satisfaction the meaning of "war supporting activities."

# *Rentals from Italy Are Held in U. S. Escrow*

(*Continued from page* 1)

**logical warfare now being used to rehabilitate the Italian people," Riskin declared, adding that the OWI plans to ask the American industry for additional films, stressing dubbed versions this time rather than foreign sub-titling.**

Physical distribution of the films, which the OWI selected from both the American and British industries, is handled by the Army's Psychological Warfare Branch. Besides the 300 theatres now in operation, seven mobile units are employed to show films close to the front lines in Italy, Riskin said.

Questioned about the possibility of PWB turning distribution back to American film companies in Southern Italy and Sicily, Riskin said that the intent is to do this as soon as possible. "The OWI is hopeful, in fact, it feels that it is most desirable that commercial interests assume control of distribution. Revenue being derived from the showing of these films is being deposited in special accounts for all companies since the OWI is merely acting as a trustee for the companies," Riskin said. Admission prices, which are regulated by the OWI, range from 35 to 70 lire.

**Shown on Priority Basis**

Riskin revealed that the 40 American films and 12 British films selected so far by the OWI for distribution in Italy and Sicily are being shown on a priority basis with special attention being given to their inherent propaganda value. "Eventually all films will be exhibited," he said.

Musicals and comedies, according to Riskin, are the most popular with the Italians. Only five or six of the 40 films selected were war films. "In the early stages," he added, "the people of Italy were not favorably inclined toward propaganda in films. Shorts and newsreels are doing the propaganda job for OWI," Riskin explained.

**PWB's structure for following the invasion with films will probably be supervised by Major Arthur Loew from London, as OWI representative there, Riskin disclosed. It will be a joint undertaking to open markets for films of both American and British industries.**

Possibilities of American companies realizing any substantial revenue at present or in the immediate post-war period from any of the conquered European territories were discounted by Riskin. However, early unfreezing of whatever accumulated revenue is in North Africa from the showing of American films over which OWI controls policy is viewed as a possibility, according to Riskin.

Riskin disclosed that the PWB in Italy confiscated large supplies of Italian and German films when it took over exhibition for civilians. "Theatres were getting a good supply of both Italian and German films," he added. "American films are doing excellent business in Italy," he said, adding that Italian civilians comprise most of the audiences.

## *CBS Resuming 'Live' Telecasts May 5*

Columbia Broadcasting's New York television station, WCBW, will resume limited production of 'live' television programs beginning May 5, it was announced here yesterday. Temporarily, the productions will be limited to two hours a week, replacing the Friday evening transmission of motion picture film.

The CBS move follows a similar one by NBC which resumed production of 'live' shows on Monday from WNBT in New York with an address by James L. Fly, chairman of the Federal Communications Commission and the television premiere of M-G-M's "Patrolling the Ether," short subject.

## *Studios, 'IA' Argue Seniority Rights*

(*Continued from page* 1)

terday's sessions and will also occupy the key point in today's negotiations. Different demands of each of the 11 IATSE studio craft locals on the question of seniority provisions is understood to be leading to protracted negotiations on the question with each local presenting its demands individually.

Once the seniority provisions of the new contract are agreed upon discussions will turn to final points remaining to be cleared up which include provisions for grievance machinery and the length of the new agreement.

## *Radio Men Will Aid 'Belle' Promotion*

Radio commentators and news analysts attended a screening here yesterday of "The Memphis Belle," U. S. 8th Army Air Force combat report, in the Paramount home office, followed by luncheon at Sardi's, at which they pledged support in promotion of the film which will open in 500 key theatres throughout the country Friday, preceded by openings here tomorrow in 14 Broadway houses.

Attending the screening and luncheon were: John W. Vandercook of NBC, president of the Association of Radio News Analysts; Major George Fielding Elliot, CBS; W. W. Chaplin, NBC; Caesar Searchinger, NBC; Major A. A. Schechter, War Department bureau of public relations; Alec Moss, Paramount exploitation manager, and Burt Champion, Paramount publicity department's radio contact.

## *WPB Expects Larger 16mm Stock Output*

(*Continued from page* 1)

plain that for some weeks it has been virtually impossible to find any film on the market, officials explaining this situation as due to the heavy demands for military purposes. Since the beginning of this month, however, the military have been barred from "raids" on the civilian allocation and it is expected that film will begin to flow to the general market soon.

# *MPTOA for No Lawsuit*

(*Continued from page* 1)

of its anti-trust suit against the five decree signers and move to divorce exhibition from production-distribution.

Apparently anticipating objections in some industry quarters to reports of such a stand, the MPTOA, in a bulletin issued from its New York headquarters yesterday over the signature of Kuykendall stated that the organization has "never subscribed" to the theory that "we must either have a new consent decree or trial of the lawsuit."

Warners explained yesterday that Bernhard's withdrawal as MPTOA director and trustee does not affect membership of over 400 Warner theatres in that organization. The four other film companies with theatre affiliates which have representatives on MPTOA's board are understood not to be considering similar moves.

**'Suit Should Be Discarded'**

Yesterday's bulletin from the MPTOA emphasized that the organization is not in favor of the lawsuit as a trade practice solution, as reported. "We do not urge that the lawsuit be tried, as we most certainly don't believe any court decision in this suit will help anybody. Such a decision could be no better than a consent decree at its best, and could be even more destructive. MPTOA doesn't believe that our serious economic and commercial problems can ever be resolved by litigation, court decrees or court decisions. The best that a lawsuit can ever do is to redress a specific wrong to an individual. We think the suit should be discarded altogether," the bulletin states.

"If we must have a new decree," the bulletin further states, MPTOA proposes basic features. These are the seven recommendations submitted by MPTOA's executive committee to Clark in February and include a simplified standard contract, selling six months' releases at one time with a 20 per cent cancellation and with all prices designated, no designated playdates, no further circuit expansion, a three-year decree, expanded arbitration without lawyers, and decree changes recommended by either party.

## *WE Directors and Officers Reelected*

At the annual stockholders meeting of Western Electric held here yesterday all members of the board of directors were reelected. They are: Clarance G. Stoll, William F. Hosford, T. Kennedy Stevenson, Walter L. Brown, Stanley Bracken, Frederick W. Bierwirth, David Levinger, S. Wallace Murkland, Edgar S. Bloom, Harvey D. Gibson, William B. Joyce, Guy W. Vaughan and Charles J. Whipple.

At a directors' meeting following, all officers were reelected: Stoll, president; Hosford, Stevenson, Brown, Bracken, Bierwirth, Levinger and Frederick R. Lack, vice-presidents; Norman R. Frame, secretary; George B. Proud, treasurer, and Murkland, comptroller.

## Red Cross Reports Still Doubling '43

(Continued from page 1)

include the following: Robb & Rowley circuit, 95 houses in Texas, Oklahoma and Arkansas, $30,000; Wometco Theatres, 21 houses in Miami territory, $20,623, plus $1,500 donated by the circuit, making an average of more than $1,000 per theaters, which also kept up with the houses, $14,138; Salt Lake City, John Rugar, exhibitor chairman, reported $45,195 for 112 theatres, an average of more than $400 per theater. Returns are still to come from 145 houses in that region.

In Buffalo, Max Yellen reported $29,960 from 71 theaters, also averaging over $400, with 210 houses yet to report. Albany's total up to yesterday, according to Lou Golding, exhibitor chairman, was $51,548 for 128 theatres, which also kept up with the $400 average. Another 88 houses from the Albany territory are still to report.

## 'Wassell' Trade Show Set for April 21

Special trade showings of Paramount's "The Story of Dr. Wassell," produced by Cecil B. DeMille, will be held in all exchange cities April 21, with the exception of Chicago where it will be screened April 20.

The picture will be sold on separate contract, Charles M. Reagan, distribution manager, said here yesterday.

## Program Offered for 5th War Loan Participation

(Continued from page 1)

not be asked to give away admissions with bond sales when merchants, for example, do not give away merchandise.

It was found, moreover, that the 4,000 "free days" in the last drive did not move bonds as effectively as did the 3,300 bond premieres. The latter plan, recommended for the future, could have been used exclusively in the Fourth War Loan if exhibitors had not been "shortsighted in refusing to break clearances to make pictures available for premieres," the report adds.

**Stars' Time Wasted**

Appearances of Hollywood stars, who sold 69,900,000 "E" bonds during the last drive, is regarded by the committee as a valuable function, but the report calls for giving "experienced bond-campaigners" a voice in planning future tours because "the stars' time in some communities has been wasted."

The committee recommends that in the future, local chairmen "devise ways and means to raise money to develop and conduct an effective campaign." Many regional leaders, the report claims, "avoid the chairman's responsibility because they know the only way they can complete the job is by using their personal funds."

In order that an improved press book may be prepared for the Fifth War Loan, the WAC is called upon to ask local chairmen to send to headquarters a description of all new or unique bond-selling ideas. Securing accurate reports from state chairmen, it is pointed out, has been difficult in all campaigns. Suggested for study are the plans used by John J. Friedl of Minnesota and Robert J. Garland of Colorado.

"Repeatedly unsuccessful," says the report, has been the practice of stopping shows for two or three-minute bond "plugs." Trailers, clips and newsreels are regarded as most effective. The committee believes that every theatre should be either a bond-issuing agent or a sub-agent. This status was held by 6,000 at the beginning of the Fourth War Loan drive.

**Streamline Organization**

The report suggests that the organization set-up for future drives be streamlined. "Many chairmen have become inactive as a result of sickness, other business or patriotic duties or have been dulled and worn by previous campaigns," it explains.

The committee said that the trade press was a helpful medium for keeping exhibitors informed of all campaign developments.

## N.Y. Business Is Soaring

(Continued from page 1)

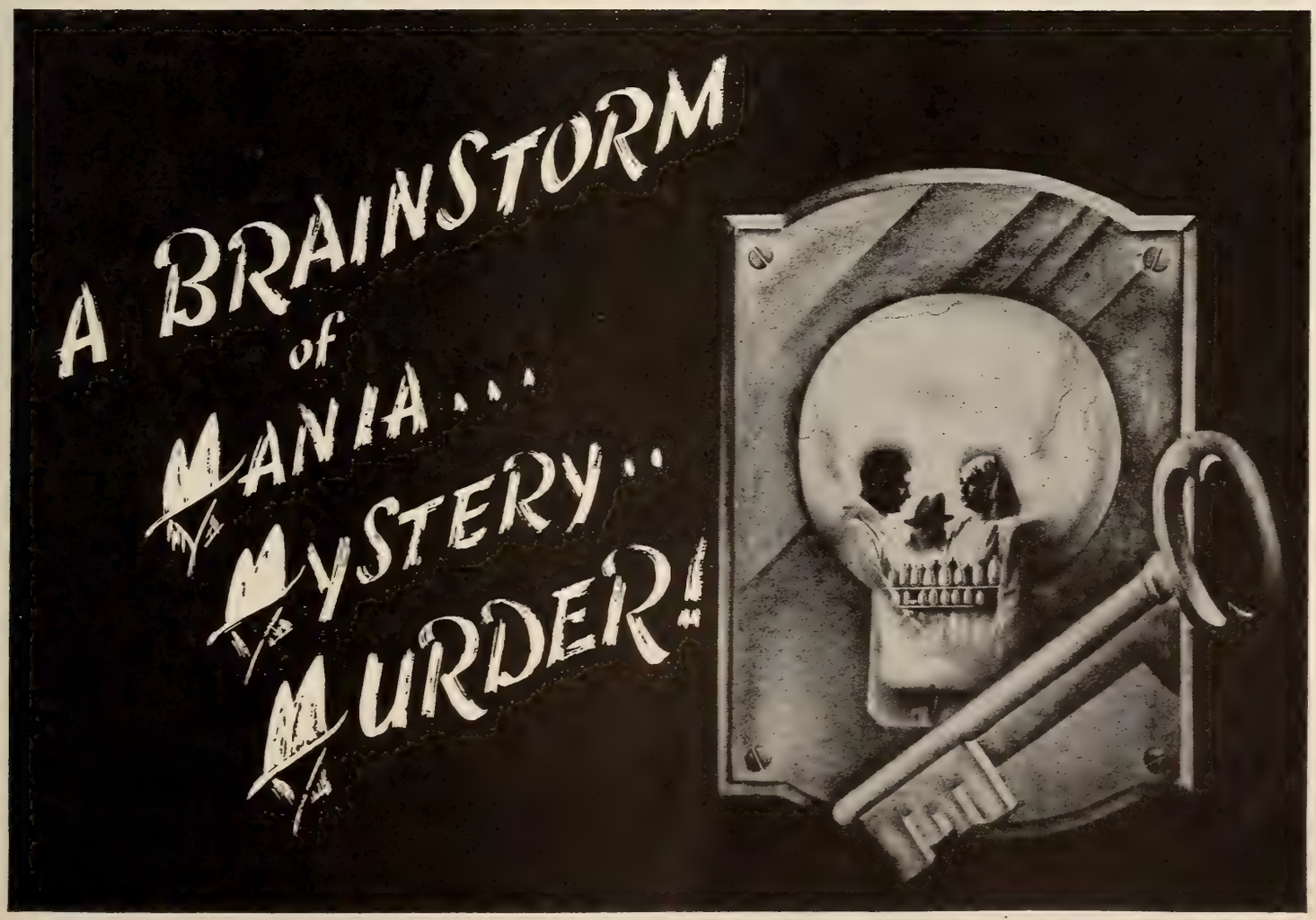
yesterday and Monday failed to affect business.

Radio City Music Hall bettered Monday's mark of over $17,000 yesterday when customers arrived even earlier to quickly fill the theatre, which is opening this week at eight A.M. Second week's gross of $127,000 represents about all the house can do in view of the length of the show which runs about two hours and 40 minutes. Business at the Roxy yesterday and Monday was close to that of the Music Hall with the theatre winding up its first week of "Four Jills in a Jeep" with about $103,000 instead of $98,000 as indicated previously.

**$5,100 for 'Snow White'**

More than $5,100 was taken in yesterday at the Manhattan Theatre where "Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs" started its second week of a revival after an absence of six years from Broadway. Price scale here ranges from 60 cents at opening time of 9 A.M. to $1.20 for late afternoon and evening with the house remaining open until 2 A.M. There are no special prices for children. First week's gross was $32,000.

The Paramount also is grossing better than originally estimated, with $66,000 recorded on the seventh week of "Lady in the Dark" to better the sixth week's mark.





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A Riot Of Rhythm And Revelry
In The Gayest Musical Laugh-Hit
Of The Season!

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**VERA VAGUE**

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MAUDE EBURNE • CARL "ALFALFA" SWITZER • ARTHUR LOFT

Joseph Santley – Director • Screenplay by Jack Townley — Aleen Leslie

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# MOTION PICTURE DAILY

Alert, Intelligent and Indispensable to the Motion Picture Industry

VOL. 55. NO. 73 NEW YORK, U. S. A., THURSDAY, APRIL 13, 1944 TEN CENTS

## Theatres May Not Absorb New U.S. Tax

### *Reduction of Admissions Only Course, Says U. S.*

By BERTRAM F. LINZ

WASHINGTON, April 10.—Motion picture exibitors desiring to absorb part of the comparatively new one-cent-on-five admission tax can do so only by cutting back their established admission price, although operators of cabarets can absorb all or any part of the tax on their sales, U. S. Internal Revenue Bureau officials declared here recently.

**A spokesman for the bureau pointed out that this circumstance is due to the requirement that the tax be based on the price of admission and shown separately at the box office and on tickets, and the only way in which any part of the tax can "be absorbed" is by reducing the admission price.**

The bureau spokesman explained that the cabaret tax is levied on the

(*Continued on page* 10)

## *Raw Film Aid Seen Certain*

WASHINGTON, April 12. — Assurance of relief to raw stock manufacturers on problems of manpower was seen here today as closest since the beginning of the war.

**War Production Board officials today expressed the opinion that three-fourths of all plants manufacturing raw stock will be eligible for assistance in retaining workers.**

Plants in which deferments are to be granted because of their participa-

(*Continued on page* 10)

## *Men Past 26 Still Liable for Draft*

Men 26 and over are not being permanently deferred from military service, but are simply having their induction "postponed," Col. Arthur V. McDermott, New York City Selective Service director, warned yesterday.

For the time being, he said, they will remain as they are on draft board rolls, but they may still be inducted.

(*Continued on page* 10)

## *Sol Lesser Planning $5,000,000 Program*

**Hollywood, April 12. — Sol Lesser, independent producer at present releasing through United Artists and RKO, today announced a $5,000,000 production program spanning a two-season period. His first, "Three's a Family," slated for UA release, will start shooting in June. Others on the schedule include "Mission 51," "Girl Shy GI" and "The Underdog."**

## IATSE Talks Nearing End

The studios expect to wind up contract negotiations with the 11 IATSE studio craft locals here either today or tomorrow, it was learned at the close of yesterday's sessions in the office of Pat Casey, producers' labor contact. Meetings between company heads, their studio labor representatives and IATSE representatives started March 6 and are now in their sixth week.

Agreement was reached yesterday between the studios and the IATSE locals on the question of seniority rights, and the IATSE representatives submitted their demand for a new five-year pact with provisions for reopening the contract every year for

(*Continued on page* 11)

## Says Schine Wants Same Treatment As Decree Signers

BUFFALO, April 12.—Having instructed counsel for the defendant corporations to file briefs, Federal Judge John Knight today adjourned until April 24 pre-trial proceedings of the Governments' anti-trust suit against Schine Chain Theatres.

Trial date, postponed from 1942, is May 19, 1944. Judge Knight indicated the case will be called on that date.

Milton Friedman, one of the three Schine attorneys, introduced among the defendants' exhibits a copy of MOTION PICTURE DAILY, dated Jan. 19, 1944, which contains an interview with Tom Clark in Washington. The story referred to quoted Clark as saying that the "status quo" of the Schine case would be continued until

(*Continued on page* 10)

## *Harry Arthur Here to Promote New Unit*

Harry Arthur, Jr., general manager of Fanchon and Marco and organizer of the new Exhibitors Distributing and Producing Corp., has arrived here from St. Louis for a series of conferences relating to the enterprise. He expects to be in the East for about two weeks.

Upon leaving St. Louis, Arthur said he is now devoting a large part of his time to EDP affairs but that there are no developments which could be revealed at present.

## *Suggestions on Television Allocations Nearly Set*

Television observers here are understood to hold that Radio Technical Planning Board panel recommendations for allocation of channels for television and frequency-modulation broadcasting are about ready. These conclusions were reached from the simultaneous revelation, last week, of General Electric's postwar television plans by Dr. Walter R. G. Baker, vice-president in charge of electronics and other G. E. representatives, and the observations on postwar television made by Dr. Alfred N. Goldsmith, television engineer, at luncheon meetings here last Thursday. Dr. Baker is chairman of RTPB and Dr. Goldsmith is vice-chairman and chairman of an RTPB panel on spectrum utilization.

RTPB's television committee will

(*Continued on page* 11)

## *No Vanguard Sales Cabinet Seen Now*

HOLLYWOOD, April 12.—While the occasion may arise for Vanguard to make limited use of one or more men for the handling of the David O. Selznick company's product, Neil Agnew, Vanguard vice-president and sales chief, sees no necessity now for superimposing a highly geared selling crew on the existing United Artists' structure, it was learned today.

It had been reported earlier that a special sales cabinet to handle Vanguard product in a limited number of key cities was under consideration by the company.

It was learned that present operations will continue without basic al-

(*Continued on page* 10)

## Loew's, 20th, Rank Deal Hits Impasse

### *M & B Agreement Lacks Loew's Confirmation*

By PETER BURNUP

LONDON, April 12.—Ratification of a three-way agreement by Spyros Skouras, president of 20th Century - Fox; Sam Eckman, Loew's managing director here, and J. Arthur Rank, for the transfer to Rank of Ostrer Brothers' Metropolis & Bradford Trust Co. stock, controlling Gaumont-British, has been delayed, it became known here today.

Sidney Wright, Loew's attorney here, stated that the negotiations had proceeded as far as the M-G-M repre-

(*Continued on page* 10)

## *Hazen Leaves WB Saturday*

Joseph H. Hazen, vice-president and member of the board of directors of Warner Bros., yesterday confirmed reports that he had submitted his resignation from the company, to take effect on Saturday.



Joseph Hazen

Hazen declined to discuss his future plans, other than to say that he would first take a vacation and then would announce a new association. It was reported that Hazen has several offers under consideration, all

(*Continued on page* 11)

## *McDonald Heads Wac Field Drive*

Charles B. McDonald, RKO home office executive, has been appointed field director for the industry's Women's Army Corps recruiting drive by chairman Edward L. Alperson. McDonald, who will be in contact with WAC state and area chairmen, through whom the national drive will be conducted, has set up headquarters

(*Continued on page* 11)

# Personal Mention

HARRY M. WARNER, president of Warner Brothers, has arrived in New York from Hollywood.

•

EDWARD RAFTERY, United Artists president; GRADWELL SEARS, vice-president in charge of distribution, and CARL LESERMAN, general sales manager, are expected back in New York from the Coast on Monday.

•

W. C. GEHRING, 20th Century-Fox Western sales manager, left yesterday for a visit to Des Moines, Salt Lake City and Los Angeles.

•

JOHN TURNER and LESTER KRIEGER, Warner theatre Philadelphia film buyers and bookers, are in New York for a few days.

•

JOHN J. BYRNE, M-G-M Detroit district manager, and FRANK DOWNEY, Detroit branch manager, arrived yesterday for home office conferences.

•

CHARLES NILES, former theatre editor of the *Hartford Times*, is now stationed at the U. S. Naval Training Base at Sampson, N. Y.

•

LEO HANNAN, Warner Philadelphia booker, has left a local hospital and is recovering at home from a serious illness.

•

A. L. PRATCHETT, Paramount general manager for Central America, has returned to Mexico following home office conferences.

•

NELLIE WHITTING, Monogram foreign department executive here, has left for a Southern vacation.

•

EDWARD SCHREIBER, War Activities Committee publicity director, will return today from Washington.

•

BOB KAUFMAN of 20th Century-Fox's exploitation department left yesterday for Norfolk.

•

C. C. MOSKOWITZ, Loew's vice-president, is due back April 24 from a Florida vacation.

•

I. J. HOFFMAN, Warner circuit Connecticut zone manager, is in New York from New Haven.

•

DON JACOCKS, Warner circuit Newark zone manager, has returned to his desk after a brief vacation.

•

CHARLES FRANCIS COE will arrive in New York Saturday from Florida.

## Rites Tomorrow for Mrs. Julia Weaver

HOLLYWOOD, April 12.—Funeral services for Mrs. Julia A. Weaver will be held on Friday morning in the Church of the Blessed Sacrament here. Mrs. Weaver was the mother of William R. Weaver, Hollywood editor of *Quigley Publications*. She died of pneumonia on Tuesday evening at the age of 79.

# Insider's Outlook

By RED KANN

*Hollywood, April 12*

COLLAR your own man in any one of the choice locations around this town and whisper into his normally receptive ear. With super speed, Hollywood communication lines click into action, and the whisper roars on its way. This is the place de luxe for rumors, exaggerations and distortions. And angles, of course.

If this can happen with sidewalk, or across-the-table conversation, figure for yourself what goes on when facts distinguish the scenery.

■

Because Hollywood means production and production is always synonymous with Hollywood, the big conversation of the moment is the impasse between the Warners and Hal B. Wallis. Second is the dramatic swing of the popular, widely-known and capable Neil F. Agnew, for 25 years with Paramount, to David O. Selznick and Vanguard. But second, only in Hollywood's eyes.

Agnew sells films. This is an admitted essential as the colony views it, the chief noise going to production. Distribution is ever more a pretty vague affair and exhibition even less distinct to the majority of the local gentry. But a producer, and one of Wallis' stature—that's something else again.

■

The Wallis break has been cooking for some time. In fact, in some directions its actual development already had been discounted. This is predicated on the assumption the split, with considerable background behind it, needed time, and only that, to crystallize. The incident of Jack Warner accepting the Academy "Oscar" for "Casablanca" when Wallis, its producer, was in the audience has been built up to disproportionate size and has had attributed to it more weight than circumstance actually rated.

■

Wallis and Jack Warner had not been getting along too cozily for quite a spell. Rumblings of disaffection over their arrangement have been a recurring standby here for months. On the Warner side have been reputed grumblings over how expensive a producer Wallis is, how his pictures have gone over budget, how the management wants to function like a football team and how this has been difficult because Wallis presumably preferred to play it solo.

Over on his side of the fence, the story goes Wallis has had no serious complaints; that he made a deal and has delivered eminently well under it; that whatever may be said now is being said in the light of the break and ought to be appraised with this in view.

■

His deal is interesting and without counterpart since Irving Thalberg functioned at M-G-M, in all probability. When Wallis stepped down as Warner executive producer several years ago to produce on his own under company management and finances, he was given first call on properties, players and directors. The outcome has been a long series of high-calibred attractions.

According to *Motion Picture Herald-Fame* tabulations of champion producers, he led the pack with seven monthly box-office champions in 1942-43. It's a record untouched, before or since by any other producer throughout Hollywood's breadth and length.

■

The understanding is studio and producer were agreed to disagree, but that negotiations to cover an approximate year to go, contract-wise, hit rock-bottom on a method of fixing the participations Wallis enjoys. The studio asserts he breached his contract and thus it has been abrogated. The producer, of course, recognizes no such circumstance.

This is the probable outcome: Warner is no longer interested in having Wallis remain. In turn, Wallis wants to get out and can write his own ticket whether with Selznick or M-G-M or any other individual or studio here. All that bars complete divorce between them, therefore, is a solution drawn out of an amicable settlement.

This sounds like a matter for negotiations, not necessarily a lawsuit.

■

Meanwhile, Agnew arrived from New York this week, went into immediate huddles with his new associates. Selznick's final objective, widely discussed here and subject to considerable speculation, is not clear. Officially, he stresses intention of remaining with, and building up, United Artists, of which he is one-quarter owner today.

The big and solitary question is: Will one-quarter keep him content?

# Coming Events

**April 14**—Film industry's 50th anniversary observance begins.
**April 14**—Episcopal Actor's Guild annual entertainment, Hotel Waldorf-Astoria, New York.
**April 14**—Annual MPPDA meeting resumes, New York.
**April 17**—M-G-M lunch for Louis C. Ingram, new Memphis branch manager, Hotel Peabody, Memphis.
**April 20-21**—Warner district managers' sales meeting, New York.
**April 30-May 10**—Motion picture division drive for Catholic Charities, New York.
**May 8**—PRC sales meeting, Hollywood.
**May 9-10**—Annual meeting, Ohio ITO, Deshler-Wallick Hotel, Columbus.
**May 11-17**—Theatres' recruiting campaign for Women's Army Corps.

## Screen Reels' Tribute To 50th Anniversary

Representatives of the trade press, newspapers and press associations yesterday attended a showing of the five newsreels' tributes to the 50th anniversary of commercial motion pictures at Universal's home office projection room. All reels have inserted in their current issues special sequences culled from some of the industry's historical moments to mark the anniversary, which will be tomorrow.

A special Columbia short, part of the Screen Snapshots series, which has been devoted to the anniversary, was also screened. Glenn Allvine, secretary of the industry's Public Information Committee, showed footage reclaimed from the archives of the Library of Congress, some of which has been used by the reels.

Arthur S. White, said to be the oldest living motion picture actor, and Mrs. White, were also present. White appeared in Thomas Edison's "The Life of an American Fireman," made in 1903, and said to be the first motion picture story.

## Reviving Demand for Two Men per Booth

CHICAGO, April 12.—Projectionists Local Union 110 is believed to be reviving the demand for two men in a booth, it was learned here today. The issue is expected to affect 172 theatres unless "adequate sanitary facilities" are installed immediately.

A full statement on the demand is promised at the weekend by Gene Atkinson, new business manager of the union.

## W. C. Alexander Dies

BIRMINGHAM, Ala., April 12.—Walter C. Alexander of this city, representative of National Theatre Supply, died recently in Clinton, Tenn.

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# HIT!



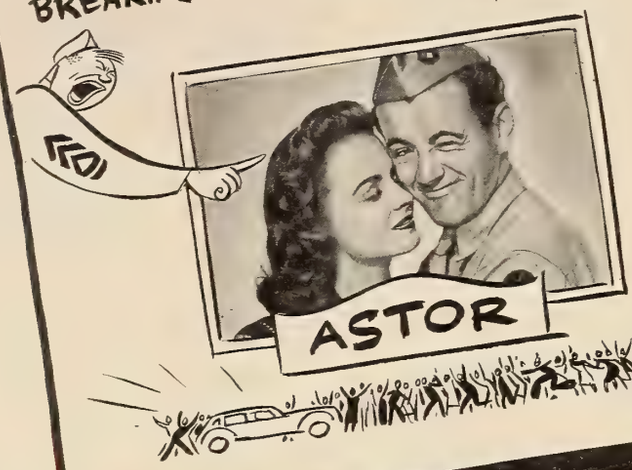
# EVERYWHERE!

Salt Lake City tops the Biggest of YEARS with 250% biz! Los Angeles terrific in 4 houses day and date! Another GEM from

# M-G-M

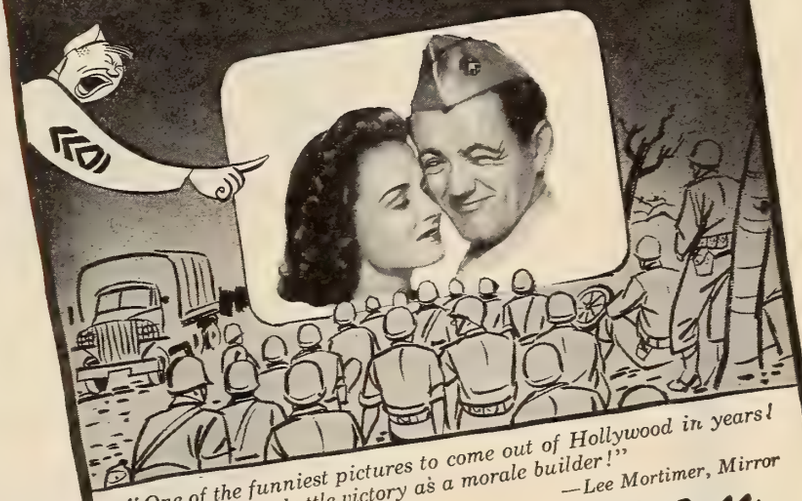
## OVER HERE!

BREAKING 20 YEAR ASTOR RECORDS




## OVER THERE!

RUSHED TO COMBAT AREAS FOR THE TROOPS



*"One of the funniest pictures to come out of Hollywood in years! Worth a major battle victory as a morale builder!"*
—Lee Mortimer, Mirror

M-G-M's

## SEE HERE PRIVATE HARGROVE

4th HAPPY WEEK

ASTOR
BROADWAY & 45th St.

Continuous! Doors open 10 A. M. Popular Prices. Buy War Bonds and Stamps

GLAD AD FROM BROADWAY!

*"The industry's proudest offering 'The Memphis Belle' technicolor saga of our air heroes. Book it now!"*

Ho



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# WALT DISNEY'S

*Full Length Feature Production*

# SNOW WHITE

## and the SEVEN DWARFS

IN MULTIPLANE TECHNICOLOR

Distributed by RKO RADIO PICTURES, INC.

# HUM!..

It's the same old sensational success story everywhere! . . . In NEW YORK the Manhattan Theatre draws milling crowds amazing even for crowded Broadway. First week's business positively FABULOUS (Ask us for the almost unbelievable figures!) . . . In OMAHA the Brandeis cracks all opening records to spearhead the success of a great area premiere . . . Likewise in the ROCHESTER area showing. Two theatres were needed in Rochester for the opening (and they could have filled a third). Century Theatre run phenomenal . . . In SYRACUSE, the Paramount hits a new opening record, and the other theatres in the area hit a dizzy pace . . . In the BUFFALO area premiere, the Twentieth Century Theatre opening hangs up a new record for paid admissions, with business everywhere else outstanding . . . In PROVIDENCE, with a Good Friday near-record opening, week end and subsequent business is soaring to the box-office stratosphere . . . Guess we'll be hearing the same from all the openings and holdovers this week and next from everywhere.

*Ho, hum, isn't it great to give everybody such a treat?*

# Coast Flashes

*Hollywood, April 12*

LEON FROMKESS has announced PRC's purchase of "Crime, Inc.," Martin Mooney's 1934 expose which resulted in Thomas E. Dewey's appointment as special prosecutor in New York. Fromkess will produce the film with Mooney as technical adviser and J. Carrol Naish as star.

•

Director Mitchell Leisen will leave here for New York Saturday after winding up "Practically Yours" for Paramount. He will return here on April 28 to begin preparation for "Kitty," which will be done in Technicolor.

•

Nathaniel Finston, M-G-M music head, has been named to the U. S. State Department's music advisory committee functioning in conjunction with musical interchange among the American republics.

•

John Garfield will star in Warners "This Love of Ours," the story of Al Schmid, Marine blinded on Guadalcanal. Jerry Wald will produce. Garfield, returned from an overseas tour, has been reclassified 1-A.

•

Lance Heath, who for the past 18 months has been assistant to Arch Reeve, Western division secretary of the industry's Public Relations Committee, has resigned to enter the merchandising business.

•

Jack L. Warner is now a member of the industrial advisory Victory Garden Committee of Greater Los Angeles, whose purpose is to encourage victory gardening.

•

Barbara Stanwyck will star in Warners' "Christmas in Connecticut," which has been added to William Jacobs' schedule.

•

M-G-M has purchased "Cabbages and Kings," featuring Alec Templeton's music carnival background, starring Judy Garland and Gene Kelly.

•

Y. Frank Freeman will leave here Friday on the Superchief for two weeks of conferences at the Paramount home office.

## RKO Reception for Davis and Haley

A reception for Joan Davis and Jack Haley was given here yesterday by RKO at the Hampshire House. Among those who attended were: N. Peter Rathvon, Ned Depinet, Edward L. Alperson, Malcolm Kingsberg, Robert Mochrie, Charles Boasberg, Walter Branston, William H. Clarke, Walter Derham, Frank Drumm, John Farmer, Harry Gittleson, Robert Kawkinson, Harry J. Michalson, Harold Mirisch, Mike Poller, Vincent C. Patterson, Jr., A. A. Schubart, Sol Schwartz, Garret Van Wagner, Arthur Willi, Major L. E. Thompson, Gordon Youngman and Cy Wills.

Also: Ralph B. Austrian, Arthur Brilant, Leon Bamberger, James Dunn, Harold Hendee, Michael Hoffay, S. Barret McCormick, Rutgers Neilson, Fred Norman, Irving Shiffrin, Terry Turner, Kenneth B. Umbreit, and representatives of the press.

## Prefect Sets Forth Damages Estimate

NEW HAVEN, April 12.—An estimate of alleged damages suffered by the Pickwick Theatre, Greenwich, through alleged clearance discrimination, was presented in Federal District Court here today in the Prefect Theatres' anti-trust suit against eight distributing companies.

William Cutler, assistant to E. J. Peskay, operator of the Pickwick, quoted figures to show that the house made a profit in 1935-37 and suffered a loss in 1938-40. He then referred to the year ending Aug. 3, 1931 when RKO ran the Pickwick at a profit of about $200,000 and presented an estimate of the profit Prefect would have made in 1938-40 with the same amount of attendance, whereas the alleged loss totaled from $13,000 to $14,000 during each of those years.

On cross-examination, Joseph Berry, defense counsel, sought to establish that Cutler's 1935 figures left out $12,000 paid to Peskay, Edward L. Alperson and others.

It is believed that tomorrow the plaintiffs will rest, after which the defense will make several motions. First defense witness will probably be heard tomorrow afternoon or on Friday.

## $350,000 Promotion Is Set for 'Frisco'

Republic has allocated $350,000 to field campaigns on "Man from Frisco," of which $250,000 will be spent in newspapers, advertising on billboards, radio and special exploitation in the company's 32 branch cities, the remaining $100,000 having been set aside for similar promotion in subordinate cities.

The film will have a tri-city premiere on May 18 at the Paramount, San Francisco; Paramount, Oakland, and Costa, Richmond, Cal. Other prereleases are set for May 24 at the Paramount and Downtown theatres, in Hollywood and Los Angeles, respectively, and for May 25 at the Fox, St. Louis.

## Boasberg Installed As District Manager

Charles Boasberg, captain of RKO's 1944 'Ned Depinet Drive', was inducted into his new post as metropolitan district manager, succeeding Robert S. Wolff, at the final drive meeting held here yesterday, upon his arrival from a tour on behalf of the Depinet campaign.

Among those at the meeting were branch manager Phil Hodes, Herman Silverman, John Dacey, Lou Kutinsky, Ed Carroll, Charles Penser and Harry Zeitels, all from the New York branch, and Harry Michalson, A. A. Schubart, Mike Poller, Harry Gittleson, Frank Drumm and Arthur Brillant from the home office.

## Preview Radio Show

Tonight's Laffmakers' preview of United Artists' "Up in Mabel's Room," to be held at the New Gotham Theatre, will be preceded by a lobby radio broadcast over WNEW, featuring Jimmy Durante, Milton Berle, Billie Burke, Zasu Pitts, Una Merkel, Patsy Kelly and Ted Lewis among others. Martin Starr will conduct the air show.

## Chicago 'U' Gets Eastman Library

**Donation of Eastman Kodak's 16-mm. library of 300 classroom films to the University of Chicago for distribution through that institution's affiliate, Encyclopedia Britannica Films, Inc., was announced here yesterday. The U. of C. recently acquired the large school-film library of Erpi Classroom Films, which, with the Kodak product makes it probably No. 1 source of such films in this country. The investment is said to represent millions.**

**Kodak's action was said to have brought to completion an educational project undertaken over 15 years ago.**

## Refuses to Increase Navy's Film Fund

WASHINGTON, April 12.—The House Appropriations Committee today rejected a request by the Navy Department for a $2,231,000 increase in its fund for welfare and recreation, including film servicing, recommending that the current appropriation of $9,246,000 be duplicated for the fiscal year which begins July 1.

The Navy's estimates for welfare and recreation included $1,950,000 for motion picture service to Naval vessels and activities outside the Continental United States. A year ago the Navy asked for $1,650,000 for its film service, but now has pending a supplemental estimate of $450,000. The allotment is presumably for projection service and maintenance, film coming from the industry.

While the Committee refused to increase the appropriation, it was brought out that the ships' stores profits which are contributed to motion picture and other welfare and recreational activities will be close to double what the department estimated and will tend to increase the available funds by some $700,000.

## Submit Briefs Today In Century Action

Briefs requested by Judge William R. Wilson in Kings County Supreme Court in the injunction action brought by the Century Circuit, Brooklyn, to prevent the dissolution of Empire State projectionists union, will be submitted by opposing counsels today.

Century obtained an injunction to prevent the dissolution of Empire last year shortly before the union merged with IATSE Local 306. Judge Wilson reserved decision upon the conclusion of the trial several weeks ago.

## 'Parade' Screening Today

"Parade of the Past," compiled by the Fun Film Library for the 50th anniversary of the film industry, will be screened here today at three o'clock at the Preview Theatre, 1600 Broadway.

## Kaplan a Delegate

Samuel Kaplan, former president of Local 306, M. P. Machine Operators' Union, was one of 12 union members elected at a meeting last night as delegates to the IATSE international convention to be held in May.

## St. Louis Red Cross Total Is $161,595

An estimated increase of 251 per cent in Red Cross theatre collections this year for the St. Louis exchange area was reported yesterday by Harry Arthur, area exhibitor chairman, to Joseph Bernhard, national chairman of the industry's 1944 campaign.

In a preliminary report, covering Greater St. Louis, Eastern Missouri and Southern Illinois, collections totalled $161,595, compared to $45,164 last year. The pledged theatres in this area total 440.

Fox West Coast Theatres reported collections of $280,000 in the circuit's California and Arizona houses, an increase of 20 per cent over 1943.

From Cleveland, Nat Wolf, Warners' zone manager and theatre chairman for the drive, reports close to $140,000 collected in 216 theatres of northern Ohio. Of this amount, $66,864 was contributed by Greater Cleveland patrons. This is better than double last year's figures.

In Chicago, totals were reported as follows: Balaban & Katz, $51,000; Great States, $38,000; Warner Bros., $20,228; Essaness, $15,000; Oriental Theatre, $4,122; RKO Palace, $3,816 and RKO Grand, $1,426.

Collections in houses of the Interboro Circuit, operating theatres on Long Island and Brooklyn, amounted to $10,242, two and a half times last year's figures, Stanley Kolbert, general manager of the circuit, reported.

## SPG Meeting to Hear Arbitration Report

Members of the Screen Publicists Guild at a meeting at the Hotel Piccadilly here tonight will receive a full report of the current arbitration proceedings being conducted under the auspices of the American Arbitration Association on their wage and job classifications dispute with film home offices. Another highlight of the meeting will be the election of a new vice-president to succeed Carl Rigrod who resigned when he left RKO to join Donahue and Coe.

Sessions before the AAA continued yesterday with Pat Scollard of Paramount acting as the film companies' arbitrator, having replaced Major L. E. Thompson of RKO who is engaged in the IATSE studio union negotiations.

## 'Stage Door Canteen' Yields $1,522,625

HOLLYWOOD, April 12.—Sol Lesser, producer of "Stage Door Canteen," has turned over $1,522,625 profits from the film to the American Theatre Wing, which will apply the money on war charities, it was disclosed today.

Lesser estimates that "Canteen" will yield an additional $1,000,000 for ATW before the end of 1944. Scores of stars of screen, stage and radio contributed their services in making the picture, which was released through United Artists.

## Claim 'Hargrove' Record

"See Here, Private Hargrove," Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer production now at the Astor Theatre here, established a record high in its first week for any M-G-M picture shown there since 1931, the home office reports.

(CORRECTED SCHEDULE)

# RKO RADIO PICTURES INC. TRADE SHOWINGS

## OF FIVE PRODUCTIONS

| BRANCH | PLACE OF SHOWING | ADDRESS | THE FALCON OUT WEST | | DAYS OF GLORY | | YELLOW CANARY | | SHOW BUSINESS | | SEVEN DAYS ASHORE | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | | Day and Date | Time | Day and Date | Time | Day and Date | Time | Day and Date | Time | Day and Date | Time |
| Albany | Fox Projection Room | 1052 Bway. | Mon. 4/17 | 10:30 A.M. | Mon. 4/17 | 2:30 P.M. | Tues. 4/18 | 10:30 A.M. | Tues. 4/18 | 2:30 P.M. | Wed. 4/19 | 2:30 P.M. |
| Atlanta | RKO Projection Room | 191 Walton St. | Mon. 4/17 | 10:30 A.M. | Mon. 4/17 | 2:30 P.M. | Tues. 4/18 | 10:30 A.M. | Tues. 4/18 | 2:30 P.M. | Wed. 4/19 | 2:30 P.M. |
| Boston | RKO Projection Room | 122 Arlington St. | Mon. 4/17 | 11:00 A.M. | Mon. 4/17 | 2:30 P.M. | Tues. 4/18 | 11:00 A.M. | Tues. 4/18 | 2:30 P.M. | Thur. 4/20 | 2:30 P.M. |
| Buffalo | Fox Projection Room | 290 Franklin St. | Mon. 4/17 | 10:30 A.M. | Mon. 4/17 | 2:30 P.M. | Tues. 4/18 | 10:30 A.M. | Tues. 4/18 | 2:30 P.M. | Wed. 4/19 | 2:30 P.M. |
| Charlotte | Fox Projection Room | 308 So. Church St. | Mon. 4/17 | 2:00 P.M. | Mon. 4/17 | 3:30 P.M. | Tues. 4/18 | 2:00 P.M. | Tues. 4/18 | 3:30 P.M. | Wed. 4/19 | 2:30 P.M. |
| Chicago | RKO Projection Room | 1300 So. Wabash Ave. | Mon. 4/17 | 10:30 A.M. | Mon. 4/17 | 2:30 P.M. | Tues. 4/18 | 10:30 A.M. | Tues. 4/18 | 2:30 P.M. | Wed. 4/19 | 2:30 P.M. |
| Cincinnati | RKO Projection Room | 12 E. 6th St. | Mon. 4/17 | 8:15 P.M. | Mon. 4/17 | 9:45 P.M. | Tues. 4/18 | 8:15 P.M. | Tues. 4/18 | 9:45 P.M. | Wed. 4/19 | 8:15 P.M. |
| Cleveland | Fox Projection Room | 2219 Payne Ave. | Mon. 4/17 | 10:30 A.M. | Mon. 4/17 | 2:30 P.M. | Tues. 4/18 | 10:30 A.M. | Tues. 4/18 | 2:30 P.M. | Wed. 4/19 | 2:30 P.M. |
| Dallas | Paramount Proj. Rm. | 412 So. Harwood St. | Mon. 4/17 | 10:30 A.M. | Mon. 4/17 | 2:30 P.M. | Tues. 4/18 | 10:30 A.M. | Tues. 4/18 | 2:30 P.M. | Wed. 4/19 | 2:30 P.M. |
| Denver | Paramount Proj. Rm. | 2100 Stout St. | Mon. 4/17 | 10:30 A.M. | Mon. 4/17 | 2:30 P.M. | Tues. 4/18 | 10:30 A.M. | Tues. 4/18 | 2:30 P.M. | Wed. 4/19 | 2:30 P.M. |
| Des Moines | Fox Projection Room | 1300 High St. | Mon. 4/17 | 10:30 A.M. | Mon. 4/17 | 2:30 P.M. | Tues. 4/18 | 10:30 A.M. | Tues. 4/18 | 2:30 P.M. | Wed. 4/19 | 2:30 P.M. |
| Detroit | Blumenthal Proj. Rm. | 2310 Cass Ave. | Mon. 4/17 | 10:30 A.M. | Mon. 4/17 | 2:30 P.M. | Tues. 4/18 | 10:30 A.M. | Tues. 4/18 | 2:30 P.M. | Wed. 4/19 | 2:30 P.M. |
| Indianapolis | Paramount Proj. Rm. | 116 W. Michigan St. | Mon. 4/17 | 1:00 P.M. | Mon. 4/17 | 2:30 P.M. | Tues. 4/18 | 1:00 P.M. | Tues. 4/18 | 2:30 P.M. | Wed. 4/19 | 1:00 P.M. |
| Kansas City | Paramount Proj. Rm. | 1802 Wyandote | Mon. 4/17 | 10:30 A.M. | Mon. 4/17 | 2:30 P.M. | Tues. 4/18 | 10:30 A.M. | Tues. 4/18 | 2:30 P.M. | Wed. 4/19 | 2:30 P.M. |
| Los Angeles | RKO Projection Room | 1980 So. Vermont Ave. | | | Mon. 4/17 | 2:30 P.M. | Tues. 4/18 | 10:30 A.M. | Tues. 4/18 | 2:30 P.M. | Wed. 4/19 | 2:30 P.M. |
| Memphis | Fox Projection Room | 151 Vance Ave. | Mon. 4/17 | 10:30 A.M. | Mon. 4/17 | 2:30 P.M. | Tues. 4/18 | 10:30 A.M. | Tues. 4/18 | 2:30 P.M. | Wed. 4/19 | 2:30 P.M. |
| Milwaukee | Warner Projection Room | 212 W. Wisconsin Ave. | Mon. 4/17 | 10:30 A.M. | Mon. 4/17 | 2:30 P.M. | Tues. 4/18 | 10:30 A.M. | Tues. 4/18 | 2:30 P.M. | Wed. 4/19 | 2:30 P.M. |
| Minneapolis | Fox Projection Room | 1015 Currie Ave. | Mon. 4/17 | 10:30 A.M. | Mon. 4/17 | 2:30 P.M. | Tues. 4/18 | 10:30 A.M. | Tues. 4/18 | 2:30 P.M. | Wed. 4/19 | 2:30 P.M. |
| New Haven | Fox Projection Room | 40 Whiting St. | Mon. 4/17 | 10:30 A.M. | Mon. 4/17 | 2:30 P.M. | Tues. 4/18 | 10:30 A.M. | Tues. 4/18 | 2:30 P.M. | Wed. 4/19 | 2:30 P.M. |
| New Orleans | Fox Projection Room | 200 So. Liberty St. | Mon. 4/17 | 10:30 A.M. | Mon. 4/17 | 2:30 P.M. | Tues. 4/18 | 10:30 A.M. | Tues. 4/18 | 2:30 P.M. | Wed. 4/19 | 2:30 P.M. |
| New York | RKO Projection Room | 630 Ninth Ave. | | | Mon. 4/17 | 11:00 A.M.<br>2:30 P.M. | Tues. 4/18 | 4:15 P.M. | Tues. 4/18 | 11:00 A.M.<br>2:30 P.M. | Wed. 4/19 | 11:00 A.M.<br>2:30 P.M. |
| Oklahoma City | Fox Projection Room | 10 No. Lee St. | Mon. 4/17 | 10:30 A.M. | Mon. 4/17 | 2:30 P.M. | Tues. 4/18 | 10:30 A.M. | Tues. 4/18 | 2:30 P.M. | Wed. 4/19 | 2:30 P.M. |
| Omaha | Fox Projection Room | 1502 Davenport St. | Mon. 4/17 | 10:30 A.M. | Mon. 4/17 | 2:30 P.M. | Tues. 4/18 | 10:30 A.M. | Tues. 4/18 | 2:30 P.M. | Wed. 4/19 | 2:30 P.M. |
| Philadelphia | RKO Projection Room | 250 No. 13th St. | Mon. 4/17 | 10:30 A.M. | Mon. 4/17 | 2:30 P.M. | Tues. 4/18 | 10:30 A.M. | Tues. 4/18 | 2:30 P.M. | Wed. 4/19 | 2:30 P.M. |
| Pittsburgh | RKO Projection Room | 1623 Blvd. of Allies | Mon. 4/17 | 10:30 A.M. | Mon. 4/17 | 2:30 P.M. | Tues. 4/18 | 10:30 A.M. | Tues. 4/18 | 2:30 P.M. | Wed. 4/19 | 2:30 P.M. |
| Portland | Star Pre-view Room | 925 N. W. 19th St. | Mon. 4/17 | 10:30 A.M. | Mon. 4/17 | 2:30 P.M. | Tues. 4/18 | 10:30 A.M. | Tues. 4/18 | 2:30 P.M. | Wed. 4/19 | 2:30 P.M. |
| St. Louis | S'Renco Projection Rm. | 3143 Olive St. | Tues. 4/18 | 11:00 A.M. | Tues. 4/18 | 2:30 P.M. | Wed. 4/19 | 11:00 A.M. | Wed. 4/19 | 2:30 P.M. | Thur. 4/20 | 2:30 P.M. |
| Salt Lake City | Fox Projection Room | 216 E. 1st St. | Mon. 4/17 | 10:30 A.M. | Mon. 4/17 | 2:30 P.M. | Tues. 4/18 | 10:30 A.M. | Tues. 4/18 | 2:30 P.M. | Wed. 4/19 | 2:30 P.M. |
| San Francisco | RKO Projection Room | 251 Hyde St. | | | Mon. 4/17 | 2:30 P.M. | Tues. 4/18 | 10:30 A.M. | Tues. 4/18 | 2:30 P.M. | Wed. 4/19 | 2:30 P.M. |
| Seattle | Jewel Box Proj. Rm. | 2318 2nd Ave. | Mon. 4/17 | 10:30 A.M. | Mon. 4/17 | 2:30 P.M. | Tues. 4/18 | 10:30 A.M. | Tues. 4/18 | 2:30 P.M. | Wed. 4/19 | 2:30 P.M. |
| Sioux Falls | Hollywood Theatre | 212 No. Philips Ave. | Mon. 4/17 | 10:00 A.M. | Mon. 4/17 | 11:30 A.M. | Tues. 4/18 | 10:00 A.M. | Tues. 4/18 | 11:30 A.M. | Wed. 4/19 | 10:30 A.M. |
| Washington | Fox Projection Room | 932 New Jersey Ave. | Mon. 4/17 | 10:30 A.M. | Mon. 4/17 | 2:30 P.M. | Tues. 4/18 | 10:30 A.M. | Tues. 4/18 | 2:30 P.M. | Wed. 4/19 | 2:30 P.M. |

BOOK "THE MEMPHIS BELLE", TECHNICOLOR SAGA OF OUR AIR HEROES, IT'S THE INDUSTRY'S PROUDEST OFFERING.

## 'Lady' Aiming for Record $19,300

TORONTO, April 12.—"Lady in the Dark" was the shining mark for Easter week at Shea's Theatre, pointing to a record $19,300. "Standing Room Only" figured to take $15,800 at the Imperial.

Estimated receipts for the week ending April 13:

**"The Adventures of Tom Sawyer" (Alliance)**
EGLINTON — (1,086) (18c-30c-48c-60c) 6 days. Gross: $5,500. (Average: $4,000).
**"Standing Room Only" (Para.)**
IMPERIAL—(3,373) (18c-30c-42c-60c-90c) 6 days. Gross: $15,800. (Average: $12,800).
**"Song of Russia" (M-G-M)**
LOEW'S—(2,074) (18c-30c-42c-60c-78c) 6 days, 2nd week. Gross: $12,700. (Average: $11,200).
**"Lady in the Dark" (Para.)**
SHEA'S—(2,480) (18c-30c-42c-60c-90c) 6 days. Gross: $19,300. (Average: $12,800).
**"Henry Aldrich, Boy Scout" (Para.)**
**"The Gang's All Here" (20th-Fox)**
TIVOLI—(1,434) (18c-30c-48c) 6 days. Gross: $5,400. (Average: $4,400).
**"Follow the Boys" (Univ.)**
UPTOWN—(2,761) (18c-30c-42c-60c-90c) 6 days. Gross: $14,300. (Average: $9,800).

## *Sharpe to NBC from Columbia Pictures*

C. W. Sharpe, former Columbia Pictures controller, has been named assistant to John H. MacDonald, NBC vice-president in charge of finance. He resigned his Columbia post last week.

Sharpe joined Columbia in 1934 as chief accountant, coming from Price, Waterhouse & Co. He became assistant controller of the company in 1936 and controller in 1943.

# *Off the Antenna*

"COMMUNITY theatres for stage plays are coming eventually and radio theatres can develop audiences never dreamed of for these peoples' theatres," Arthur Hopkins, veteran Broadway producer, stated during an interview at National Broadcasting headquarters here this week in discussing his forthcoming NBC program "Arthur Hopkins Presents." The full-hour dramatic program designed to present top plays of the past as a more or less permanent weekly feature will have its premiere on April 19 with the presentation of "Our Town." Broadcast time of 11:30 p.m. will take advantage of the increasing late evening audiences which have been developed with the lengthened broadcast day, Clarence L. Menser, NBC vice-president in charge of programs explained during the interview. Theatre stars who are film stars as well will participate, including Barbara Stanwyck, Katharine Hepburn, Edward G. Robinson, Raymond Massey, Frank Craven, Philip Merivale and Louis Calhern. "Eventually, an attempt might be made to develop new talent on a nation-wide basis," Menser declared in outlining NBC's purpose in presenting the program. Unproduced plays might also be used eventually.

James C. Petrillo, American Federation of Musician's head has called upon the War Labor Board in Washington to disaffirm the recommendation of its special panel that the AFM be ordered to call off its strike against three recording companies which are still holding out against the union's attempt to force recording and transcription companies to contribute to the AFM's unemployment fund. The three holdouts are National Broadcasting, RCA-Victor and Columbia Recording.

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**Purely Personal:**—*Mrs. Georgia Fuller, formerly of the traffic department of NBC's international division, has been placed in charge of auditions and casting in the network's production department. . . . Julian Boone is head of the new promotion division of the Blue's spot sales. . . . Donald Withycomb is manager of the new Blue Web international division. . . . Howard St. John is a new addition to the sales promotion staff of WJZ, New York. . . . Edward Booth and Newman Burnett are recent additions to the CBS operations department as assistant directors. . . .*

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**Program Notes:—Zero Mostel is preparing a television program based on "Gulliver's Travels" to experiment in combining television and motion picture techniques. . . . CBS "Lux Radio Theatre" will present a radio version of 20th Century-Fox's "Coney Island" starring Dorothy Lamour, Alan Ladd and Chester Morris next Monday. . . . Photographer Margaret Bourke-White will be next Sunday's guest on Mutual's "Wide Horizons" program. . . .**

# *Hollywood*

By JACK CARTWRIGHT

*Hollywood, April 12*

HERBERT J. YATES, Republic's top man, is starting off "Man From Frisco," super-budget film starring Michael O'Shea, Anne Shirley and Gene Lockhart, with sufficient momentum to get it well along with the public. In addition to a record promotional budget for the picture's premiere in San Francisco, Oakland and Richmond, Cal., he plans extensive promotion in conjunction with other pre-release showings. The day following the premiere, tentatively set for early May, it will open at Hollywood and Los Angeles Paramount theatres, and in Seattle, Tacoma and Portland, Ore., day-and-date. Eastern premieres will be set for cities where big shipyards are located with the Broadway opening shortly after June 1. John LeRoy Johnston, Republic's new director of public relations, is now laying plans for the nationwide splurge.

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*Charles Koerner's decision to put Dudley Nichols on the script of "Elizabeth Kenny" reputedly was based on the feeling that the original screenplay failed to jell. Nichols will do a final screenplay based on the original which entailed considerable research into Sister Kenny's work among infantile paralysis victims. He will also produce. . . . Scott R. Dunlap has a topnotch cast at work in his new Monogram production, "The Girl Next Door," now before the cameras with William Beaudine directing. Cast includes Edmund Lowe, Jean Parker, Marjorie Rambeau and Alan Dinehart.*

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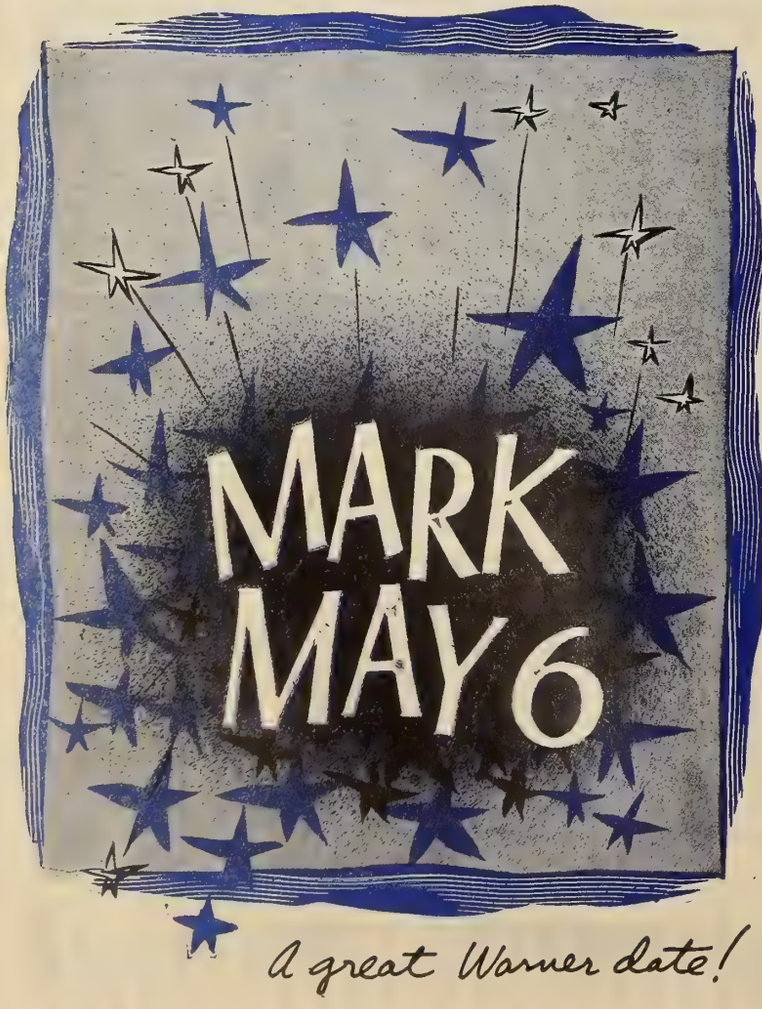
**Regis Toomey has replaced Chester Morris as the heavy-lead of the Pine-Thomas production, "Dark Mountain," for Paramount. Chester will play the lead in "Dragnet" for P-T. . . . Ben Stoloff directs "Rip Goes to War" upon completion of "Take It or Leave It" at 20th. . . . Helene Stanley, red-headed Gary, Ind., girl, has been signed by M-G-M at the insistence of Joe Pasternak, who saw her in several stage productions.**

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"Memphis Belle," Paramount's Technicolor documentary of the Eighth Air Force, will open at 11 first-run theatres, day and date, April 13 and 14. . . . Universal will make a picture from an original, titled "Girl of the Jungle." . . . Edward Small is preparing 65 prints in 16 mm. of his "Up in Mabel's Room," now awaiting UA release. The prints are for Army Motion Picture Overseas Service. . . . Will Cowan, Universal producer, will supervise that studio's musical shorts, as well as produce features.

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*Kathryn Grayson, seen in "Thousands Cheer," has another singing role in that studio's "Anchors Aweigh." She has the singing lead opposite Gene Kelly. Frank (The Voice) Sinatra is also in this one, being produced by Joe Pasternak. . . . In reply to the call for screen personalities to visit convalescent servicemen back from the fighting fronts, the Hollywood Victory Committee has gone all-out. HVC has set a new hospital circuit with 15 players to play it.*




## *'Joe' Setting Buffalo Pace with $20,000*

BUFFALO, April 12.—"A Guy Named Joe" is bidding for the lead here with $20,000 at the Buffalo. "Lady in the Dark" will be good for $17,800 at the Great Lakes.

Estimated receipts for the week ending April 15:

**"A Guy Named Joe" (M-G-M)**
BUFFALO—(3,489) (40c-50c-60c-70c) 7 days. Gross: $20,000. (Average: $17,400).
**"Lady in the Dark" (Para.)**
GREAT LAKES—(3,000) (40c-50c-60c-70c) 7 days. Gross: $17,800. (Average: $16,600).
**"Rationing" (M-G-M)**
**"Passport to Suez" (Col.)**
HIPPODROME—(2,100) (40c-50c-60c-70c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $8,200. (Average: $9,700).
**"Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs" (RKO)**
TWENTIETH CENTURY—(3,600) (40c-50c-60c-70c) 7 days. Gross: $18,000. (Average: $12,200).
**"Cover Girl" (Col.)**
**"The Racket Man" (Col.)**
LAFAYETTE—(3,000) (40c-50c-60c-70c) 7 days. Gross: $17,000. (Average: $12,400).

## *U. S., CBS Sign for $450,000 Station*

WASHINGTON, April 12.—Secretary of Commerce Jesse Jones disclosed here yesterday that Defense Plant Corp. has executed a contract with the Columbia Broadcasting for the construction of broadcasting facilities at Delano, Cal., at a cost of approximately $450,000.

The contract is one of several which have been made with broadcasters for use of the Office of War Information, Coordinator of Inter-American Affairs and other Federal agencies. The Delano plant will be operated for the Government by CBS, with title remaining in the Defense Plant Corp.

# Kansas City Yields 'Lady' Big $18,000

KANSAS CITY, April 12.—Easter showers kept long lines at theatre boxoffices. This week the Newman, with "Lady in the Dark," rolled up one of its greatest scores with about $18,000. The Orpheum, with "Up in Arms," broke records, too, soaring to $16,500.

Estimated receipts for the week ending April 12-15:

**"Four Jills in a Jeep" (20th-Fox)**
ESQUIRE—(800) (45c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $6,500. (Average: $6,000).
**"Broadway Rhythm" (M-G-M)**
MIDLAND—(3,600) (40c-60c) 7 days. Gross: $15,500. (Average: $14,000).
**"Lady in the Dark" (Para.)**
NEWMAN—(1,900) (46c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $18,000. (Average: $11,000).
**"Up in Arms" (RKO-Goldwyn)**
**"The Falcon Out West" (RKO)**
ORPHEUM—(1,900) (45c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $16,500. (Average: $10,000).
**"Hat Check Honey" (Univ.)**
TOWER—(2,200) (40c-60c) 7 days. On stage: Earl Carroll Vanities. Gross: $12,000. (Average: $9,400).
**"Four Jills in a Jeep" (20th-Fox)**
UPTOWN—(2,000) (45c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $5,400. (Average: $5,600).
**"Four Jills in a Jeep" (20th-Fox)**
FAIRWAY—(700) (45c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $1,600. (Average: $1,600).

## *Cesana Plagiarism Suit*

LOS ANGELES, April 12.—Renza Cesana filed suit in Federal District Court here this week against Blue Network, Philco Corp., Variety Corp. and William Morris Agency, asking $500,000 because of the alleged theft and use of his idea "Air-Academy Awards" in the program broadcast as "Radio Hall of Fame."

# *Review*

## *"Ukraine In Flames"*

*(Artkino)*

WITH the heroic Red Armies daily pressing onward along the Eastern Front and liberating vast new Ukranian areas from the Nazi yoke, the official Soviet documentary "Ukraine in Flames" emerges as a timely, dramatic and stirring tribute to their accomplishments. Produced under the general supervision of Alexander Dovzhenko at the Central and Ukranian newsreel studios in the USSR, and photographed by 24 cameramen who advanced with shock troops in the great offensive which began last Summer, the film has encompassed all the grim horror which the Nazis have wrought upon the defenseless civilians of the Ukraine, their vast wanton destruction, and the subsequent relentless pursuit of the Germans by the Red Armies.

The interesting commentary supplied by Dovzhenko and translated into English by Alexander Werth, is ably narrated by Bill Downs, CBS correspondent who recently arrived from Moscow. In editing the film, J. Solntseva and J. Andeyenko traced the impact of the Nazi invasion upon the Ukraine in 1941, familiar scenes to American audiences now, through their fictional treatment in "North Star." The recapture of Kharhov and Kiev and the attendant uncovering of Nazi attrocities are featured in the footage along with the display of the Red Army's striking power. A number of shots from captured German newsreels have also been used to good advantage in the film.

Running time, 55 minutes. "G."* Release date not set.

MILTON LIVINGSTON

**"G" denotes general classification.*

## *'Address' to Play Globe*

Columbia's "Address Unknown," from Kressman Taylor's book, will open at the New York Globe Saturday. The film was produced and directed by William Cameron Menzies.

## *RKO Will Show 'Love'*

Nicholas Napoli, president of Artkino Pictures, has concluded a deal for the showing of "No Greater Love" on the RKO circuit in the New York territory.

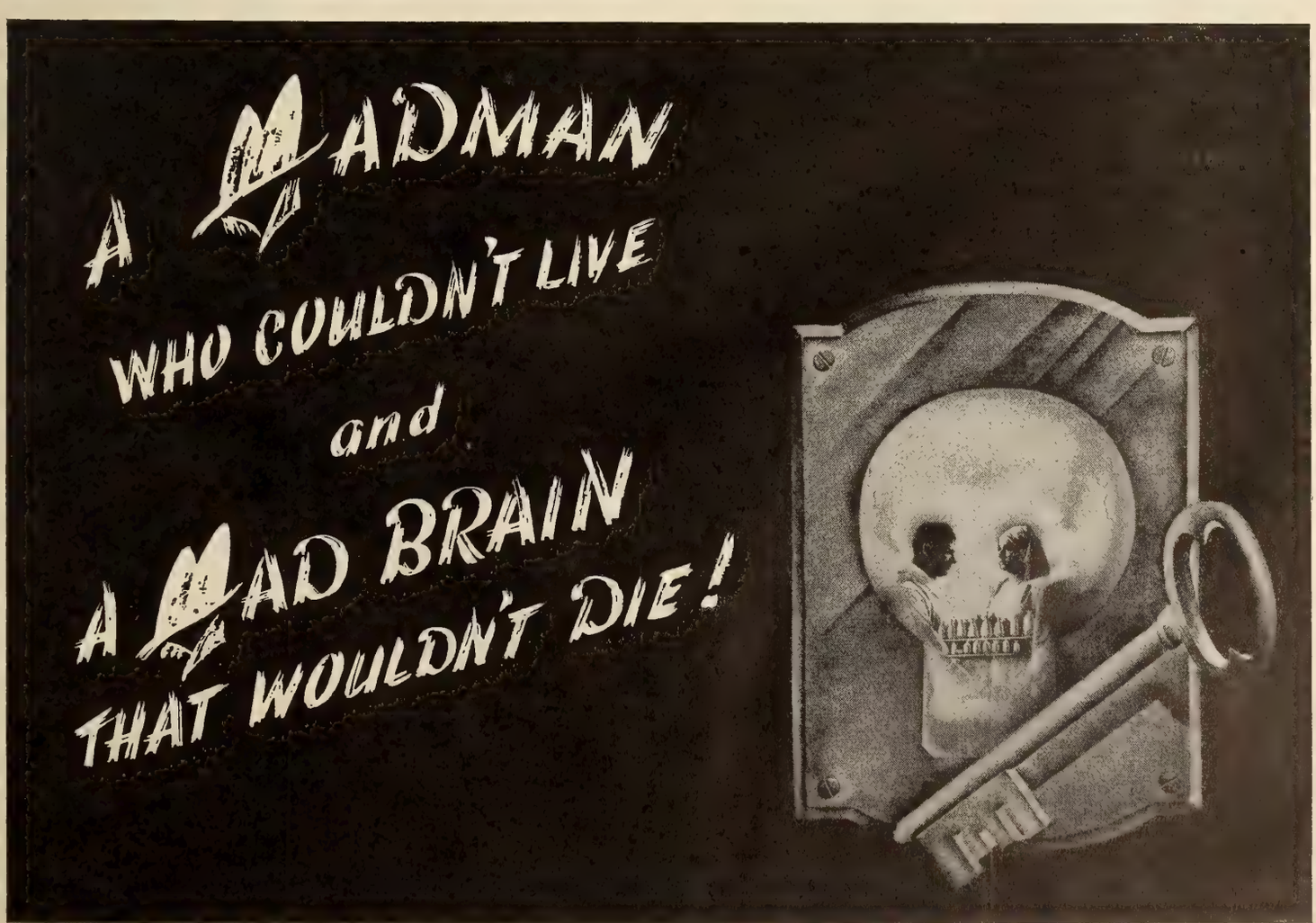
# Exhibitors Silent On Local Laws

WASHINGTON, April 12.—Announcement of the Office of Civilian Requirements several months ago that it was prepared to go to the assistance of any exhibitors suffering under burdensome local ordinances has resulted in not a single complaint, it was disclosed here by George W. McMurphey, chief of the OCR recreation section. The OCR's original intention was to ease any such burdensome operations for the duration.

McMurphey pointed out that the failure of exhibitors to come forward with complaints might be due to the fact that no difficulties had arisen in war-manufacturing areas in which theatre construction had been put under way or to the cooperation of municipal authorities in relaxing some of their regulations for the war period. However, he said, the OCR still is prepared to take up such complaints with municipal authorities if exhibitors find themselves up against any local laws which hamper operations.

## *Browning on Civic Group*

BOSTON, April 12.—Harry Browning, head of publicity for M & P Theatres here, has been named chairman of Boston's "clean up campaign" by Mayor Maurice J. Tobin. Local theatre managers and owners were appointed to the group with Browning. Among those working with him were Jack Saef, Joe Longo, Paul Levi, Red King, Ben Rosenbert and Bob Sternberg, district manager for M & P.



# 'Cover Girl' Is Good For $7,400 Over Par in Philadelphia

PHILADELPHIA, April 12.—Holiday crowds this week were heavy at downtown houses, with "Cover Girl" at the Boyd leading with an expected $25,400 plus $6,000 for a dual Sunday showing at the Earle. Sharing the lead is "Broadway Rhythm" at the Stanley with a $26,700 expectation.

Estimated receipts for the week ending April 12-14:

**"The Song of Bernadette" (20th-Fox)**
ALDINE—(900) (85c-$1.20) 7 days, 7th week. Gross: $14,800. (Average: $14,600).
**"Song of Russia" (M-G-M)**
ARCADIA—(600) (40c-45c-50c-65c-75c) 7 days, 2nd run. Gross: $7,400. (Average: $4,000).
**"Cover Girl" (Col.)**
BOYD—(3,000) (40c-45c-50c-65c-75c-85c) 7 days. Gross: $25,400. (Average: $18,000).
**"Chip Off the Old Block" (Univ.) (6 days) $23,500**
**"The Cover Girl" (Col.) (1 day) $6,000**
EARLE—(3,000) (50c-65c-85c-95c) 6 days of vaudeville, including Henry Busse's orchestra, Borrah Minnevitch's Harmonica Rascals, Barbara Blaine, Betty Brownell, Wyatt Howard and Red Wright. Gross: $23,500 (6 days). (Average: $27,800).
**"The Miracle of Morgan's Creek" (Para.)**
FOX—(3,000) (40c-45c-50c-65c-75c-85c) 7 days, 3rd week. Gross: $16,200. (Average: $20,500).
**"A Guy Named Joe" (M-G-M)**
KARLTON—(1,000) (40c-45c-50c-65c-75c-85c) 7 days, 2nd run, 2nd week. Gross: $7,300. (Average: $6,600).
**"Gung Ho" (Univ.)**
KEITH'S—(2,200) (40c-45c-50c-65c-75c-85c) 7 days, 2nd run. Gross: $6,000. (Average: $5,800).
**"Shine On, Harvest Moon" (WB)**
MASTBAUM — (4,700) (40c-45c-50c-65c-75c-85c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $24,400. (Average: $22,500).
**"Broadway Rhythm" (M-G-M)**
STANLEY—(3,000) (40c-45c-50c-65c-75c-85c) 7 days. Gross: $26,700. (Average: $20,000).
**"Rationing" (MG-M)**
STANTON—(1,700) (40c-45c-50c-65c-75c-85c) 7 days. Gross: $7,500. (Average: $9,400).

# *Greene Now Head of Central Allied Unit*

MINNEAPOLIS, April 12.—Henry Greene, Jr., has been elected president of the unaffiliated Central Allied, succeeding Donald Guttman. The unit comprises exhibitors here and in St. Paul. Greene is the son of Henry Greene, pioneer exhibitor in this area.

Named with the new president were A. A. Kaplan, first vice-president; Lyle Carisch, second vice-president; Harold Kaplan, treasurer, and Martin Lebedoff, secretary.

# *No Vanguard Sales Cabinet Seen Now*

(*Continued from page* 1)

terations as long as Gradwell L. Sears and Carl Leserman remain with United Artists. It is also believed that they will insist on controlling selling management and operations while their identification with the company continues.

**WANTED**

Trustworthy secretary to Publicity Manager. Must be competent in telephone conversations; capable for all-around secretarial work. Good opportunity for advancement—salary $35.00. In replying, please state present position and past experience. Box 228, MOTION PICTURE DAILY.

# *Loew's, 20th-Fox, Rank Deal Hits an Impasse*

(*Continued from page* 1)

sentatives had been authorized to go by J. Robert Rubin, Loew's vice-president and general counsel, in New York, without confirmation having been obtained. The current proposals, however, have been forwarded to the Loew's home office for confirmation or further suggestions, either of which may be further delayed by the reported illness of Rubin in New York, it was said.

Loew's and 20th Century-Fox, it is learned, have been insisting upon increased efficiency in G-B Theatre management, an aim in which Rank is said to be in complete agreement. Rank is insisting upon retaining ultimate control of G-B, which he now has by virtue of his stockholdings.

Various proposals to implement this plan have been made in the course of the negotiations here and ultimately reached the stage of complete agreement between Rank and Skouras. Eckman is said to have agreed in principle but cannot consummate Loew's end of the agreement without ratification by the home office.

Skouras arrived at an agreement first, presumably because 20th-Fox sells to the G-B circuit and, therefore, is interested in the best possible management operations for the circuit which plays its product. Loew's, however, sell to Associated British Cinemas as well as G-B, so is less concerned with G-B management than with retention of its bridgehead into that lucrative circuit, it is believed.

Skouras and Rank both are hoping that the present impasse may be overcome as the present draft of their agreement is the basis for future production arrangements here. They are proceeding with their talks for the production of films here on a 50-50 basis, as reported by MOTION PICTURE DAILY on March 28. In this regard, Skouras is described as being determined not to return to the States empty-handed. He has made an outright purchase of United States rights to Michael Balcon's "San Demetrio," and says he regards the deal as a potentially useful investment.

David Bernstein, Loew's vice-president and treasurer, said yesterday Loew's has taken no formal action on the negotiations with Rank yet and that it was uncertain when such action might be taken.

# Raw Film Aid Seen Certain

(*Continued from page* 1)

tion in vital programs are to be designated by the war agencies in charge of the production programs (in the case of raw stock, the WPB), and Lincoln V. Burrows, chief of the motion picture section, is now compiling reports on the number of men in key positions in each film-manufacturing plant.

There are eight plants engaged in the production of raw stock, possibly six of which are producing film for war purposes, Burrows said today. Whether all six will be eligible for deferments is yet to be determined by a study of the extent of their war-production operations, but at least four are devoting a very considerable proportion of their operations to military motion picture, still and X-ray and other special film.

**Situation Canvassed**

The whole situation was canvassed yesterday at a meeting between raw stock manufacturers, Burrows, manpower officials of WPB, and Selective Service and other interested officials, and arrangements were made to secure deferments under that section of the new Selective Service orders giving the WPB jurisdiction in the case of registrants in plants producing component parts for approved critical programs not under the direct supervision of other agencies.

As the manufacturers' representatives left Washington last night they expressed confidence that the problem would be worked out.

# *Cite 'Bernadette' Record*

Some 3,976,164 persons have paid to see "The Song of Bernadette" in 67 cities throughout the United States, according to 20th-Fox's home office.

# 'Lady' Passes Par by $8,000 in Cleveland

CLEVELAND, April 12.—"Lady in the Dark" was a walk-away, with a tremendous opening and a big weekend, hitting $27,000. Other business opened slow and built up to an average attendance.

Estimated receipts for the week ending April 15:

**"The Purple Heart" (20th-Fox)**
ALLEN—(3,000) (44c-55c-65c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $7,500. (Average: $8,500).
**"Desert Song" (WB)**
WARNERS' HIPPODROME — (3,500) (44c-55c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $21,00. (Average: $22,100).
**"Tender Comrade" (RKO)**
WARNERS' LAKE—(714) (44c-55c-65c) 7 days, 3rd week. Gross: $2,800. (Average: $3,200).
**"Broadway Rhythm" (M-G-M)**
LOEW'S OHIO—(1,268) (43c-65c) 7 days, 3rd week. Gross: $5,000. (Average: $5,000).
**"The Spider Woman" (Univ.)**
RKO PALACE—(3,300) (50c-60c-85c-95c) 7 days. Stage: George White's Scandals of 1944. Gross: $25,000. (Average: $25,400).
**"Lady in the Dark" (Para.)**
LOEW'S STATE—(3,300) (43c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $27,000. (Average: $19,000).
**"Three Russian Girls" (UA)**
LOEW'S STILLMAN—(1,900) (43c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $6,500. (Average: $10,000).

# *Men Past 26 Still Liable for Draft*

(*Continued from page* 1)

Col. McDermott announced, at the same time, that local draft boards' percentage quotas have been cut and each board will be called upon to yield its full limit of the 18-26-year-old group.

Employers were warned by the local Selective Service chief that men in the 18-26 category whom they want to retain as essential will have to have a 42-A special form filed for them by Saturday, regardless of past classifications.

# Says Schine Wants Same Treatment As Decree Signers

(*Continued from page* 1)

disposition of the case of the five de cree signers, or until a new consen decree is effected.

Friedman, having quoted from th story to great length, declared his ents demand the same treatment ac corded the consenting companies.

With regard to insistence on the par of the Government that Schine live u to the divestiture clause of the court' temporary order postponing tria Friedman earlier declared theatre cannot be purchased anywhere in th United States today because they ar all making money.

**"Drop Divestiture Order"**

He declared Schine should be ab solved of the divestiture section be cause "due diligence" was used in at tempting to dispose of the theatre named in the court order.

"Prices on the theatres Schine wa required to sell were fixed two year ago," he said. "All a purchaser ha to do then was to come in, put dow a certified check and walk out the ne owner of the theatre."

Friedman said only six of the 1 theatres, which he described as "th best of the bunch," were snapped u quickly, mostly by former operator and that the ten "not so good ones were left to Schine.

**Attack Murphy "Reneg"**

Schine counsel particularly hit M K. Murphy, who made a down paymen on Appalachia, Va., theatres severa months ago, but then withdrew hi offer. They said Murphy, who wa in court here Monday, apparently i reconsidering.

Friedman said theatre business wa not so good a year ago but now tha conditions have improved, several ar thinking twice about prospective deals

"We made every effort we could t sell those theatres in that first year now when times are good," Friedma said, "I say these people should not b permitted to gamble with our money.

# Theatres May Not Absorb New Taxes

(*Continued from page* 1)

proprietor and he is not required t pass it along to the customer, but the atres must show, separately, the price of admission and the tax. The only way exhibitors can "absorb" the tax it was said, would be to reduce ad mission prices, as for instance, if for merly they had a price of 40 cents an four cents tax they could make a charge of 37 cents and seven cents ta to achieve the same 44-cent total.

It appears that the ruling against a exhibitor's absorbtion of any part o the ticket tax hits the action of som exhibitors who have been absorbing an odd penny or two since the new levy went into effect on April 1, i order to operate under a "round figure" of five or ten cents to avoi the use of pennies in box office trans actions.

# IATSE Talks Nearing End

(*Continued from page 1*)

vage discussions and other adjustnents. The producer representatives vill give their answers on this demand his morning. Remaining points to be eared up are those providing for evance machinery and group insurce for the IATSE studio workers.

Several studio IATSE local representatives have already returned to California and others plan to return oday and tomorrow, leaving the final rawing of the new agreements to replace those which expired on Jan. 1 nd submission to the War Labor Board for approval, to the IATSE fficials headed by Richard F. Walsh, nternational president. Producer representatives have been successful in voiding commitments on granting juisdiction over television to those ATSE locals which presented deands in this direction including the lectricians, property men and sound en, insisting that such awards are natters for the American Federation f Labor to decide.

**Musicians Only Left**

Only remaining group with whom he producers will have to reach agreenent once they have settled with the ATSE are the studio musicians, vhose negotiations are being handled y James C. Petrillo, American Fedration of Musicians' head. Musicians re reported to be demanding studio taff orchestras ranging from 25 men n the smaller studios to 35 for the our largest studios, although Casey as denied these reports.

## SAG to Force Wage Demand Arbitration

HOLLYWOOD, April 12.—The Screen Actors Guild will exhaust every legal neans in an effort to force immediate rbitration with producers of SAG lemands for general wage increases or extras, day players and free-lance layers, according to John Dales, Jr., xecutive secretary.

"The guild will make this move," Dales added, "during the 30 to 60 day djournment of the National Labor Relations Board hearing on the Screen Players Union's petition for a argaining agency election for extras." Arbitration set for last November vas delayed when the producers reused to negotiate while the SPU ttacks in an effort to split SAG hreatened to establish a dual actors' nion in the industry.

Following testimony from Carole andis, an SAG witness, the NLRB earing adjourned today to allow time or the Central Casting Corp. and the tudios to prepare payrolls disclosing ow many extras actually do bit vork. In earlier sessions, SPU had ried to lay claim to all bit and stunt layers as well as extras.

## WAC to Use Army Song

The War Activities Committee has eceived the permission of the War Department to use the song, "The Voice of the Army," newly adopted y the U. S. Army Recruiting Serce, in motion picture houses during he week of May 11 when theatres vill campaign for enlistment in the Women's Army Corps.

# Suggestions on Television Allocations Nearly Set

(*Continued from page 1*)

make its recommendations for television channel allocations to a RTPB panel in about two weeks. Once the panel decides on its recommendations for television channels in conjunction with a panel dealing with high frequencies, the recommendations will be referred to a third panel on which Dr. Goldsmith is chairman.

**FCC to Get Final Results**

Considerations of panel one will be from the viewpoints of engineering and economic practices involved with final recommendations to the FCC to be made by panel two, dealing with actual frequency allocations. Recommendations which will finally emerge are expected to be in the form of a compromise with full consideration given to the political and engineering problems involved as well as the nature of existing equipment. Army and Navy channel needs as well as the channel requests of other electronic interests are not expected to create many stumbling blocks.

FM presently holds the channels from 42 to 50 megacycles and proposes that it be allocated channels from 42 to 56 megacycles without a break. The television channel is from 50 to 56 megacycles and television interests are reportedly seeking some of the lower channels allotted to FM broadcasting. RTPB recommendations to the FCC will attempt to resolve this overlapping of channels being sought. In view of both Dr. Baker's and Dr. Goldsmith's positions in the RTPB set-up, informed quarters see television and FM interests reaching an early accord in channel allocation requests to the FCC.

## McDonald Heads Wac Field Drive

(*Continued from page 1*)

at the War Activities Committee office here.

Eddie Dowden of Loew's publicity department will be public relations director in New York for the drive, scheduled for May 11-17, when the Women's Army Corps will observe its second anniversary.

Yesterday, in Washington, Alperson met with Col. Oveta Culp Hobby, director of the Women's Army Corps, and worked out the details for the drive. Others attending this meeting were Col. Curtis Mitchell, Col. Jay Noel Macy, Harry Brandt, WAC executive, and Harry Mandel of RKO, who will direct the national publicity campaign for theatres participating.

## 12 Installed in Two Exchange Unions

BUFFALO, April 12.—Harold Randall was installed as president of Local B 9 and Arnold Febrey as president of F 9, film exchange employes unions, at joint installation ceremonies held here at the Hotel Markeen last night. Other B 9 officers are: Mary Giolella, vice-president; John Rubach, business representative; Hyman Mentor, financial secretary; Irma Vincent, recording secretary, and Edward Smith, sergeant-at-arms.

F 9 officers include: Barbara Hartman, vice-president Josephine Genco, business representative; Mary Strohman, financial secretary; Bertha Kamp, recording secretary, and Richard Carroll, sergeant-at-arms. Daniel Gill, business representative of the stagehands union here was in charge of the installation.

## MPA Board to Meet

The board of directors of Motion Picture Associates here will hold a luncheon meeting tomorrow at the Hotel Dixie. The agenda includes planning of the group's silver anniversary dinner-dance and discussion of insurance and postwar problems.

## Hazen Will Leave Warners April 15

(*Continued from page 1*)

involving important posts within the industry.

No reasons were advanced for his leaving the company he has been with for the past 20 years. Hazen has been one of the top-ranking executives at the Warner home office for many years and his duties were increased importantly after Harry M. Warner established headquarters on the Coast several years ago. Hazen was one of the principal figures in the negotiation of the original industry consent decree and played a leading role again last Fall and Winter in the negotiations for an amended decree, which still is pending.

**Was Liaison in 1939**

He was industry liaison in 1939 in the study and discussions with Department of Commerce officials on cooperative activities. He was a member of the industry lawyers' "committee of six," appointed several years ago to study and reorganize industry activities. Hazen has been the Warner representative at virtually all meetings of the MPPDA board of directors here, and is a member of the War Activities Committee. He is an attorney and formerly was associated with the law firm of Thomas & Friedman.

## 'Negro Soldier' is Ready

A special press book on the 45-minute Army film, "The Negro Soldier," produced for the War Department under supervision of Col. Frank Capra, has been prepared by the War Activities Committee with cooperation of the Screen Publicists Guild. The film and accessories are available gratis to exhibitors.

## Lehman With Republic

James R. Grainger, president of Republic, reports the appointment of Sidney Lehman as Pittsburgh branch manager. Lehman was branch manager of United Artists' Buffalo exchange for seven years.

[*Advertisement*]

# U's Little Man Has Busy Days

By WEIR HAPPY

One of these days you are apt to pick up your newspaper and read in the Winchell, Walker, Lyons, Sullivan or Wilson column something like:

*"Universal is carrying the torch for vaudeville."*

Universal and vaudeville are not going steady, to borrow a phrase from the above mentioned gentlemen, but there does exist a pungent aroma of romance between them. This does not come from the usual gossip pillars, but can be found in two pictures which come from Universal City.

"Follow the Boys," the Charles K. Feldman production, glorifies the variety entertainment, at the same time giving a pat on the back to the Hollywood Victory Committee and the USO. Many stars of vaudeville days, including Sophie Tucker, Ted Lewis, George Raft, W. C. Fields, Charley Grapewin and youthful Gracie McDonald are in this entertaining film, to say nothing of 40 others.

Recently, Universal completed "The Merry Monahans," which stars Donald O'Connor (now starring for Uncle Sam G. I. Productions, Inc.), Peggy Ryan and the surrey with the fringe around the middle, Jovial Jack Oakie. This picture highlights the peregrinations of a vaudeville family between 1900 and America's entrance into World War I in 1917.

Because of this period, clothes had to be consistent with the times, which gave the okay Oakie more than enough exercise to shed a few superfluous pounds from his curvical torso. Two more pictures like this one and Oakie will be eligible to supplant the fellow in the red coat who is always shouting, "Call for Phillip Morris."

**Do Mairzedoats?**

Universal is making a Crosby picture with a bing, only this one stars Bob, Bing's brother, and it's called the "Singing Sheriff," but where you find a sheriff you are sure to find a bing. Yes, even bing, bing. What's more, a kiddle eativytoo.

"Spring Will Be a Little Late This Year," is a song title and not a prediction. Frank Loesser wrote it for Deanna Durbin and Miss Durbin sang it for Universal, and Universal is releasing it in "Christmas Holiday." Christmas will be a little early this year.

This tune soon will be floating through the air waves with the greatest of ease on the listeners' ears. Andre Kostelanetz will play it during his Coca Cola program over the Columbia Broadcasting System, April 16, at 4:30 P.M. E.W.T.

"Ladies Courageous," the Walter Wanger production is being highly publicized through the facilities of Station WLW and a tremendous exploitation campaign in Middle Western States by Milton Crandall and Charley Simonelli, of the Home Office. Crandall and Simonelli are bachelors.

"Open Sesame," the magic words uttered by Ali Baba, opened and shut a heavy door. "Ali Baba" also carries magic . These words open the box office and soon the doors are closed because there's isn't enough space for the SRO sign.

Yes, Universal's little man certainly is having busy days.

# MOTION PICTURE DAILY'S BOOKING CHART

| WEEK OF | COLUMBIA | M-G-M | MONO. | PARA. | PRC | REPUBLIC | RKO RADIO | 20TH-FOX | U. A. | UNIVERSAL | WARNERS |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Mar. 18 | TWO-MAN SUBMARINE<br>Tom Neal<br>Ann Savage<br>J. Carroll Naish<br>D—62 mins. | (Sixth Block)<br>SEE HERE, PRIVATE HARGROVE<br>Robert Walker<br>Donna Reed<br>C—101 mins. (420) | | (Fourth Block) | | THE FIGHTING SEABEES<br>John Wayne<br>Susan Hayward<br>D—100 mins. (311) | (Block Four)<br>TENDER COMRADE<br>Ginger Rogers<br>Robert Ryan<br>D—102 mins. (416) | | | LADIES COURAGEOUS<br>Loretta Young<br>Geraldine Fitzgerald<br>Phillip Terry<br>D—88 mins. (8065) | |
| Mar. 25 | SUNDOWN VALLEY<br>Charles Starrett<br>Jeanne Bates<br>Walter "Dub" Taylor<br>O—55 mins | THE HEAVENLY BODY<br>Hedy Lamarr<br>William Powell<br>D—95 mins. (421) | | THE HOUR BEFORE THE DAWN<br>Franchot Tone<br>Veronica Lake<br>D—75 mins. (4317) | THUNDERING GUN SLINGERS<br>Buster Crabbe<br>THE AMAZING MR. FORREST<br>(English)<br>D—(413) | MOJAVE FIREBRAND<br>Wild Bill Elliott<br>G. "Gabby" Hayes<br>55 mins.—(377) | PASSPORT TO DESTINY<br>Elsa Lanchester<br>Gordon Oliver<br>D—64 mins. (417) | | | HI GOOD-LOOKIN'<br>Harriet Hilliard<br>Eddie Quillan<br>Ozzie Nelson's Orchestra<br>Jack Teagarden's Orchestra<br>M—62 mins. (8044) | |
| April 1 | THE WHISTLER<br>Richard Dix<br>Gloria Stuart<br>D—59 mins. | SWING FEVER<br>Kay Kyser<br>Marilyn Maxwell<br>M—81 mins. (423) | PARTNERS OF THE TRAIL<br>(Roughrider)<br>O—(353) | YOU CAN'T RATION LOVE<br>Betty Rhodes<br>Johnnie Johnston<br>C—79 mins. (4318) | | MY BEST GAL<br>Jane Withers<br>Jimmy Lydon<br>Frank Craven<br>C-67 mins. | THE CURSE OF THE CAT PEOPLE<br>Simone Simon<br>Kent Smith<br>D—70 mins. (418) | (April Releases. No definite date set)<br>BUFFALO BILL<br>(Technicolor)<br>Maureen O'Hara<br>Joel McCrea<br>D—(424)<br>90 mins. | | | |
| April 8 | COVER GIRL<br>(Technicolor)<br>Rita Hayworth<br>Gene Kelly<br>Phil Silvers<br>Jinx Falkenburg<br>M—107 mins. | RATIONING<br>Wallace Beery<br>Marjorie Main<br>C—93 mins. (418) | | THE NAVY WAY<br>Robert Lowery<br>Jean Parker<br>D—75 mins. (4316) | GUNS OF THE LAW<br>James Newill<br>Tex O'Brien<br>O | THE LARAMIE TRAIL<br>Bob Livingston<br>"Smiley" Burnette<br>O—56 min. (355) | ESCAPE TO DANGER<br>Eric Portman<br>Ann Dvorak<br>D—84 mins. (419) | TAMPICO<br>Lynn Bari<br>E. G. Robinson<br>D—75 mins. (425) | IT HAPPENED TOMORROW<br>Linda Darnell<br>Dick Powell<br>C—84 mins. | WEIRD WOMAN<br>Lon Chaney<br>Anne Gwynne<br>Evelyn Ankers<br>D<br>D—64 mins. (8027) | SHINE ON, HARVEST MOON<br>Ann Sheridan<br>Dennis Morgan<br>Irene Manning<br>M—112 mins. (313) |
| April 15 | JAM SESSION<br>Ann Miller<br>Jess Barker<br>M—80 mins. | BROADWAY RHYTHM<br>Ginny Simms<br>George Murphy<br>M—114 mins. (419) | LADY, LET'S DANCE<br>Belita<br>James Ellison<br>Frick & Frack<br>M—84 mins. (301) | (Special)<br>LADY IN THE DARK<br>(Technicolor)<br>Ginger Rogers<br>Ray Milland<br>M—100 mins.<br>(4336) | THE MONSTER MAKER<br>D—62 mins. (419) | OUTLAWS OF SANTA FE<br>Don "Red" Barry<br>O—56 min. (366) | ACTION IN ARABIA<br>George Sanders<br>Virginia Bruce<br>D—75 mins. (420) | SHRINE OF VICTORY<br>British documentary—45 mins. | VOICE IN THE WIND<br>Francis Lederer<br>Sigrid Gurie<br>D—85 mins. | HER PRIMITIVE MAN<br>Louise Albritton<br>Robert Paige<br>D—79 mins. (8016) | |
| April 22 | GIRL IN THE CASE<br>Janice Carter<br>Edmund Lowe—D<br>WYOMING HURRICANE—O<br>Russell Hayden | TUNISIAN VICTORY<br>(Special Release)<br>(466)—80 mins.<br>(Documentary) | HOT RHYTHM<br>M—79 mins.<br>Dona Drake<br>Robert Lowery<br>(314) | | SHAKE HANDS WITH MURDER<br>D—(422)<br>PINTO BANDIT<br>O—(456) | ROSIE, THE RIVETER<br>Jane Frazee<br>Frank Albertson<br>Vera Vague<br>C—75 mins. (313) | UP IN ARMS<br>(special release)<br>Danny Kaye<br>Dinah Shore<br>(Technicolor)<br>C—105 mins. (452) | | LUMBER JACK<br>(Harry Sherman Production)<br>William Boyd<br>O—64 mins. | MOON OVER LAS VEGAS<br>Ann Gwynne<br>David Bruce<br>D—69 mins. (8037) | UNCERTAIN GLORY<br>Errol Flynn<br>Paul Lukas<br>D—102 mins. (314) |
| April 29 | THE BLACK PARACHUTE<br>Larry Parks<br>Jeanne Bates<br>John Carradine<br>Osa Massen<br>D | (Seventh Block)<br>ANDY HARDY'S BLONDE TROUBLE<br>Mickey Rooney<br>Lewis Stone<br>C—107 mins. (424) | OUTLAW TRAIL<br>(Trailblazer)<br>53 mins. (364)<br>O | AND THE ANGELS SING<br>Dorothy Lamour<br>Fred MacMurray<br>Betty Hutton<br>M | MEN OF THE SEA<br>D—(420) | TROCADERO<br>Rosemary Lane<br>Johnny Downs<br>Bob Chester's Orch.<br>M—74 mins. (314) | (Block Five)<br>THE FALCON OUT WEST<br>Tom Conway<br>Barbara Hale<br>D—64 mins. | | | SLIGHTLY TERRIFIC<br>Leon Errol<br>Anne Rooney<br>Evelyn Ankers<br>C—58 mins. (8036) | |
| May 6 | ONCE UPON A TIME<br>Cary Grant<br>Janet Blair<br>James Gleason—D | GASLIGHT<br>Ingrid Bergman<br>Charles Boyer<br>D—(425) | LAW MAN<br>Johnny Mack Brown<br>O—55 mins. (354) | DOUBLE INDEMNITY<br>Fred MacMurray<br>Barbara Stanwyck<br>Edward G. Robinson<br>D | THE CONTENDER<br>Buster Crabbe<br>Arline Judge<br>Julie Gibson<br>O—(418) | | DAYS OF GLORY<br>Tamara Touranova<br>Gregory Peck<br>D | | | COBRA WOMAN<br>(Technicolor)<br>Maria Montez<br>Jon Hall<br>Sabu | THE ADVENTURES OF MARK TWAIN<br>Fredric March<br>Alexis Smith<br>Donald Crisp<br>D—130 mins. (315) |
| May 13 | DEATH TO THE INVADER<br>(British)<br>John Clements<br>Mary Morris<br>D<br>RIDIN' WEST<br>Charles Starrett<br>Shirley Patterson<br>O | MEET THE PEOPLE<br>Dick Powell<br>Lucille Ball<br>M—100 mins. (426) | DETECTIVE KITTY O'DAY<br>Jean Parker<br>D—61 mins. | THE HITLER GANG<br>Robert Watson<br>Victor Varconi<br>D—(4320) | | JAMBOREE<br>Ruth Terry<br>George Byron<br>M—71 mins. (316) | THE YELLOW CANARY<br>(British)<br>Anna Neagle<br>Richard Greene<br>D | (May Releases. No definite date set)<br>PIN-UP GIRL<br>Betty Grable<br>John Harvey<br>Martha Raye<br>Joe E. Brown<br>M—(427) | | PARDON MY RHYTHM<br>Gloria Jean<br>Patric Knowles<br>M | |
| May 20 | STARS ON PARADE<br>Lynn Merrick<br>Larry Parks<br>Judy Clark<br>M | THREE MEN IN WHITE<br>Lionel Barrymore<br>Van Johnson<br>D—(427) | | HENRY ALDRICH PLAYS CUPID<br>Jimmy Lydon<br>Diana Lynn<br>Charles Smith | WATERFRONT<br>John Carradine<br>J. Carroll Naish<br>D—(415) | COWBOY AND THE SENORITA<br>Roy Rogers<br>Mary Lee<br>Dale Evans<br>M—78 mins. | LOOK TO YOUR CHILDREN<br>Bonita Granville<br>Kent Smith<br>D | BERMUDA MYSTERY<br>Preston Foster<br>Ann Rutherford<br>D—(428) | | | |
| May 27 | BY SECRET COMMAND<br>Pat O'Brien<br>Carole Landis<br>Chester Morris<br>D | TWO GIRLS AND A SAILOR<br>Jimmy Durante<br>Van Johnson<br>C—(428) | | GAMBLER'S CHOICE<br>Chester Morris<br>Nancy Kelly | MINSTREL MAN<br>Benny Fields<br>Gladys George<br>Roscoe Karns<br>O—(404) | | SHOW BUSINESS<br>Eddie Cantor<br>Joan Davis<br>George Murphy<br>Constance Moore<br>M | | | | |

First in Film and Radio News Brief, Accurate and Impartial

# MOTION PICTURE DAILY

Alert, Intelligent and Indispensable to the Motion Picture Industry

VOL. 55. NO. 74 NEW YORK, U. S. A., FRIDAY, APRIL 14, 1944 TEN CENTS

## O'Donnell Will Head Films' 5th War Loan

### *Friedl, Kennedy Named To Work with Him*

Robert J. O'Donnell, Texas circuit owner and national chief barker of all Variety Clubs, has accepted the post of general chairman for the motion picture industry's participation in the forthcoming Fifth War Loan drive, S. H. Fabian, chairman of the theatres division of the War Activities Committee, announced here yesterday.



Robert J. O'Donnell

Associated with him in the campaign, which is scheduled to take place June 12 to

(*Continued on page* 10)

## Korda Stock Bought By U.A. Over Chaplin's Objection

By RED KANN

Hollywood, April 13.—Balance of power within United Artists remains unchanged despite the company's decision to purchase Sir Alexander Korda's one-fourth stock interest and retire the shares in the name of United Artists Prod., which is the corporate entity now holding title and possession of Korda's stock.

The deal, giving Korda $1,000,000, which represents an extraordinary profit, now vests ownership of United Artists Corp. with David O. Selznick, Mary Pickford and Charles

(*Continued on page* 10)

## 50th Anniversary Of Industry Opens

Today the industry observes its 50th birthday. On the night of April 14, 1894, the first public exhibition of pictures that moved took place in a store at 1155 Broadway, New York. Alfred O. Tate, Thomas A. Edison's secretary, and his companions decided

(*Continued on page* 3)

# WALLIS, HAZEN MAY JOIN SPITZ, GOETZ

### *Conferences Slated to Start Here Monday For Possible Association for a Largely Expanded Independent Producing Unit*

By JAMES CUNNINGHAM

Conferences are scheduled to start in New York on Monday pointing to the possible association of Hal B. Wallis and Joseph H. Hazen with William Goetz and Leo Spitz in Spitz-Goetz International Pictures, it was learned here last night from reliable sources.

**Crystallization of the conversations possesses potentialities for one of the most important independent organizations in many years. Actual accomplishment, it is understood, would be first by the establishment of a Hazen-Wallis setup and its subsequent association with International.**

Extensive additional financial support is understood to be in mind for the project, with Hazen said to be considering a participation either personally or through other sources. Mrs. Lita Hazen is a member of the wealthy Annenberg family. She is the daughter of the late Moe Annenberg,

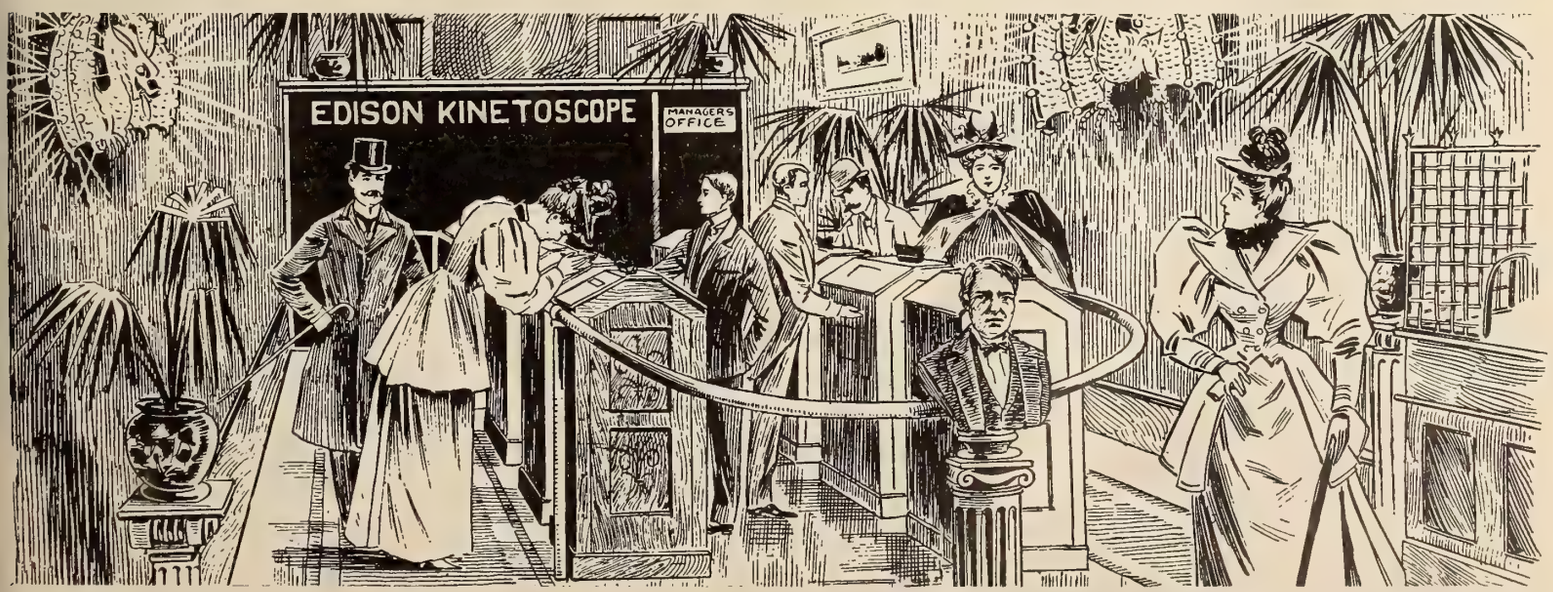
(*Continued on page* 8)

## *Harry Arthur Unit Delayed*

Exhibitors Distributing and Producing Corp., new company being organized by Harry C. Arthur and associates now has exhibitors and potential franchise holders signed up in 60 percent of the 31 distribution centers of the country, Arthur said in an interview with Motion Picture Daily here yesterday. However, Arthur dis-

(*Continued on page* 10)

## *Where the Industry Was Born 50 Years Ago Today*




*THE KINETOSCOPE PARLOR at 1155 Broadway, New York, where, on April 14, 1894, motion pictures were presented for the first time commercially to the public of the world. The first night's gross, from the ten machines is reported to have been $120, at 25 cents a "peep".*

# Release Projectors Made for Gov't

The theatre projector situation has been materially eased by the release of what is said in industry circles to have been a "considerable number" of machines above the War Production Board's regular allocation of 100 quarterly, it was learned here yesterday.

The equipment, produced in anticipation of Government orders which did not materialize, was released to the industry after the review of its requirements by the Federal Agency involved showed it could be spared without impeding the war program. All of the machines were distributed during the last quarter, it was said.

### Seen as First Step

The release of these projectors may be the first step toward expanding supplies for the industry, but developments along that line will now depend primarily on the manpower situation. A program for increasing the quarterly allocation has been pending before WPB officials for some weeks and may be decided in the near future.

Meanwhile, advices reaching the industry today indicated that while equipment manufacturers holding war contracts will be eligible for deferment of key men in the 18-25 age group employed in the production of radar and electronic equipment no such protection will be accorded men engaged in production for civilian distribution.

### No Figures on Manpower

No estimate is available on how badly the present Selective Service policy will affect the projector manufacturers, but it is said that a large proportion of the workers in the electronics industry are young men. The manpower situation is seen in industry circles as probably one of the important factors involved in any extension of projector production in the near future. Even if Government demand slackens off, as it is expected to as European military operations move into their final stage, the major Government demand, it is said, is for the Army, Navy and Lend-Lease Administration.

## *Asks for $300,000 'O'Rourke' Profits*

Helen Grace Carlisle, author of "Mother's Cry" and other novels, has filed an action against Warners, Norman Krasna, Vitagraph, First National and Vitaphone in U. S. District Court at New Haven, asking for all profits of "Princess O'Rourke," setting a minimum of $300,000.

Plaintiff charges that the defendants plagiarized her original scenario, "Rich Is the Heart," in the production of Warners' "Princess O'Rourke."

## *Cohen Back at M-G-M*

Charles Cohen, former M-G-M trade press contact, and recently with Hal Horne's publicity-advertising department at 20th Century-Fox, has returned to M-G-M to handle press books.

# *Personal Mention*

CHARLES EINFELD, Warners' advertising-publicity director, is due here today from Hollywood.

•

CONSTANCE BENNETT will be in Washington today, to attend a special meeting headed by MRS. FRANKLIN D. ROOSEVELT and Secretary of the Treasury HENRY MORGENTHAU, JR., which is a prelude to the opening of the Fifth War Loan drive.

•

J. J. O'LEARY, president of Comerford Theatres, and M. J. O'TOOLE, public relations counsel, have been named to Scranton's Post War Planning Commission by MAYOR HOWARD J. SNOWDEN.

•

HERB BERG, United Artists trade representative, is due back in New York after a two weeks' vacation in Florida.

•

CHARLES SMAKWITZ, Warner Theatres assistant zone manager in Albany, is in town.

•

RALPH BANGHART of the RKO Chicago exchange, will be inducted into the Army April 19.

•

HENRY W. KAHN, M-G-M Chicago sales manager, has returned from a two-week vacation.

•

NAT WOLF, Warner Theatre Cleveland zone manager, has arrived in New York for a few days' visit.

G. L. CARRINGTON, Altec Service president, has arrived in New York from Hollywood.

•

CHARLES SNYDER, formerly Interstate Theatres city manager in Denison, Tex., has been inducted into the Navy. PAT HUDGINS, manager of the circuit's Majestic, Wichita Falls, Tex., succeeds Snyder.

•

TOMMY LUCE, Paramount Dallas exchange booking manager, has been inducted into the Army. SEBE MILLER, booking manager at the company's Memphis exchange, has been transferred to Dallas.

•

ROSS DOYLE, M-G-M publicist at the home office, reports to the Office of War Information April 17, for overseas service.

•

CPL. BOB BRANNICK, former manager of Warner's Rialto, Hartford, is now stationed in England.

•

DOUGLAS PHILLIPS, assistant manager of the Phillips, Springfield, has joined the armed forces.

•

JOE MIKLOS, manager of the Palace, Norwich, Conn., is the father of a baby girl born to MRS. MIKLOS.

•

E. Z. WALTERS, Altec Service comptroller, has returned from the Coast.

# Attack Cutler Figures In Prefect Hearing

NEW HAVEN, April 13.—Subjected to an attack designed to show that his figures on profits and losses of the Pickwick Theatre, Greenwich, were incorrect, William Cutler, assistant to E. J. Peskay, operator of the house, remained on the stand all day today in Federal District Court here in the trial of the Prefect Theatres anti-trust suit against eight distributing companies.

Joseph Berry, defense counsel, attempted to prove that Cutler had included in his direct testimony only figures favorable to the plaintiffs' case and had left out unfavorable ones.

On account of the unexpectedly prolonged questioning of Cutler, the plaintiffs did not rest today, as had been anticipated, but it is believed that this will occur sometime tomorrow. The defense was lining up witnesses last night and will present them for at least three weeks.

## *Kelly Flying East; Deal Not Complete*

HOLLYWOOD, April 13.—Arthur W. Kelly, head of J. Arthur Rank's Eagle-Lion Films in the United States, left by plane tonight for the East, where he will remain about 10 days before returning here.

Kelly's anticipated deal by which Eagle-Lion would obtain a producer-partner here is not yet completed but is understood to be well advanced.

# 5-Yr. Studio Pacts Reopened After 2

New pacts being negotiated by the studios with 11 IATSE studio craft locals, all five-year agreements, will probably have a provision for reopening the contracts at the end of two years for wage and other adjustments, it was learned at the close of yesterday's sessions at the office here of Pat Casey, producers' labor contact. An additional provision will be made to reopen the contracts at the end of a year on the wage issue if there is any liberalization of the "Little Steel" formula.

IATSE studio locals had asked for reopening at the end of each year in a five-year pact and the matter is expected to be settled this morning when company heads, their studio labor representatives and IATSE representatives resume sessions. Final point on provision for grievance machinery is also to be settled this morning, winding up negotiations. Group and compensation insurance issues will be settled on the Coast.

Yesterday's sessions were devoted to final rendering of agreements into written form with each local being provided with an opportunity to scrutinize the wording of the contract that it has negotiated. Everything is expected to be settled with the IATSE by 2:30 P.M. today when the producers will hold a scheduled meeting with James C. Petrillo, American Federation of Musicians' head, on the demands of studio musicians.

## *6,147 Contracts for 'Belle' in 2 Weeks*

**"The Memphis Belle," Eighth Army Air Force combat report, distributed by Paramount, with 6,147 contracts rolled up in two weeks, is setting a record, Charles M. Reagan, general distribution manager, said yesterday.**

**The four-reel Technicolor subject will have openings in 500 premiere key-city theatres today. It is being offered to all exhibitors, and War Activities Committees in all territories are urging its showing.**

**The film is being distributed by Paramount for the Office of War Information on a non-profit basis. All clearance has been waived to allow the widest possible circulation in the shortest time possible.**


NEW YORK THEATRES

RADIO CITY MUSIC HALL
50th Street & 6th Avenue
RITA HAYWORTH • GENE KELLY
"COVER GIRL"
in TECHNICOLOR • A Columbia Picture
Music by Jerome Kern • Lyrics by Ira Gershwin
Gala Stage Show • Symphony Orchestra
1st Mezzanine Seats Reserved. CIrcle 6-4600

RKO PALACE B'WAY & 47th St.
Anna NEAGLE • Richard GREENE
"YELLOW CANARY"

PARAMOUNT'S
"LADY IN THE DARK"
In Technicolor
IN PERSON
XAVIER CUGAT And BAND
DEAN MURPHY
PARAMOUNT TIMES SQUARE

LOEW'S STATE B'WAY & 45
ON SCREEN
Held Over 2nd Week
'NONE SHALL ESCAPE'
with MARSHA HUNT
IN PERSON
ALLAN JONES
Happy FELTON
Dick BUCKLEY
Added Attraction
CANADA LEE

Kay Francis • Carole Landis • Martha Raye • Mitzi Mayfair
"FOUR JILLS IN A JEEP"
—PLUS ON STAGE—
Harry Richman • The De Marcos
BUY MORE BONDS ROXY 7TH AVE. & 50TH ST.

THE SONG OF BERNADETTE
20th CENTURY-FOX PICTURE
CONTINUOUS Doors Open 9:30 A.M. B'WAY & 49th ST. RIVOLI


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# Hays on 50 Years; Committee Named

A report by MPPDA president Will H. Hays on the 50th anniversary of commercial motion pictures will almost exclusively occupy an adjourned meeting of the board of the Motion Picture Producers and Distributors of America, scheduled to be held here today.

Held over for further consideration from the annual meeting of March 27 is the matter of MPPDA members' interest in "a free and unhampered exchange of film products between the nations of the world."

Meanwhile, 15 exhibitors have accepted territorial chairmanships on the 50th anniversary committee, according to a telegram received at the MPPDA office here late yesterday from Harold J. Fitzgerald, national exhibitor chairman, in Milwaukee. Additional acceptances are expected in the near future.

**Chairmen Named**

Those lined up so far are: M. S. McCord, Little Rock; Harry F. Shaw, New Haven; F. H. Ricketson, Denver; J. L. Cartwright, Tampa, Fla.; Frank Larson, Idaho Falls, Ida.; J. J. Rubens, Chicago; H. E. Jameyson, Wichita; John Friedl, Minneapolis; E. L. Kuykendall, Columbus, Miss.; Elmer Rhodes, Kansas City; Ben Amsterdam, Camden; George Tucker, Albuquerque, N. M.; Edward M. Fay, Providence; Fred Larkin, South Falls, S. D., and John Danz, Seattle.

The committeemen will organize their territories to promote local demonstrations paying tribute to Thomas A. Edison, George Eastman and other founders of the industry, also stressing the importance of the motion picture theatres to the communities they serve.

# U.A. Christmas Bonus Finally Approved

The War Labor Board has finally approved United Artists' petition permitting the company to present a belated Christmas bonus of one week's salary to employes who were with the organization six months or more on Dec. 23, 1943, in both home office and exchanges, excluding officers and directors.

Consent by the WLB was given to UA upon the filing of an appeal, which followed the rejection by that agency to the company's original request. When the WLB rejected, it permitted a five-dollar bonus, causing U. A. to appeal.

A schedule by classification, the number of employes affected and the total group payments follows: salesmen, 75, $5,500; accounting, office, clerical and secretarial at exchanges, 112, $3,506; poster clerks, shipping clerks, and inspectresses at exchanges, 114, $3,095; office managers, secretaries and porters at exchanges, 72, $2,781; accounting, office, clerical and secreterial workers at the home office, 177, $6,647.

# Century Gets Delay For Filing Briefs

Century Circuit, Brooklyn, yesterday obtained a week's extension to file briefs requested by Judge William R. Wilson in Kings County Supreme Court at the close of the trial of the injunction action brought by Century to prevent the dissolution of the Empire State projectionists union.

# Industry Will Mark 50th Film Anniversary Today

(Continued from page 1)

to open the Kinetoscope Parlor to the public that Saturday night to take in enough money to pay for their dinner. The opening had been scheduled for Monday, April 16, but the whim of the amateur exhibitors set the pictures in motion at what is now known as a "preview." They took in $120, the crowds coming until 3 A. M. They got no dinner.

The millions who go to theatres today will see in the newsreels nostalgic subjects which take cognizance of the birth of the industry. The era in which Americans were singing "There'll Be a Hot Time in the Old Town Tonight," and worrying about the impending Chinese-Japanese War have been brought back to the screen in clips which all newsreels have included

**Bunny and Finch Starred**

"The Life of an American Fireman" and "The Great Train Robbery," produced by Edwin S. Porter, had made Fred Ott's "Sneeze," which was a sensation of early "peephole" machines, seem trivial. John Bunny and Flora Finch were stellar performers and Maurice Costello had set the vogue for handsome leading men. Hale's Tours were bumping people along in their seats in the Nickelodeons that had sprung up all over the country. John Harris with his partner, Harry Davis, set the style for these theatres when they opened the first one in Pittsburgh in 1905 to be followed in the same year by the Brothers Warner with their theatre in Castle, Pa. These had been preceded three years before by Thomas L. Talley of Los Angeles, who inaugurated his electric theatre devoted exclusively to the showing of motion pictures.

The motion picture Patents Company with its members, Edison, Vitagraph, Lubin, Selig, Essanay, Pathe, Kalem and Melies, flourished in combine until dissolved by the Supreme Court in 1917. In the meantime, D. W. Griffith had revolutionized the infant industry with his production of "The Clansman" ("The Birth of a Nation"), in 1915. This was the beginning of films' lush silent era which brought in such leaders as Adolph Zukor, Marcus Loew, Jesse Lasky, the Schencks, Carl Laemmle, Cecil B. DeMille and others.

**Huge Studios Appear**

Edison's "Black Maria," a crude tar-papered studio which revolved on a track to take advantage of sunlight, had been supplanted by vast studios covering many acres in the then booming Hollywood. The procession of producers to the Coast was led by Biograph in 1906, and Selig in 1907.

The industry was emerging from its infancy with such super productions as "Tillie's Punctured Romance"; D. W. Griffith's "Intolerance"; "The Serpent," starring Theda Bara; "The Miracle Man"; "Orphans of the Storm"; "The Covered Wagon"; "Ben Hur"; "Prisoner of Zenda" and "The Hunchback of Notre Dame."

William S. Hart, Mary Pickford, Douglas Fairbanks, Wallace Reid, Thomas Meighan, Charlie Chaplin, Rudolph Valentino, Mae Murray, Florence Vidor, Dorothy and Lillian Gish, Lon Chaney, George Arliss, Lionel Barrymore and others were getting top billing.

Exhibitors saw the necessity for deluxe theatres in which to display these stars and pictures, so in 1914 the first film "palace," the Strand Theatre in New York, opened with Mack Sennett's first full-length comedy, "Tillie's Punctured Romance," with Chaplin and Marie Dressler featured.

The building of new theatres kept pace with the progress of the producers until today thousands of deluxe houses are in operation throughout the nation, led, of course, by the Radio City Music Hall.

In 1924, the first Technicolor picture, "Toll of the Sea," was shown but it had not yet found voice. Two years later, Warner Brothers and Western Electric had developed Vitaphone talking pictures sufficiently to present "Don Juan," using sound on discs, at the Warner Theatre in New York. This was followed by the "Jazz Singer" in 1927 and reached maturity. Today some 90,000,000 people attend films weekly.

**Preview Held for 'Parade of Past'**

Representatives of the press, broadcasting and television companies and distributors witnessed a preview yesterday at the Preview Theatre here, of the first of a series of shorts, compiled by Fun Film Library, from films exhibited since the earliest days of the industry, for the 50th anniversary of commercialized motion pictures. The series will be released under the title "Parade of the Past."

Yesterday's subject, which ran eight minutes, covered events of the period starting with Edison's Kinetoscope and including the inauguration of President William McKinley and his subsequent assassination, followed by Theodore Roosevelt in the White House. Other sequences depicted the character of the "peep show" motion picture.

**Wide Coverage Accorded Anniversary Today**

Richard Condon, Inc., agency handling the industry 50th anniversary's promotion, has prepared a 20-page pressbook containing feature stories, art layouts, exploitation and advertising ideas, ad sales and accessories to be distributed through National Screen.

In its publicity campaign, coverage for the event has included to date over 20 national magazines, all fan magazines, wire service and photo syndicates, as well as local newspapers. The five newsreels have inserted special footage.

**Columbia Short for 50th Anniversary**

Columbia's Screen Snapshots, No. 9, commemorating the 50th anniversary of the industry, will open at first run houses starting today.

Directed by Ralph Staub, the reel includes footage of "The Kiss," early Kinetescope subject, newsreel shots of Teddy Roosevelt and the Rough Riders, the 1895 Easter Parade, and first shots of Mary Pickford, Harry Carey and others.

# Coast Flashes

*Hollywood, April 13*

WILLIAM JACOBS will produce "Fog Over London" for Warners, with Graham Baker scripting.

•

Ned Washington, song lyric writer, has filed suit in Los Angeles Superior Court against Producers Corp. of America for $8,500 allegedly due him for lyrics for "Knickerbocker Holiday."

•

Heather Angel, British film actress, and Capt. Robert Sinclair of the Army Air Forces have announced they will be married Saturday in Beverly Hills.

•

Walter Szurovy, Hungarian stage and screen player, has been cast in Warners' "To Have and Have Not," starring Humphrey Bogart.

•

W. P. Burnett's adaptation of his novel, "Nobody Lives Forever," has been announced by Warners. Humphrey Bogart will star in the film.

# Oppose Building of 'White Elephants'

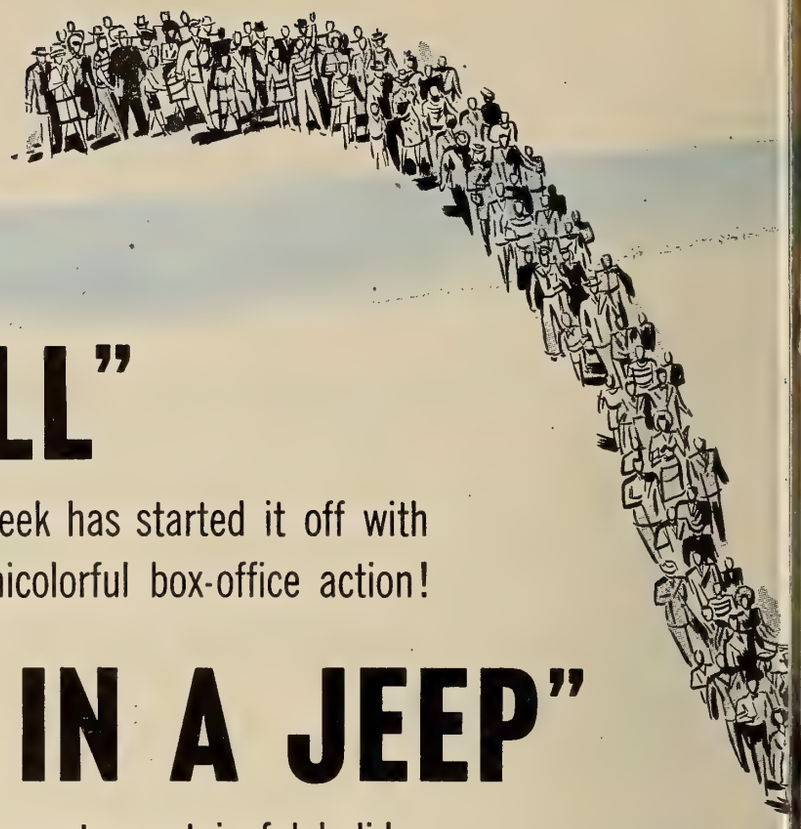
LOS ANGELES, April 13.—The Independent Theatre Owners of Southern California and Arizona have launched a survey of war industry areas where the War Production Board is prepared to grant priorities for additional theatres. The WPB has been advised by ITO and the Pacific Coast Conference of Independent Theatre Owners that in 21 listed areas under consideration patronage of existing theatres does not constitute more than 40 percent capacity, with practically all houses running no matinees except on Saturdays and Sundays.

The WPB has also been advised, said R. H. Poole, PCCITO executive, that independent exhibitors of Southern California feel they should have first right to provide any necessary new seating capacity the WPB may decide upon and that ITO does not want "white elephant" theatres existing after the war. ITO will present the results of the survey and its side of the case to the WPB in Washington early next month.

# 8 Speaking Dates Set For Charles F. Coe

Eight dates have been set for industry-public addresses by Charles Francis Coe of the Motion Picture Producers and Distributors of America. Coe will return tomorrow from Florida for the new series of institutional good-will talks.

The new dates are as follows: April 19, Baltimore Advertising Club; April 20, National Congress of the Daughters of the American Revolution; April 25, Minneapolis Executive Civic and Commerce Association; April 26, Kansas City Chamber of Commerce; May 4, Salesmen's Club, Dallas; May 5, Chamber of Commerce, Oklahoma City; May 10, Kiwanis Club, Denver, and the St. Louis Chamber of Commerce, May 16.



# "BUFFALO BILL"

World Premiere in 140 theatres this week has started it off with record after record! Watch that Technicolorful box-office action!

# "FOUR JILLS IN A JEEP"

Now setting Easter Week highs as this year's most joyful holiday hit at the Roxy, New York—and in more than 40 other openings!

# "THE PURPLE HEART"

The timeliness of this great Darryl F. Zanuck Production has put it in the top-grosser class—in big cities, in small cities!

# "THE SONG OF BERNADETTE"

Over 4,000,000 people have already paid advanced admission prices to see it in 67 cities! Engagements extended in key spots everywhere!



THE INDUSTRY'S PROUDEST OFFERING
"THE MEMPHIS BELLE" TECHNICOLOR SAGA
OF OUR AIR HEROES. BOOK IT NOW!

*These* **FOUR** *are*

# FOREMOST

*among box-office leaders of key city grosses!*



-from the company that's running **4 to 1** ahead of its nearest competitor in hits — — — — — — — — — — in the **fore** also with "THE SULLIVANS"—"JANE EYRE" "LIFEBOAT"—"THE LODGER"

20th CENTURY-FOX

# "SHAME ON YOU, LEO!"




"Sorry folks,
I knew it
was terrific,
but now I see
that it's
COLOSSAL, too!"

"TWO GIRLS AND A SAILOR" with Van Johnson, June Allyson, Gloria DeHaven, Jose Iturbi, Jimmy Durante, Gracie Allen, Lena Horne, Harry James and His Music Makers with Helen Forrest, Xavier Cugat and His Orchestra with Lina Romay, Tom Drake, Henry Stephenson, Henry O'Neill, Ben Blue, Carlos Ramirez, Frank Sully, Albert Coates, Donald Meek, Amparo Novarro, Virginia O'Brien, Wilde Twins • Original Screen Play by Richard Connell and Gladys Lehman • A Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer Picture • Directed by RICHARD THORPE • Produced by JOE PASTERNAK



A FRANK STATEMENT
REGARDING CHANGE OF
TRADE-SHOW PLANS FOR

# "TWO GIRLS AND A SAILOR"

Last week we advertised it for
trade-show screenings in Projection Rooms
in all Exchange centers on April 24th.

THEN CAME THE PRINT FROM THE COAST!

It's the Greatest Musical of years!

IT'S TOO BIG FOR A PROJECTION ROOM!

(*So We've Cancelled the Projection Room Screenings*)

IT WILL BE TRADE-SHOWN IN THEATRES!

SAME DATE, APRIL 24th, BUT AT NIGHT!

WATCH FOR FURTHER DETAILS IN LETTER
FROM YOUR M-G-M EXCHANGE!

# Nine Pictures Finished; 43 Are on Stages

HOLLYWOOD, April 13.—Nine pictures were finished last week while only eight new ones started, to bring the number on the stages down to 43. The previous week saw nine finished, five started, leaving 44 in work. The production scene follows:

**Columbia**

*Started*: "U-Boat Prisoner," with Bruce Bennett, Erik Rolf, Eric Feldary, George Eldredge, Fred Gierman, Kenneth MacDonald. "Untitled Kay Kyser," with Kay Kyser, Ann Miller, Victor Moore, Georgia Carroll, (Miss) Jeff Donnell. "Rough Ridin' Justice," with Charles Starrett, Jimmy Wakely, B. J. Graham.

*Finished*: "America's Children."

*Shooting*: "The Impatient Years," "Louisiana Hayride."

**M-G-M**

*Shooting*: "Lost in a Harem," "Maisie Goes to Reno," "Gold Town," "Mrs. Parkington," "The Picture of Dorian Gray," "Thirty Seconds Over Tokyo," "Secrets in the Dark," "Marriage Is a Private Affair," "Meet Me in St. Louis," "National Velvet."

**Monogram**

*Started*: "The Girl Next Door," with Edmund Lowe, Marjorie Rambeau, Jean Parker, Alan Dinehart.

*Shooting*: "Leave It to the Irish," "Call of the Jungle."

*Finished*: "Range Law."

**Paramount**

*Shooting*: "Practically Yours."

*Finished*: "Bring on the Girls."

**PRC**

*Started*: "Riders of Mystery Mountain," with Dave O'Brien, James Newill, Guy Wilkerson, Mady Lawrence.

*Finished*: "Minstrel Man."

**RKO-Radio**

*Shooting*: "That Hunter Girl," "The Falcon in Mexico," "Mademoiselle Fifi," "Cocktails for Two," "None But the Lonely Heart," "Heavenly Days," "Manhattan Serenade," "Belle of the Yukon," (International); "Casanova Brown," (International).

**Republic**

*Started*: "Sing, Neighbor, Sing," with Ruth Terry, Lulu Belle and "Scotty," Stanley Brown, "Pappy" Cheshire.

*Finished*: "Red Gulch Renegades," "Song of Nevada," "Secrets of Scotland Yard," "The Girl Who Dared."

**20th Century-Fox**

*Shooting*: "The Big Noise" (formerly "Good Neighbors"), "Take It or Leave It," "Irish Eyes Are Smiling," "Wing and a Prayer," "The Keys of the Kingdom."

**United Artists**

*Shooting*: "The Story of G. I. Joe," (Lester Cowan); "Abroad With Two Yanks," (Edward Small).

**Universal**

*Started*: "The Singing Sheriff," with Edward Norris, Fay McKenzie, Fuzzy Knight, Samuel S. Hinds, Bob Crosby, Andrew Tombes. "The Devil's Brood," with Lon Chaney, Boris Karloff, Anne Gwynne, Peter Coe, George Zucco.

*Finished*: "Twilight on the Prairie."

**Warners**

*Shooting*: "The Very Thought of You," "The Conspirators," "To Have and Have Not," "The Doughgirls."

# *Wallis, Hazen May Join in Deal with Spitz, Goetz*

(*Continued from page* 1)

publisher, and the sister of Walter Annenberg, publisher of the *Philadelphia Inquirer*.

Louis B. Mayer, vice-president in charge of production at Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer, also might figure in the picture, possibly as guiding or financial mentor to Goetz, who is Mayer's son-in-law. Mayer is now in New York. So is Spitz. Wallis is due here this morning. Arriving with Wallis will be Loyd Wright, his attorney, who will also sit in at the conferences.

**Selznick Tie-up Predicted**

Interests close to the picture make the long-range prediction of an eventual joining of International forces with those of David Selznick's Vanguard Pictures, either with Selznick in United Artists, or, if this cannot be accomplished, with Selznick in a new "major" producing-distributing organization, Selznick having had ambitions in mind for his own company for some time. Spitz-Goetz are presently committed to deliver four pictures to RKO. "Casanova Brown," with Gary Cooper, the first, is nearly complete. The second, "Belle of the Yukon," with Gypsy Rose Lee, is now in production. Sonja Henie will star in "It's a Pleasure," and Edward G. Robinson, in "Once Off Guard."

**Three from Warners**

The association of Wallis and Hazen would place three Warnerites fresh in top spots at International, A. W. Schwalberg, vice-president of Warners' Vitagraph and supervisor of Vitagraph exchanges, having recently resigned to become Eastern sales representative of International, on May 1. Hazen's resignation as vice-president, counsel and board member of Warners becomes effective tomorrow. Wallis's executive producer contract was abrogated by Warners last week for alleged breach, which Wallis has denied.

Wallis has been widely reported as joining one or another of half-a-dozen companies, with M-G-M and Selznick's Vanguard mentioned the most frequently.

Those close to the picture describe Hazen as having determined some time ago to enter business for himself, adding that he was dissatisfied with being "just on the payroll," albeit in the high brackets.

Association of Hazen with International would be, of course, in management and finance, with Spitz, who is presently chairman of the board and the business half of the partnership with Goetz. And, similarly, Wallis would associate with Goetz in production. The latter is president of International.

MOTION PICTURE DAILY reported on April 6 that New York bankers stand ready to finance an independent company headed by Wallis up to $10,000,000.

**Robinson, Toumanova, And Peck Are Signed**

HOLLYWOOD, April 13.—International Pictures has signed Casey Robinson to an exclusive producer-writer contract, which will become effective on completion of his present commitment at M-G-M. He will take with him to International Gregory Peck and Toumanova, both under long-term contracts.

**Selznick $250,000 Campaign For "You Went Away"**

HOLLYWOOD, April 13.—David O. Selznick will launch a $250,000 advertising campaign for "Since You Went Away," which United Artists will release in late May, with a full page in the May 1 issue of *Life*. Foote, Cone and Belding is handling the advertising.

## *Local 306 Elects 12 For IATSE Meet*

Twelve delegates were elected to represent the 2,400 members of New York IATSE projectionists' Local 306 at the IATSE convention in St. Louis starting May 29, at an election held at Palm Gardens here this week.

Herman Gelber, Local 306 president, was first among the 47 candidates, with 764 votes. Samuel Kaplan was seventh with 515 votes. Other delegates elected include Benjamin Scher, Morris Kravitz, Harry Storin, Nathaniel Doragoff, Charles Beckman, Herman Boritz, Joseph D. Basson, James Ambrosio, Edward Stewart and Frank Inciardi.

## *'Main Street' in Capital*

WASHINGTON, April 13.—M-G-M's short subject "Main Street" opened here at Loew's Palace last night. Among those who attended were: Paul V. McNutt, WMC director; Robert P. Patterson, Under Secretary of War; James V. Forestal, Under Secretary of the Navy.

## *20th-Family Club Dance*

The 20th-Fox Family Club will hold a dinner and dance April 28 at the Hotel Astor.

## *Bill Barring Children From Films Vetoed*

ALBANY, April 13.—Gov. Dewey yesterday vetoed the Ehrlich bill which would have barred children from appearing in motion pictures or theatrical and radio programs in this state unless they had the prior approval of local boards of education, which would decide whether such employment was harmful.

The Governor observed: "I recommend the reconsideration of the entire problem and the preparation of a much more modest bill."

## *NSS Aids WAC Drive*

National Screen Service has placed its facilities at the disposal of the film industry for the theatres' recruiting campaign for the Women's Army Corps. Accessories, trailers, posters and other material will be made available through NSS exchanges for the drive, set for May 11 through May 17.

## *Lynn Now Staff Officer*

Jeffrey Lynn, former player, is now a staff officer of a Mitchell air squadron based in Italy, according to press dispatches from Naples. He is listed by the Army under his real name, 2nd Lieut. Ragner Lind.

# Cincinnati Is Aided By Holiday Crowds

CINCINNATI, April 13.—Turnstiles clicked steadily this week, with "Moonlight in Vermont" plus Cab Calloway and orchestra pacing the field with an estimated $32,000 at the RKO Albee.

Estimated receipts for the week ending April 15:

**"Moonlight in Vermont" (Univ.)**
RKO ALBEE—(3,300) (50c-60c-70c-85c-95c) 7 days. Stage: Cab Calloway and orchestra. Gross: $32,000. (Average: $22,000).

**"Lady in the Dark" (Para.)**
RKO CAPITOL—(2,000) (44c-50c-60c-70c) 7 days, plus Saturday midnight show. Gross: $11,000. (Average: $10,000).

**"Two-Man Submarine" (Col.)**
**"Arizona Trail" (Univ.)**
RKO FAMILY—(1,000) (30c-40c) 4 days. Gross: $1,500. (Average: $1,600).

**"My Best Girl" (Rep.)**
**"Frontier Outlaw" (PRC)**
RKO FAMILY—(1,000) (30c-40c) 3 days. Gross: $800. (Average: $800).

**"The Miracle of Morgan's Creek" (Para.)**
RKO GRAND—(1,500) (44c-50c-60c-70c) 7 days, plus Saturday midnight show. Gross: $10,500. (Average: $9,500).

**"Standing Room Only" (Para.)**
KEITH'S — (1,500) (44c-50c-60c-70c) 7 days, 3rd week, following initial week at the Palace and moveover week at the Shubert Gross: $4,500. (Average: $5,000).

**"The Purple Heart" (20th-Fox)**
RKO LYRIC—(1,400) (44c-50c-60c-70c) 7 days, plus Saturday midnight show. Gross: $8,000. (Average: $5,500).

**"Song of Russia" (M-G-M)**
RKO PALACE—(2,700) (44c-50c-60c-70c) 7 days, plus Saturday midnight show. Gross: $17,500. (Average: $15,000).

**"Broadway Rhythm" (M-G-M)**
RKO SHUBERT — (1,500) (44c-50c-60c-70c) 7 days, 2nd week, moveover from the Palace. Gross: $6,500. (Average: $5,000).

## *'Bernadette' Is Big $20,000 in Providence*

PROVIDENCE, April 13.—Theatre business was booming in Providence this week, with all houses reporting relatively high grosses. "Broadway Rhythm" at Loew's State and "Song of Bernadette," launching Fay's all-film policy, led with about $20,000 each.

Estimated receipts for the week ending April 13:

**"Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs" (RKO)**
**"Falcon Out West" (RKO)**
RKO-ALBEE—(2,239) (35c-44c-55c-60c) 7 days. Gross: $17,000. (Average: $12,800).

**"Cover Girl" (Col.)**
STRAND—(2,200) (44c-55c) 7 days, 3rd week. Gross: $7,200. (Average: $10,500).

**"Broadway Rhythm" (M-G-M)**
LOEW'S STATE—(3,232) (35c-44c-55c) 7 days. Gross: $20,000. (Average: $17,700).

**"Shine On, Harvest Moon" (M-G-M)**
MAJESTIC—(2,250) (35c-44c-55c) 7 days. Gross: $16,000. (Average: $12,100).

**"In Our Time" (WB)**
**"Find the Blackmailer" (WB)**
CARLTON—(1,526) (35c-44c-55c) 7 days, 2nd week, moveover from the Majestic. Gross: $4,500. (Average: $4,000).

**"The Song of Bernadette" (20th-Fox)**
FAY'S—(1,800) (76c-80c-$1.10) 7 days. Gross: $20,000. (Average: under 30c-40c-50c scale, $6,500).

**"Dr. Syn" (Gaumont-British)**
METROPOLITAN—(3,050) (50c-60c-70c) 2 days. On stage: Shep Fields Orchestra, Jerry Wayne. Gross: $9,300. (Average: 3 days, $7,900).

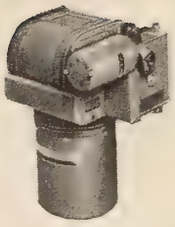
## *Murphy Rites Tuesday*

Funeral services for the late 1st Lieut. William Murphy, brother of John Murphy of Loew's, who was killed when his fighter plane crashed at Napa, Cal., recently, will be held Tuesday morning from the home of his mother, Mrs. Lillian Murphy, 85-30 165th St., Jamaica, L. I. A solemn requiem mass at 10 A.M. in the R. C. Church of the Immaculate Conception, Jamaica, will follow. Interment will be in St. John's Cemetery, Queens.

*You press the button . . . it does the rest*



Kodak's K-24 Aircraft Camera is completely automatic. In reconnaissance, you push a switch button on your "stick" and the camera, in the nose or tail, clicks away. In a bomber, it is in the plane's belly, connected, through complex electrical controls, with the bombsight itself. Its focal plane shutter, power operated, has speeds of 1/50, 1/450, 1/900, and "time." It is fitted, as are most other aerial cameras, with Kodak aerial lenses, including Kodak Aero Ektars incorporating elements of Kodak's revolutionary new optical glass . . . interchangeable in a range of focal lengths and speeds for different missions. Uses Kodak Aero Films in prethreaded interchangeable magazines holding 56 feet, enough for 125 pictures, 5 inches square.





# K-24 Aircraft Camera, built by Kodak, *"runs its own show"*

Bombardier, at left, is hunched over his bombsight which is electrically coupled with the camera, automatically taking pictures every time bombs are released. At right is a gunner covering the nose with his "fifty."

TANGLING with fighters and flak while making a bombing run . . . or scurrying over enemy country at low altitude on a reconnaissance job . . . the last thing you have time for is "keeping a snapshot record of your trip."

Yet in reconnaissance, that's really what you're out for—and in bombing, you want to bring back "picture information" on the relation of your falling bombs to the target . . . for the camera makes a record of details you couldn't possibly see and remember.

Pretty hopeless, without a camera that "runs its own show" . . . Kodak's K-24 does just that.

On a reconnaissance flight—with no bombs to unload—you press a button for each picture, operating the fixed-position camera by remote control. Or, if you want a series, simply hold the button down, and the camera takes 3 pictures a second.

"Chalking up the score" in the training of bombardier and pilot is another vital phase of the K-24's activity—to know how good you're getting to be, you consult the photographic evidence.

The K-24 is no hero—the pilot and crew play that role. But it does take a lot off a hero's mind.

EASTMAN KODAK COMPANY
ROCHESTER, N. Y.

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REMEMBER THE PLOESTI RAID?—how at the cost of more than 500 trained fliers, our Liberators fought through one of the most heavily fortified areas in the world, to drop the bombs that knocked out one-third of Germany's oil supply?—how some of the pilots who missed the target on their first run turned back and flew through solid sheets of flame to try again? A stern example for us at home.

BUY MORE WAR BONDS

*Serving human progress through photography*

# Korda Stock Bought By U.A. Over Chaplin's Objection

(*Continued from page 1*)

Chaplin and, in effect, makes each a one-third owner despite the fact that the Korda block is on the retirement list. This develops through the fact that the remaining three partners jointly own United Artists Corp., the parent company, which, in turn, is 100 per cent owner of U. A. Prod., and despite the fact that Korda's stock remains undistributed over the three.

Confirmation of the deal, which awaits the signature of Korda, now in London, is expected tomorrow or shortly thereafter.

The probability is that U. A. Prod. will name a director to U. A. Corp., although this evidently remains undetermined. Through what processes such new director would be designated is not clear currently, although it appears logical that such an individual must be mutually determined by and acceptable to the remaining three owner-members.

**Closed Over Chaplin's Head**

The Korda deal, in and out for months, was closed over Chaplin's head. His position was that the parent company was not justified in putting up money to buy its own shares and that money thus spent would be better employed in further building up cash reserves and assets.

The defiance of the company's unanimous rule procedure, which Miss Pickford has been trying to break through a friendly suit for which George Wharton Pepper, Philadelphia attorney, has been engaged, is seen here as prefacing further moves and possibly internal conflicts within U. A. in the future.

**Selznick, Pickford Tie Rumored**

An unconfirmed but persistent report is that Selznick and Miss Pickford are inclining to function as a coalition within U. A. in opposition, not necessarily too open at this time, to Chaplin. Korda's withdrawal now means his full concentration on M-G-M's British production setup, under which he has a participation interest through a 10-year deal recently consummated.

The stock purchase by U. A. Prod. also continues the ownership of U. A. Corp. by the current stockholders and emphasizes the well known antipathy toward opening the door to new interests which, many times, have sought to gain a foothold. At various times, these reputedly have included J. Arthur Rank, Leo Spitz and William Goetz.

## *Loeb to Filmakers*

Leon Loeb, former publicist, recently honorably discharged from the Army, has been named director of sales promotion and public relations for Associated Filmakers, Inc.

**WANTED**

Trustworthy secretary to Publicity Manager. Must be competent in telephone conversations; capable for all-around secretarial work. Good opportunity for advancement—salary $35:00. In replying, please state present position and past experience. Box 228, MOTION PICTURE DAILY.



John J. Friedl



R. M. Kennedy

# *O'Donnell to Head Films' Fifth War Loan Drive*

(*Continued from page 1*)

July 8, will be John J. Freidl and Richard M. Kennedy. All three have served as WAC chairman in their areas.

Friedl, president and general manager of the Minnesota Amusement Co., is a veteran exhibitor in the Middle West, and headed the recent Red Cross drive for the industry in Minneapolis.

Kennedy is associated with R. B. Wilby of the Wilby-Kincey circuit operating theatres in Alabama and Tennessee and with interests in 82 theatres in North and South Carolina. He, too, has been active in various industry war drives and served as state exhibitor chairman for Alabama during the Fourth War Loan.

O'Donnell, general manager of the Interstate Circuit and Texas Consolidate Theatres, has been active in past War Loan drives and Red Cross campaigns. During the national copper salvage campaign last June he toured the country as industry chairman for the WAC, organizing exhibitor drives to aid the War Planning Board.

O'Donnell arrived in New York yesterday from Dallas to confer with WAC officials Leonard Goldenson, Francis S. Harmon, Oscar A. Doob, and John Flinn, WAC Hollywood division coordinator. Within the next few days he and Friedl and Kennedy expect to meet with Theodore H. Gamble, head of the War Finance Committee of the Treasury Department, in a series of conferences to discuss plans for the forthcoming drive, with an aim to equalling, if not bettering past performances.

The goal for the Fifth War Loan drive set by Secretary of the Treasury Henry Morgenthau, Jr., is $16,000,000,000.

## *Harry Arthur Unit Temporarily Delayed*

(*Continued from page 1*)

closed, several of the franchise holders lined up by EDP do not have first-run "showcases" in their territories and it will be necessary for them to build these houses. This will be done as soon as restrictions are lifted which might be during the war or might have to wait until the post-war period. Arthur further indicated that several producers and actors who have been approached to make pictures for EDP distribution have prior commitments, necessitating a delay in the production end as well.

Arthur said that he does not anticipate any difficulty in securing the necessary raw film stock for producers who will make films for EDP. Pictures will be made at existing Hollywood studios with the company paying a flat rental for use of the studio space as do other independent producers.

Arthur will be here for a week and then will return to Los Angeles.

## *'Yellow Canary' Review*

Herbert Wilcox's production "Yellow Canary," starring Anna Neagle and Richard Greene, which is being released in this country by RKO and which opened at the New York Palace Theatre yesterday, was reviewed in MOTION PICTURE DAILY last Nov. 16 by Peter Burnup from London.

## *SPG,CompaniesWind Up Arbitration*

Arbitration hearings in the wages and job-classification dispute between the Screen Publicists Guild and film companies here wound up at the offices of the American Arbitration Association late Wednesday night, with both sides asked to submit briefs.

A three-man arbitration panel, consisting of Pat Scollard, Paramount, representing the companies; Aaron Schneider, representing SPG and Aaron Horvitz, selected by both sides, will consider the case when briefs are available. When a final award is agreed upon it will go to the War Labor Board for approval.

## *FP-C Operating Profit $4,808,302 in 1943*

TORONTO, April 13.—The 1943 financial statement of Famous Players-Canadian Corp., made public here today, showed a record high operating profit of $4,808,302, compared with $3,675,488 in 1942.

After deduction of all charges, the net profit stood at $1,348,450, or $80,000 more than in 1942, or $3.13 per share of common stock. Taxes totalled $2,434,124. Net working capital amounted to $2,276,021, compared with $2,105,179 at the end of the previous year. Holdings of Canadian war bonds are listed at $534,200 and total assets at approximately $17,000,000.

# Boston Gives High $33,000 to 'Higher'

BOSTON, April 13.—Business upsurged in all downtown theatres, although not quite reaching levels of former weeks. "Higher and Higher" with Blue Barron's orchestra, set the pace with $33,000.

Estimated receipts for the week ending April 13:

**"Higher and Higher" (RKO)**
RKO BOSTON—(3,200) (50c-65c-85c-$1.10) 7 days. Stage Show with Blue Barron Orchestra. Gross: $33,000. (Average: $28,300).
**"Lady in the Dark" (Para.)**
**"Casanova in Burlesque" (Rep.)**
FENWAY—(1,373) (40c-55c-75c). Gross: $6,000. (Average: $8,000).
**"Lady in the Dark" (Para.)**
**"Casanova in Burlesque" (Rep.)**
PARAMOUNT — (1,700) (40c-55c-75c) Gross: $13,000. (Average: $14,300).
**"Cover Girl" (Col.)**
LOEW'S STATE—(3,200) (45c-55c-75c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $9,500. (Average: $15,000).
**"Cover Girl" (Col.)**
LOEW'S ORPHEUM—(2,900) (45c-55c-75c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $19,000. (Average: $23,700).
**"Jane Eyre" (20th-Fox)**
**"Hi Good Lookin'" (Univ.)**
KEITH MEMORIAL—(2,900) (40c-55c-65c-85c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $15,500. (Average: $17,800).
**"Desert Song" (WB)**
**"Rosie the Riveter" (Rep.)**
METROPOLITAN—(4,367) (40c-55c-65c-85c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $22,000. (Average: $23,800).
**"Nabonga" (PRC)**
**"Voodoo Man" (Mono.)**
TRANSLUX—(987) (40c-55c-75c). Gross: $6,500. (Average: $7,200).

## *Matinees Boost 'Chip' To High $17,250*

MILWAUKEE, April 13.—Because of Spring vacation for school children this week, "Chip Off the Old Block" at the Riverside got $17,250. "Ali Baba and the Forty Thieves," with $13,000, at the Alhambra, is also packing them in at the matinees.

Estimated receipts for the week ending April 14:

**"Four Jills in a Jeep" (20th-Fox)**
WISCONSIN — (3,200) (40c-50c-80c) 7 days. Gross: $16,500. (Average: $14,500).
**"The Miracle of Morgan's Creek" (Para.)**
PALACE—(2,400) (40c-60c-80c) 7 days. Gross: $15,000. (Average: $10,500).
**"The Purple Heart" (20th-Fox)**
**"Cry Havoc" (M-G-M)**
STRAND—(1,400) (40c-60c-80c) 7 days, 2nd week downtown. Gross: $4,250. (Average: $4,500).
**"Shine On, Harvest Moon" (WB)**
WARNER—(2,400) (50c-72c) 7 days. Gross: $17,000. (Average: $15,500).
**"Ali Baba and the Forty Thieves" (Univ.)**
ALHAMBRA—(1,900) (50c-72c) 7 days, 2nd week downtown. Gross: $13,000. (Average: $10,000).
**"Chip Off the Old Block" (Univ.)**
RIVERSIDE DR—(2,700) (65c-85c) 7 days. On stage: Ray Eberle. Gross: $17,250. (Average: $15,500).

## *'Cantinflas' Rejects Offer of $100,000*

MEXICO CITY, April 13.—"Cantinflas," film comedian, has reportedly refused an offer of $100,000 by Paramount to play in "A Medal for Benny," opposite Dorothy Lamour, in Hollywood. This is said to be the largest ever made to a Mexican player by a Hollywood producer.

In private life, "Cantinflas" is Mario Moreno, vice-president of Posa Films.

## *No 'Bernadette' Change*

"The Song of Bernadette," 20th-Fox production, will not be shown at any theatre at less than present advanced-admissions before Jan. 1, 1945, Tom Connors, vice-president in charge of distribution, announced here this week.

# Pittsburgh Theatres Experience Boom

PITTSBURGH, April 13.—The Easter boom here exceeded all expectations, with "The Song of Bernadette" playing at the Harris to the tune of $29,000, "Lady in the Dark" promising $26,000 at the Penn, and "The Sullivans" raising the Fulton's gross to $14,000, all far above house averages.

Estimated receipts for the week ending April 14:

**"The Sullivans" (20th-Fox)**
FULTON—(1,700) (35c-44c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $14,000. (Average: $8,500).
**"The Song of Bernadette" (20th-Fox)**
HARRIS—(2,200) (80c-$1.10) 7 days. Gross: $29,000. (Average: $10,000).
**"Lady in the Dark" (Para.)**
PENN—(3,400) (35c-44c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $26,000. (Average: $21,700).
**"Broadway Rhythm" (M-G-M)**
RITZ—(1,100) (35c-44c-65c) 7 days, 2nd week, moveover from Stanley. Gross: $3,800. (Average: $3,000).
**"Hey Rookie" (Col.)**
**"The Whistler" (Col.)**
SENATOR—(1,750) (35c-44c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $3,600. (Average: $3,400).
**"Action in Arabia" (RKO)**
STANLEY—(3,800) (44c-68c-85c). On stage: 6 days of vaudeville, including Lionel Hampton's band. Gross: $22,000. (Average: $22,000).
**"The Miracle of Morgan's Creek" (Para.)**
WARNER—(2,000) (35c-44c-65c) 7 days, 2nd week, moveover from Penn. Gross: $14,000. (Average: $9,350).

## *Fields with 'Minstrel'*

HOLLYWOOD, April 13. — PRC's "Minstrel Man," starring Benny Fields, will be booked to coincide with personal appearances of Fields. The film will have its world premiere in Milwaukee, Fields' home town, in June.

## *French to Hear Story Of Films at War*

**The story of the American film industry's part in the war effort will soon be broadcast over shortwave to France by Harold L. Smith of the MPPDA'S international department. The broadcast, sponsored by the OWI, on behalf of the United Nations, will be one of a series featuring American Legionaires who formerly lived in France.**

**In the French-language recording Smith has made, he greets the friends he knew while Paris representative of the U. S. film industry. He describes the functions of the War Activities Committee, the overseas tours of stars and the supplying of 16mm films for the armed forces.**

## *MGM Switches Dates Of 2 Trade Showings*

Trade showings of M-G-M's "Three Men in White," originally scheduled to be held at exchanges on April 24, have been postponed to April 28, in the same places. Trade showings of "Gaslight," originally scheduled for April 28, in exchanges, are now set for May 5.

"Two Girls and a Sailor," which was slated for trade showings in exchanges on April 24, instead will be previewed in theatres the same night. Theatres for these showings are now being lined up.

# *Short Subject Reviews*

## *"Cilly Goose"*

(*Paramount*)

This is a cartoon with a moral. It's about a goose who is jealous of other barnyard animals. She paints an egg gold to get some attention and the results are amusing to all. Cilly is exploited as the "Goose Who Laid the Golden Egg" and mercenary "well-wishers" make her life miserable until she wakes up to find it's all a dream. She reforms, determined to be content with her lot. This will have a special appeal for children. Music score is good. Running time, 8 mins.

## *"Speaking of Animals In the Newsreels"*

(*Paramount*)

Here is hilarious entertainment with animals again stealing the show. A brilliant take-off on Paramount's newsreels, producers Fairbanks and Carlisle have burlesqued political speeches, society events, sweater girls, and beauty contests. Music score is excellent. Running time, 9½ mins.

## *4 New Salvage Stations*

Four more New York theatres will be added on April 17 to the 22 houses already participating in the waste-paper salvage plan organized by the American Women's Voluntary Services, it was announced yesterday.

# 'B'way Rhythm' Gets Healthy $20,000

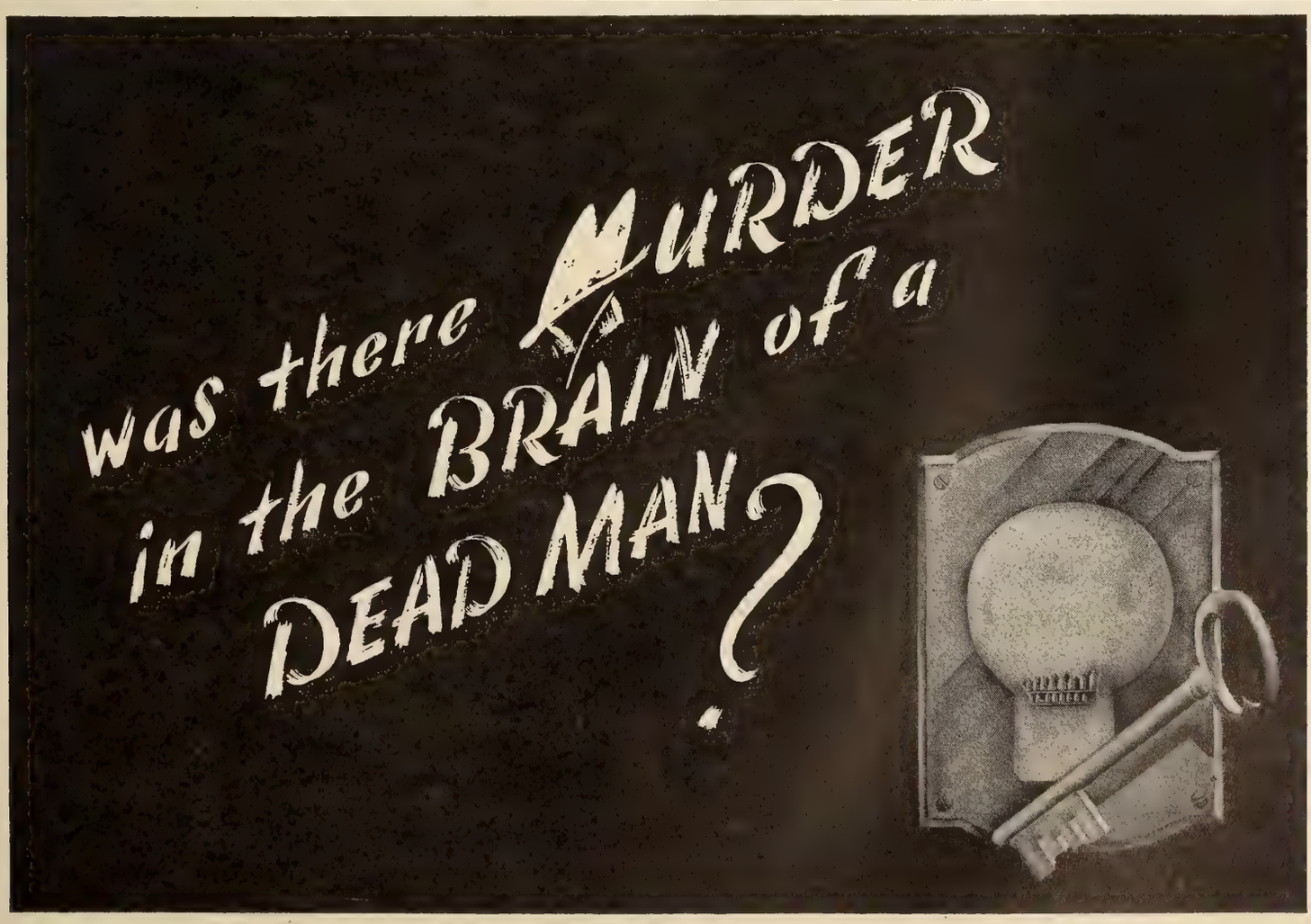
ST. LOUIS, April 13.—Easter and a rainy weekend cut the take at St. Louis first runs this week. "Broadway Rhythm" at Loew's State, however, looks like $20,000, with "Four Jills in a Jeep" at the Fox expected to gross $16,000.

Estimated receipts for the week ending April 12:

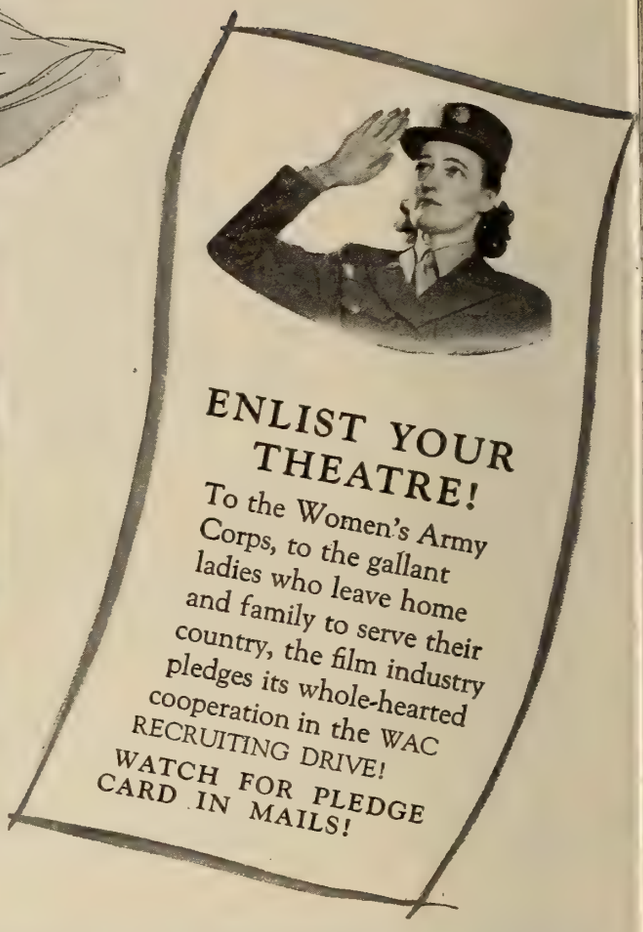
**"Ladies Courageous" (Univ.)**
**"Rosie the Riveter" (Rep.)**
MISSOURI—(3,514) (40c-50c-60c) 7 days. Gross: $12,000. (Average: $9,900).
**"Tender Comrade" (RKO)**
**"Hat Check Honey" (Univ.)**
AMBASSADOR—(3,154) (40c-50c-60c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $13,500. (Average: $15,700).
**"Broadway Rhythm" (M-G-M)**
LOEW'S STATE—(3,162) (40c-50c-60c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $20,000. (Average: $18,900).
**"Four Jills in a Jeep" (20th-Fox)**
**"Escape to Danger" (RKO)**
FOX—(5,038) (40c-50c-60c) 7 days. Gross: $16,000. (Average: $18,700).
**"Cry Havoc" (M-G-M)**
**"Swing Fever" (M-G-M)**
LOEW'S ORPHEUM—(1,900) (40c-50c-60c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $6,400. (Average: $7,100).
**"Million Dollar Kid" (Mono.)**
**"Chip Off the Old Block" (Univ.)**
SHUBERT—(1,900) (40c-50c-60c) 7 days. Gross: $6,500. (Average: $6,100).
**"Higher and Higher" (RKO)**
**"Where Are Your Children" (Mono.)**
ST. LOUIS—(4,000) (45c-50c) 7 days. Gross: $5,000. (Average: $5,200).

## *Actors' Benefit Today*

The Episcopal Actors' Guild will hold its fifth annual bridge party and entertainment at the Hotel Waldorf-Astoria here today. Proceeds will go to the guild's war activities fund.






# SURE, WE CAN TAKE IT!

Our country needs our help—
It is vital to the war effort
America must recruit immediately
Hundreds of thousands of Wacs!
Our industry with its vast audience contacts
Is called upon to spear-head the drive.
Invasion is in the air—crucial times are upon us!
The call is urgent—we can, we will
Help our country in its critical moment
By running the exciting trailer (a TOP Star is in it!)
By using the posters and press book
By cooperating patriotically with the Army!

# WAC RECRUITING WEEK

## IN MOTION PICTURE THEATRES—MAY 11th-17th

*Sponsored by War Activities Committee of Motion Picture Industry, 1501 Broadway, New York City*

First in Film and Radio News Brief, Accurate and Impartial

# MOTION PICTURE DAILY

Alert, Intelligent and Indispensable to the Motion Picture Industry

VOL. 55. NO. 75 NEW YORK, U. S. A., MONDAY, APRIL 17, 1944 TEN CENTS

## Producers, 'IA' Reach New Five-Year Pact

### *Five Percent Rise, Paid Vacations Are Granted*

Final agreement was reached here Friday between film company heads and their studio labor representatives on one side, and 11 IATSE studio craft locals on the other, providing for five-year contracts replacing the agreements which expired on Jan. 1.

**The contracts will be formalized today when they are signed at the office of Pat Casey, producers' labor contact.**

The new agreement, which will be subject to reopening after two years for wage and other adjustments, was concluded after seven weeks of negotiations. It provides for a five percent

(*Continued on page 8*)

## 'Greatest Strides in Next Decade': Hays

With motion picture audiences after the war coming "from every corner of the world in numbers never before dreamed of," Will H. Hays, president of the Motion Picture Producers and Distributors of America, envisions an even greater advance in the next decade than that which occurred in the period between "The Great Train Robbery" and "The Birth of a Nation."

Reviewing the first half-century of commercial pictures, Hays told the MPPDA board of directors at an adjourned session of their annual meeting here at the weekend that story

(*Continued on page 3*)

## *Chicago, New Haven 'Locally Needed'*

Two more applications to have film distribution in Chicago and New Haven designated as "locally needed" have been filed with the War Manpower Commission, Leon Bamberger of RKO, who has been handling filing for Ned E. Depinet, WAC distribution chairman, said at the weekend. Applications for filing in several more cities are in preparation, Bamberger added.

Applications were filed earlier last week in Los Angeles and Washington. Designations as "locally needed" have already been secured by the industry in Philadelphia and Pittsburgh.

## *Loew Pension Plan Awaits Approval*

**Loew's-M-G-M will adopt an "all-embracing" pension and retirement plan for all of its employes, talent and production workers included, as soon as company stockholders approve the plan, Nicholas M. Schenck, Loew president, disclosed at closing sessions of the contract negotiations here between the studios and the IATSE at the weekend, at the office of Pat Casey, producers' labor contact.**

## Chaplin Seen Ready For Court Contest Over Korda's Stock

HOLLYWOOD, April 16.—Legal action may be started by Charles Chaplin to have set aside the purchase by United Artists Prod. of Sir Alexander Korda's one-fourth stock interest for $1,000,000, it is learned.

Cabled confirmation having reached here from London, U. A. at the weekend officially declared that the deal has been consummated.

Edward C. Raftery, U. A. president, reiterated that U. A. is not for sale and an official company statement emphasized that the stock change "will have no bearing on a change in policy or management."

Other United Artists' owners, Mary Pickford and David Selznick, and company officials would not be surprised should a legal contest be initiated by

(*Continued on page 3*)

## *Industry to Allies' Meet*

WASHINGTON, April 16. — The State Department this week is expected to set the pattern for the discussions on international films which will take place this Summer with representatives of the Allied Nations.

Tomorrow or Tuesday, depending upon when the British delegation gets here, conversations will open on world petroleum questions between an inter-departmental committee and a delegation of seven English officials.

Of particular interest to the film industry is the department's inclusion of oil industry representatives in an advisory and consulting capacity, setting a precedent which is expected to be followed in the arranging of the talks which the Department plans on several other subjects.

Members of the film industry un-

(*Continued on page 8*)

## Hal Wallis to Study 'Several' Plans

Hal Wallis, former executive producer for Warners, arrived in New York from the Coast on Friday and will study several specific proposals here during the next 10 days involving his future activities, he said.

Loyd Wright, attorney for Wallis, is expected here from the Coast today and will participate in the conferences. Wallis declined to discuss the pending proposals specifically. Questioned about the report that he would be aligned with Joseph Hazen, whose resignation as a vice-president and di-

(*Continued on page 8*)

## *Chicago Operators Ask Two Vacations, New Wage, Hour Scale, Back Pay*

**Chicago, April 16.—Managers of 365 theatres here will shortly receive demands from the reorganized IATSE projectionists' Local 110 for a two-week's vacation with pay each Winter and another each Summer, full back wages from houses that have been paying below scale, a new graduating scale equitable to small theatres with low admissions and big theatres with top prices, relief for operators working seven days a week, written contracts from each theatre and two operators for each booth—plus adequate sanitary facilities.**

**Gene Atkinson, new business manager of the local, describing the demands here at the weekend, declared that the local is "an autonomy for the first time in its history." Atkinson claimed 172 projection booths in the city were without sanitary facilities and threatened legal action on that score. He pointed to the fact that his members have bought $100,000 worth of war bonds and donated $10,000 to the Red Cross.**

**The IATSE local was 'purged' of its old officers several weeks ago by national president Richard Walsh, who supervised a new election.**

## $5,452,575 Pickwick Suit Is Dismissed

### *Court Orders A Directed Verdict for Defense*

NEW HAVEN, April 16.—In a directed verdict in favor of Loew's and RKO Theatres and all distributor defendants, Judge Carroll C. Hincks dismissed the Prefect Theatres' anti-trust suit in Federal Court here at the weekend. The court held plaintiffs failed to establish a case.

**The decision, which came after a recess of an hour and 20 minutes of deliberation, followed a motion for dismissal made by Joseph Berry, chief counsel for the defense.**

The motion was made when the plaintiffs' counsel, Saul Rogers, rested

(*Continued on page 3*)

## Einfeld Proposes Postwar Planning

An industry-wide conference to make plans for postwar operations was suggested by Charles Einfeld, Warner Bros. advertising and publicity director, on his arrival from the Coast Friday. He cited the fact that most other industries are already laying plans for postwar operations and that it is vital that the motion picture industry do likewise.



Charles Einfeld

"The producers," Einfeld suggested, "should take the initiative in institut-

(*Continued on page 3*)

## *KAO Preferred Stock Called at $111.46*

The board of directors of Keith-Albee-Orpheum has authorized redemption of the 13,600 outstanding shares of KAO seven percent cumulative convertible preferred stock on June 15, 1944 at the redemption price of $110 per share plus accrued dividends to the date of redemption, making a total payment of $1,515,856 at $111.46 per share.

# Personal Mention

ROBERT S. WOLFF left for London late last week to take over his new post as RKO managing director in Great Britain.

•

CHARLES DAVIDSON, Balaban & Katz short subject booking head, will be married to JOANNE ABRAHMS, secretary to JACK ABRAHMS, manager of the Balaban and Katz maintenance department, May 2.

•

HOMER SNOOK, RCA Theatre Equipment Section sales manager; H. J. BENHAM, commercial engineer, and R. H. HOLLEY of the styling department, have returned to Camden, N. J., after a mid-west trip.

•

NORMAN H. MORAY, Warner short subject sales manager, has returned to New York from a month's tour of Western and Southern exchanges.

•

W. C. GEHRING, 20th Century-Fox Western sales manager, and M. A. LEVY, Minneapolis district manager, visited Des Moines last week.

•

M. E. MOREY, Monogram home office executive, has returned from Philadelphia and will leave for Boston today.

•

MAURICE GRAD, Columbia sales promotion director, will leave today for a tour of the West coast exchanges.

•

JOHN BALABAN, Balaban and Katz secretary-treasurer, is due in Chicago today from the Coast.

•

HARRY THOMAS, Monogram Eastern division sales manager, has arrived in Chicago from Cleveland.

•

A. A. WARD, Altec Lansing Corporation vice-president and general manager, has arrived in New York.

•

LEO SPITZ left for the Coast on Friday.

## Rev. Larnen Named To Decency Legion

Rev. Brendan Larnen, O. P., has been appointed assistant executive secretary to Rev. John J. McClafferty of the National Legion of Decency, replacing Rev. Patrick J. Masterson, on leave of absence for the duration as a Navy chaplain.

The appointment was made by Bishop Keough, chairman of the Episcopal Committee on Motion Pictures, and was announced at the weekend by the Legion here. Rev. Masterson will resume his post upon his return from the Navy.

## Cantor to Launch Drive

Eddie Cantor will launch the Fifth War Loan drive in the middle of June with a 24-hour broadcast from here, where he will be attending the world premiere of "Show Business." In a similar program he sold $40,000,000 in bonds for the Fourth loan; his goal this time will be $200,000,000

# Tradewise . . .

By SHERWIN KANE

"THE industry is approaching the end of an era and, within a matter of months, and surely no later than the war's end, it will be ready to embark upon its greatest period of change and progress."

It was one of the industry's seasoned veterans speaking, a name you all know and respect, a name that cannot be used here because he was chatting informally with the understanding that he was not being interviewed.

"Many things will contribute to the changes that are to come, that are in work even now," said our oracle. "Important among those things is the changing economic structure within the nation, and the relation to it of tax policy. Observe the new companies that are being talked of and planned—the young men, the new blood, the new financing behind them and that will be attracted to them.

"Consider the ambitions or the plans of men like David Selznick, Hal Wallis, William Goetz, Arthur Rank, Joe Hazen, Harry Arthur. And never count out men like William Fox. They and others like them have the fullest chance to realize their fondest hopes in the not too distant future. It is not only that the established companies no longer offer opportunities to such men for development and individual expression beyond a certain point, but it is as well that the limitations of the organized industry today tend toward a bottling up of even exceptional creative and executive talent. The exceptional men reach the peaks of advancement that are possible in the industry as it is constituted today long before they have realized anywhere near their full potentialities."

• •

"What I mean," the speaker explained, "is that today there are only so many companies with so many opportunities wtihin them, and the sum total of those is the number of opportunities within the industry as it is now constituted. That setup denies the fullest development to many promising minds and talents. When the cup is full nothing can be added without an overflow resulting. That is what is happening in the industry today. There will be more of it from month to month."

"This process," he continued, "will be speeded by the Victory, which will release men of great value to the industry; and by the new economic forces, and by the natural workings of growth and evolution. With the war's end, both established and potential talent will be on the open market as free agents. As a result of the Warner-de Havilland contract decision, probably every actor, director, producer, executive now in service will, on his return, discover that his contract has expired. Many of them will throw in their lot with the adventursome, but highly capable, men who are organizing or will organize the new companies. There will be a need for new talent, too, and much of it that is good will find its way to the new organizations."

"Hastening the flow in that direction," he continued, "will be the opportunities which the newer companies will afford for development, independence and earnings for many types of individual ability. I believe that from it will come great advances in production, and from that will come new exhibition and distribution refinements. I am not predicting the eclipse nor the decline of any of the present companies. Each and every one of them has the brains and the foresight to adapt itself and to keep abreast of the times. They, in fact, have the advantage in organization, resources and stability. What I am predicting is a bigger, a newer and a better industry."

• •

Well-founded reports are about that Paramount, too, is discussing an arrangement with J. Arthur Rank for production in Britain, seemingly along the lines of the agreement which has been reached for Spyros Skouras for 20th Century-Fox with Rank on joint production operations there. The plan seems to be a 50-50 contribution of production essentials—talent, directors, story properties, technicians, finances, stages, equipment. What one is unable to supply, the other will. Distribution would be worldwide, presumably by 20th-Fox, and, also presumably, by Paramount, should it conclude its deal with Rank. Distribution receipts, after distribution charges, would be apportioned on a basis equivalent to contributions to production.

## 32 Will Aid Wacs' Recruiting Drive

An industry advisory council has been created by chairman Edward L. Alperson for the industry's Women's Army Corps recruiting week, May 11-17, with the following invited to serve:

Joseph Bernhard, Barney Balaban, Nate Blumberg, Jack Cohn, Tom Connors, Oscar Doob, Gus Eyssell, Si Fabian, Leonard Goldenson, Ben Kalmenson, Harry Kalmine, Carl Leserman, Abe Montague, Rodney Pantages, N. Peter Rathvon, Charles Reagan, William Rodgers, Eddie Rubin, George Schaefer, Joseph Schenck, Nicholas Schenck, Edward Schreiber, William Scully, Si Seadler, Gradwell Sears, Spyros Skouras, Edwin Silverman, Kenneth Thomson, Joseph Vogel, Harry Warner, Richard Walsh and Pete Wood.

## Connors Meets With Detroit Showmen

DETROIT, April 16.—Tom Connors, 20th Century vice-president in charge of sales, here at the weekend continued his series of exhibitor conferences for the purpose of describing policy on possible adjustments on percentage pictures. He was accompanied by L. J. Schlaifer, Central sales manager.

Connors will remain here through tomorrow when he is scheduled to leave for Chicago where he plans to confer with exhibitors there on Tuesday and Wednesday. On Thursday he and Schlaifer will be in Milwaukee.

## Goldsmith Presides At SMPE Today

The 55th semi-annual conference of the Society of Motion Picture Engineers will feature a television symposium at its opening session at the Hotel Pennsylvania here today. Thomas T. Goldsmith, Jr., director of research of Allen B. DuMont Laboratories, will discuss "Recent Technical Advances in Television" and Sherman Price of Filmedia Corp., will talk on "The Scientific Approach to Television Program Production." Dr. Alfred N. Goldsmith will preside.

## New Applications For Pay Raises

WASHINGTON, April 16.—The U. S. Internal Revenue Bureau is about to issue new forms of application for approval of wage and salary increases by employers in the motion picture and other industries.

While the new forms will be longer and more detailed than those now in use, it was said, they will make the handling of applications easier.

## MPA Meet on Banquet

Motion Picture Associates' board of directors held a special meeting at the Hotel Dixie Friday to discuss plans for an annual dinner-dance to be held May 19 at the Hotel Astor. Further exploration of an insurance plan was tabled for the next meeting to be held in two weeks.

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## Einfeld Proposes Postwar Planning For the Industry

(Continued from page 1)

ng postwar planning. They are gen-rally making an entirely different ype of product than they did before he war and the industry has gained w legions of patrons.

Einfeld feels that all branches of the ndustry should be represented and hould participate in the postwar lanning conference he suggests, in-luding production, distribution, ex-ibition, the War Activities Commit-ee, MPPDA and public information ranches of the industry. "The bick-ering and inter-industry squabbles that have been going on for almost 20 years should come to an end," he said.

**'Industry Must Decide Now'**

"The industry must decide now whether it intends to continue the public service work of the War Activities Committee in the postwar," Einfeld said. "A postwar conference now will give the entire industry an opportunity to sit down and look ahead. Although theatre attendance has reached one of the highest points in the history of the industry, there still remains a potential audience of almost 10,000,000 more customers, he explained.

Einfeld pointed to the failure of the industry to lay plans for future operations after the last war and stressed the slump that ensued. Stressing the current type of product being made by Warner Bros. and the other companies, he predicted that the day of the "B" picture is gone.

Einfeld will be here for several weeks to set advertising and publicity campaigns on forthcoming Warner releases, among them being "The Adventures of Mark Twain" and "Saratoga Trunk." He will participate in the company's sales meeting of district managers here starting Thursday.

## Kalmenson Reports Five Appointments

Ben Kalmenson, general sales manager for Warner Bros., announces five new appointments in the sales department.

Ray Smith, former salesman, has been promoted to branch manager in Albany, succeeding Paul S. Krumenacker, who becomes city sales manager in Pittsburgh under B. F. (Dinty) Moore; Jerry Wechsler, who has been city sales manager in Pittsburgh, goes to Boston in the same capacity under Bill Horan; in the home office, I. F. (Mike) Dolid has been promoted to succeed A. W. Schwalberg as supervisor of exchanges, (as previously reported by MOTION PICTURE DAILY) and Ralph Clark takes over the special sales and contract duties formerly handled by Dolid. Bernard Goodman, formerly advertising accessories sales manager, has been appointed assistant supervisor of exchanges.

## Edington, Lyons Part

HOLLYWOOD, April 16.—Arthur Lyons, president of A. & S. Lyons, and Harry Edington have mutually agreed to cancellation of the latter's contract with the agency, it was announced here at the weekend. Edington will announce a new connection in two weeks.

# $5,452,575 Pickwick Suit Is Won by Distributors

(Continued from page 1)

his case after 20 days of testimony and depositions from a large number of industry witnesses. William Cutler, assistant to E. J. Peskay, operator of the Pickwick Theatre, Greenwich, was the last to take the stand.

The suit, filed on April 9, 1941, by Prefect, Fairfield Holding Corp. and Greenfield, Inc., charged Loew's, 20th-Fox, RKO, Paramount, Universal, United Artists and others with conspiracy to keep product from the Pickwick and claimed triple damages of $5,452,575. The trial began on March 7.

Peskay, the first witness, contended that the seven-day clearance of Portchester, N. Y., over Greenwich, Conn., and the 14-day clearance of Stamford had resulted in box office losses between 1938 and 1941. He told of unsuccessful efforts to buy films for quicker showing and also indicated that a proposed deal whereby Loew's would take over the Pickwick was blocked. Later, especially in the testimony of Cutler, an effort was made to show that RKO had made a substantial profit running the house in 1931-32.

The defense, in its cross-examination of Cutler, attacked has figures as telling only part of the story and alleged that bonuses paid to Peskay and others did not appear in the Prefect financial statements. John J. O'Connor, Universal vice-president, said in a deposition that the runs in the Greater New York area had not been changed since the 1920's. And Fred Whelan, who as a former assistant U. S. Attorney General, had handled complaints made by Peskay, testified that Loew counsel J. Robert Rubin had advised against Loew's taking over the Pickwick when the Department of Justice held that approval or disapproval of the deal did not come under its jurisdition according to the terms of the consent decree.

Defense attorneys assisting Berry were C. Stanley Thompson, John Caskey, Harry Pimstein and Robert Nickerson. Willard McKay was associated with Rogers for the plaintiffs. The hearing was interrupted by a week's recess when several of the jurors were taken ill.

## 'Greatest Strides in Next Decade': Hays

(Continued from page 1)

material world-wide in appeal is already being explored to meet the demands of the wider audience anticipated. "Studios are developing new story-telling methods which will be as revolutionary as the 'flash-back' and the 'lap-dissolve' of the early days," he added.

Hays noted that significant technical advances in photography and the use of color and sound have been made during the war and will be reflected in postwar pictures.

Hays paid tribute to the achievements of Thomas A. Edison and George Eastman on the occasion of the industry's 50th anniversary.

The entire MPPDA meeting was devoted to the 50th anniversary, and it was announced afterwards that a second adjourned session would be held on a date not set. The holdover agenda includes a discussion of MPPDA's interest in "a free and unhampered exchange of film products between the nations of the world."

## Flynn Trip to Stress U. S Cooperation

CHICAGO, April 16. — Cooperation with the U. S. Government in war and servicemen films will be stressed by John E. Flynn, M-G-M Western division general sales manager, on a tour of all branch offices in the West this week.

Flynn left here today accompanied by W. G. Bishop, Western publicity supervisor, and they will be joined at Portland on Tuesday by George A. Hickey, Los Angeles district manager.

## 'Ether' on Air Tuesday

CHICAGO, April 16.—Televising of M-G-M's short subject, "Patroling the Ether," from Station W9XZV, is set for Tuesday, at eight p.m.

## UA Signs to Release Crosby's 'John L'

HOLLYWOOD, April 16.—Bing Crosby Productions has divulged the signing of a one-picture deal with United Artists for release of "The Great John L.," life story of John L. Sullivan. Crosby, as president of the producing unit, will supervise the production in association with Frank Mastroly and James Edward Grant. Frank Tuttle will direct.

The picture will start June 1 at General Service Studios, it was stated, confirming long persistent reports that Crosby intended branching out as a producer in addition to continuing his appearance in Paramount films. He will not appear in "The Great John L."

## Goldman Appeals Suit Dismissal

PHILADELPHIA, April 16.—William Goldman, head of William Goldman Theatres, independent circuit here and in Eastern Pennsylvania, filed an appeal Friday from the decision of the U. S. District Court dismissing his anti-trust suit of $1,350,000 against Warner Theatres and eight distributors. The appeal was filed by his attorney, William A. Gray, with the Federal Circuit Court of Appeals here. Briefs will be filed at a later date and arguments will not be heard until probably late in the year.

The suit originally filed Dec. 8, charged that the distributors refused to sell him first run product for his Erlanger here in competition with first run Warner houses. Judge William H. Kirkpatrick in dismissing the action held that Goldman failed to show any restraint of interstate commerce.

## B-51 Is Campaigning

The Film Exchange Employes union, Local B-51, IATSE-AFL, has launched its second annual ten-week fund-raising campaign for the benefit of the New York Labor War Chest of the Labor League for Human Rights.

## Chaplin Seen Ready For Court Contest Over Korda's Stock

(Continued from page 1)

Chaplin with the Korda stock purchase at issue, it was said.

Legal quarters lean to the view that the most likely action by Chaplin, who opposed the stock purchase, would be to attempt to obtain declaratory judgment to the effect that the purchase was invalid because it was undertaken over his dissent and counter to the United Artists' by-laws which require the unanimous consent of owners on actions of the kind.

**Would Involve By-Law Test**

The latter procedure would open up interesting possibilities in that it would most certainly, in the opinion of legal quarters, involve a court test of the validity of the company's unanimous consent by-law. This is exactly what was attempted recently by Miss Pickford, who retained George Wharton Pepper, Philadelphia attorney, to appraise the validity of the by-law. Her action was undertaken, it is reported, partially because of earlier opposition within the United Artists ownership which blocked the purchase of the Korda stock holdings several months back.

In this connection, it is suggested in some legal circles, that Miss Pickford may have obtained adequate legal opinion that the unanimous consent by-law could not be made to hold water in a court contest.

The Chaplin action would put its author in the position of seeking the same answer sought by Miss Pickford with respect to the by-law and presumably would put the unanimous consent rule to the ultimate test.

## Frank's 'Goebbels' Will Open April 20

MINNEAPOLIS, April 16.—Plans have been completed for the twin world premiere of "The Private Life of Dr. Paul Joseph Goebbels," W. R. Frank production, at the Century here and the Orpheum, St. Paul, April 20. The producer operates 17 theatres in the Minneapolis-St. Paul area.

Paul Andor and Claudia Drake, who star in "Goebbels," will attend the openings, arriving here Wednesday from Hollywood. Frank, Alfred Zeisler, who directed, and Herbert O. Phillips, who wrote the story with Zeisler, are already in Minneapolis. Proceeds from the twin events go to the local Red Cross, the premieres being sponsored by the War Activities Committee and the Optimist Clubs of both cities.

## Promote Roy Rogers

PITTSBURGH, April 16.—More than 125 theatres in this area are participating in promotional plans for Republic star Roy Rogers' appearance at Duquesne Gardens beginning tomorrow.

**WANTED**

Trustworthy secretary to Publicity Manager. Must be competent in telephone conversations; capable for all-around secretarial work. Good opportunity for advancement—salary $35.00 In replying, please state present position and past experience. Box 228, MOTION PICTURE DAILY.

# THE CURRENT BEST THRILLER !

ANNA NEAGLE RICHARD GREENE

in

# Yellow Canary

with

NOVA PILBEAM · LUCIE MANNHEIM · ALBERT LIEVEN

Produced & Directed by HERBERT WILCOX

# *This woman—*

**hated the lie she lived . . . and hate followed her! Scorn and scandal made her loveliness a curse . . . because of a secret she dared not whisper!**



# ADDRESS U

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COLUMBIA PICTURES

# NKNOWN




e most widely-read story of our

rill through millions of hearts

peared in "Reader's Digest"...in "Story"

and on the air. Now it is coming

exciting production starring

inner Paul Lukas...introducing a lovely

T. Stevens...and produced

illiam Cameron Menzies.

# *Industry to Allies' Meet*

(*Continued from page* 1)

doubtedly will be asked to participate in this Summer's meetings as international picture trade problems will be discussed, Francis C. De Wolfe, chief of the telecommunications divisions, said at the weekend.

Such a policy has been followed by the Department for many years in all of its international discussions on communications, and has proven to be a satisfactory method of assuring that any agreements entered into dealt realistically with the problems of the industry.

De Wolfe pointed out that competition after the war will be far keener than ever before and American film companies will face difficult problems in the revival of world markets. The Department is keeping in close contact with developments in the industry at home and abroad through bi-weekly conferences between De Wolfe and Fay Allport of the MPPDA office and already has a general idea of the situation which may be expected to develop at the close of the war.

The participation of the film industry in the conferences will be on an informal basis, at the suggestion of the Department of Justice, which pointed out that inclusion of industrialists on an official basis might not be compatible with the anti-trust laws. The Department, however, raised no barrier to the attendance of industry representatives in a consultative capacity.

## *Coast Flashes*

*Hollywood, April* 16

THE 1944 Red Cross War Fund drive in the industry has surpassed all previous campaigns with 22,715 subscriptions totalling $644,557, to top the 1943 record by more than $171,000, Chairman Frank Carothers announced. Studio American Federation of Labor unions, including the Screen Actors Guild, accounted for $271,824. The results were broadcast at the weekend on a Los Angeles Red Cross drive program here.

•

Darryl Zanuck will leave on the Superchief Friday for conferences with Wendell Willkie regarding his forthcoming production of "One World."

•

Abe Montague and Nate Spingold, Columbia executives, left on the Superchief at the weekend for New York.

## *'Committee of 100' to See 'Buffalo Bill'*

Special showing of 20th Century-Fox's "Buffalo Bill" will be held tonight for the committee of 100 for the Buffalo Bill centennial at 20th-Fox's home office.

Prominent personalities from all fields are expected to attend, including Will Hays, Horace M. Albright, former National Park Service director; Dr. and Mrs. James L. Clark, F. Trubee Davidson and A. Perry Osborne, Museum of Natural History; John D. Rockefeller, Jr., Ralph Budd, president, Burlington Railroad, and others.

# Hal Wallis to Study 'Several' Plans

(*Continued from page* 1)

rector of Warners became effective Saturday, Wallis said: "The story is news to me. I will meet with Hazen while I'm here because we are old friends."

Wallis added that he also would see Louis B. Mayer, among others, during his New York stay but declined to amplify that statement. Mayer was mentioned in reports as having a possible interest in a Wallis association with International Pictures, which is headed by his son-in-law, William Goetz, in association with Leo Spitz. The latter left for the Coast Friday, ostensibly without having conferred with Wallis. The latter, however, denied that such an association figured in his plans. He said he had "nothing to add" to what has been published already concerning an alliance between David Selznick's Vanguard Films and himself.

"I may be in a position to say more about my plans next week," Wallis said.

Of the status of his contract with Warners, which the company said had been abrogated and which Wallis has denied breaching, the producer said that was a matter for his lawyer to speak of.

## *$100,000 for 'Four Jills'*

Twentieth Century-Fox's home office reports a $100,000 estimated second week's gross for "Four Jills in a Jeep," at the Roxy.

# Producers, 'IA' Reach New Five-Year Pact

(*Continued from page* 1)

wage rise, retroactive to Jan. 1, for the rank and file of the 11 locals, which cover about 12,000 studio workers, bringing these employes up to the maximum increase possible under the "Little Steel" formula which permits of a 15 percent wage rise to cover the increased cost of living; two weeks vacation with pay; reclassification or up-grading of certain job brackets; a standard seniority clause, and guarantees for servicemen upon return to jobs now occupied by replacements. The present formula for time going to and from location remains the same.

It is understood that the contract will be reopened after one year if the War Labor Board should liberalize the "Little Steel" formula in the meantime. A group-insurance provision to cover an employe who might go from one company to another remains to be worked out on the Coast.

The basic studio agreement group and the Conference of Studio Unions are being granted the same terms as the IATSE locals, and reciprocally, benefits embodied in the contracts of those groups which the "IA" contract does not have, will be granted to the "IA" studio locals.

Casey, who has been coordinating the discussions, will return to the Coast at the end of the week.



First in Film and Radio News Brief, Accurate and Impartial

# MOTION PICTURE DAILY

Alert, Intelligent and Indispensable to the Motion Picture Industry

VOL. 55. NO. 76 NEW YORK, U. S. A., TUESDAY, APRIL 18, 1944 TEN CENTS

DIRECTORY COPY NOT REMOVE

## 20th's Foreign Income Now 40% of Total

### *$3,354,000 Is Net From Abroad, Says Connors*

CINCINNATI, April 17.—Forty percent of 20th Century-Fox's income from film rentals now comes from abroad, despite territory lost by the war, Tom Connors of New York, vice-president in charge of distribution for 20th disclosed here on his departure for Detroit and Chicago, in his series of field conferences with exhibitors. He will meet with Chicago owners on mutual trade problems tomorrow and Wednesday.

Thirty-five percent, representing $4,515,000, of the company's $12,900,000 net profit last year came from the company's National Theatres. (Com-

(*Continued on page 8*)

## Walter Brown Will Work with Harmon

Walter T. Brown, former executive secretary to ex-Governor Herbert H. Lehman, has been appointed as full-time associate to Francis S. Harmon, executive vice-chairman and coordinator of the industry's War Activities Committee.

Brown arrived yesterday at WAC headquarters and is functioning in the absence of Harmon who is in Washington.

Brown, a newspaperman, university professor and veteran of both world wars, comes to the WAC after receiving a medical discharge from the Army.

### *AMPP Considering Salaried President*

**Hollywood, April 17.—Members of the Association of Motion Picture Producers are considering employing a salaried president, probably drawn from outside the industry, in a move designed to relieve the studio executives from "doubling in brass," it was learned here today. While Y. Frank Freeman, current AMPP president, has gone East primarily on another matter, this move may be on his program for discussion with company heads.**

## Skouras Group Sees Tom Clark on New Theatre Building

WASHINGTON, April 17.—Fox West Coast officials today conferred with War Production Board officials and Assistant U. S. Attorney General Tom C. Clark regarding the construction of new theatres in California.

Headed by Charles P. Skouras, a group of company officials including John F. Caskey, counsel for 20th-Fox, Andy Krappmann and W. H. Lollier, talked with WPB men regarding the program developed by George W. McMurphey, chief of the recreation section of the Office of Civilian Requirements, for the construction of new houses in war centers where additional facilities are needed, and later went to

(*Continued on page 7*)

## *IATSE Pacts Start May 15*

With the War Labor Board not expected to make a decision for many weeks on wage increases through reclassifications for 12,000 workers of 11 IATSE Hollywood locals, a retroactive date of May 15 next has been set for the increases and other provisions of the new contracts negotiated here by the film companies and the locals. General five percent increases granted the 12,000 workers are retroactive to Jan. 1, date of the expiration of previous agreements.

Contracts were formalized yesterday at the office of Pat Casey, producers' labor contact but actual signing of in-

(*Continued on page 8*)

### *Resume Talks with Rank on GB Deal*

**London, April 17.—In a spirit of greater optimism than prevailed when negotiations broke down last week, talks have been resumed here on ratification of a three-way agreement between Spyros Skouras, president of 20th Century-Fox; Sam Eckman, Loew's British managing director, and J. Arthur Rank, for the transfer to Rank of Ostrer Brothers' Metropolis & Bradford Trust Co. stock, controlling Gaumont-British.**

**Although it was stated last week by Sidney Wright, Loew's attorney here, that M-G-M representatives had proceeded as far in the negotiations as they were authorized to go, they are understood now to be taking a more conciliatory attitude.**

## *NLRB Curbs Wage Boosts*

WASHINGTON, April 17.—A new National Labor Relations Board ruling, taking the unprecedented position that an employer who discharged union employes who struck because the employer would not pay wage demands exceeding the level fixed by the Wage Stabilization Act, had not violated the National Labor Relations Act, is seen as a curb on certain union progress in the film industry and elsewhere.

Most unions in the motion picture industry have already received the 15 percent increase in wages allowable

(*Continued on page 7*)

## M-G-M, Korda Buy British Elstree Plant

### *Is First Studio Property Owned by U. S. Company*

By PETER BURNUP

LONDON, April 17.—M-G-M and Sir Alexander Korda, head of Metro - Goldwyn - Mayer London Films, Ltd., today completed the purchase of the large Elstree Studios from the debenture holders of Prudential Assurance Co., as reportedly expected in a story in MOTION PICTURE DAILY last Dec. 17.

**In effect, the deal gives M-G-M and Korda a strong position in postwar American-company production here, the Government refusing to sanction the release of the studio for private usage until the war-requisitioned plant is made available with the end of hostilities.**

Amalgamated Studios, at Elstree, have eight large stages, all of which

(*Continued on page 8*)

## Theatre Television Interests SMPE

Recent technical improvements, cutting in half the size and weight of portable television equipment, will greatly increase the variety of spot news events which can be brought into theatres and the home by television, according to a report made yesterday at the opening sessions of the three-day

(*Continued on page 7*)

## *British Theatres Grossing $400,000,000 Annually*

WASHINGTON, April 17.—Theatre grosses in the United Kingdom are running approximately $400,000,000 annually, despite the war, it has been learned here by the films section of the U. S. Bureau of Foreign and Domestic Commerce, presumably through the bureau's commercial attaches in London.

**British receipts are averaging about $80,000 per theatre annually, for the Kingdom's 5,000-odd theatres, which is, strangely,**

(*Continued on page 8*)

### *Projectionists' 3% Raise Approved*

CHICAGO, April 17.—Edgar L. Warren, chairman for the sixth area of the War Labor Board, today announced approval of a three percent wage increase for Milwaukee motion picture projectionists.

At the same time, the Balaban and Katz circuit was said to have approved increases of from $3 to $5.50 per week for cashiers, effective immediately.

### *Public Still Taking Tax in Its Stride*

**Both circuit and independent exhibitors agree that there has been no appreciable letdown in attendance since April 1 because of the 10 percent increase in Federal admission taxes, according to reports from *Motion Picture Daily* field correspondents. There is a unanimity of opinion that patrons, if heeding the increase at all, are taking it in their stride, accustomed as they are to being confronted with frequent advance in war prices in practically every line.**

# Personal Mention

ARTHUR W. KELLY, president of Eagle-Lion Films, has returned to New York from Hollywood.

•

HARRY B. ALLINSMITH, assistant export manager of Western Electric Export Corporation, has been granted a three months' leave of absence for an assignment with the Office of Strategic Services in Washington.

•

ARTHUR GREENBLATT, Monogram special home office representative, is substituting for SAM ROSEN, Philadelphia branch manager, who is ill.

•

J. ROBERT RUBIN, M-G-M vice-president and general counsel, is recovering from his recent illness and plans to leave the city soon for a rest.

•

CAPT. ROBERT S. BENJAMIN, formerly of Phillips, Nizer, Benjamin and Krim, is on a mission overseas for the Army Pictorial Service.

•

LOU GOLDBERG of 20th Century-Fox's exploitation department, returned yesterday from Denver.

•

I. M. RAPPAPORT, owner of the Hippodrome, Baltimore, is in New York for several days.

•

MAURICE BERGMAN, Universal Eastern advertising and publicity manager, left for Chicago yesterday.

•

JILL WARREN, associate editor of Hillman's *Movieland* magazine, left New York yesterday for the Coast.

## Zevin Sentencing Off to May 17

Federal Judge Alfred C. Coxe yesterday postponed until May 17 the sentencing of Isadore Zevin, former secretary to George E. Browne, convicted former president of the IATSE, under a nine-count perjury indictment to which Zevin has pleaded guilty.

Meanwhile, special assistant U. S. Attorney General Boris Kostelanetz, who prosecuted the recently convicted members of the Capone gang on extortion charges, proceeded with plans to bring the gangsters to trial on mail fraud charges arising out of the two per cent wage assessment against members of the IATSE which, it is alleged, netted Browne, William Bioff and the gangsters at least $1,500,000.

## T. Hayes Hunter Dies

T. Hayes Hunter, 62, director and theatrical agent, died at the weekend of heart disease in a London hospital, it has been learned here.

Hayes was owner and managing director of the agency, Film Rights, Ltd. In 1937 he opened a branch in Hollywood and later had an office here at 1270 Sixth Ave. In the directorial field, one of his best-remembered films will be "The Scarlet Pimpernel".

## Ingram Welcomed as Memphis Manager

MEMPHIS, April 17.—Approximately 100 exhibitors and business men of the Memphis area attended a luncheon today at the Peabody Hotel, given to welcome Louis C. Ingram, M-G-M branch manager to Memphis.

An address of welcome was given by Mayor Walter Chandler, who introduced Charles E. Kessnick, district manager from Atlanta and E. K. (Ted) O'Shea, Eastern Canadian and Southern sales manager. The latter presented service buttons to five local employes as follows: Ingram, more than 21 years service; Lillie B. Curd, 11 years; Thomas B. Kirk, 12 years; Elizabeth Mitchell, 16 years; Ola Mae Purvis, 15 years, and Rebecca Scott, 12 years and 10 months.

Four employes in the armed services who will receive buttons when they return are: Maurice L. Basse, 16 years; P. Frank Hollis, 14 years; J. Frank Heard, 10 years, and W. Barton Mallory, 10 years.

M. A. Lightman, president of Malco Theatres, presided as toastmaster.

## Dismissal Motion Is Withdrawn By 'U'

Supreme Court Justice Charles B. McLaughlin yesterday permitted attorneys for Universal Pictures Corp. to withdraw a motion for dismissal of a suit by Gem Pictures Productions, Inc., for damages of $4,500 and an accounting, when Gem filed an amended complaint.

The damages are demanded for alleged breach of contract under an agreement by which Gem produced "Goofytone News Reels," which were distributed by Universal, at a cost of $4,500. On May 18, 1942, the amended complaint states, Gem discovered for the first time that Universal made an extra newsreel from one of Gem's prints in its possession and retained it without the knowledge or consent of Gem, and failed to pay the plaintiff for its use. Gem seeks an accounting of profits from the extra newsreel.

## 'My Way' Will Have Service Premiere

Paramount's "Going My Way," co-starring Bing Crosby and Rise Stevens, will have its world premiere April 27 in every combat area where American troops are fighting. Sixty-five 16mm prints of the film are now on their way to 20 overseas Army exchanges for distribution. The film will have its American premiere in New York May 3 at the Paramount Theatre.

## International Bids For Wallis, Too

HOLLYWOOD, April 17.—International Pictures through William Goetz, its production chief, has discussed a tie-up with Hal B. Wallis, former Warner Bros. production head, it was disclosed by Leo Spitz, chairman of International's board, upon his arrival here from New York today.

## Intelligence Post Is Given to White

FORT MONMOUTH, N. J., April 17.—Maj. Lyman G. White, formerly of Jackson Heights, N. Y., who was in the foreign production department of Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer's New York offices, has been named director of the security intelligence division for this fort and all of its sub-posts.

Maj. White was with M-G-M from 1935 until Oct., 1940, when he was called to active duty from the reserve. Previously he did talent scouting for Paramount.

## Bamberger to Boston On 'Locally Needed'

Leon J. Bamberger, RKO sales promotion manager, will leave for Boston today to confer with William Erb, War Activities Committee distribution chairman for New England, and Al Kane, Boston WAC distribution chairman. Bamberger is handling the filing of applications to have film distribution declared "locally needed" under Ned E. Depinet, WAC distribution chairman.

While in Boston, Bamberger will meet with local War Manpower Commission officials on having film distribution in the Boston area declared "locally needed." No formal application has been filed for that city yet.

## Brandt Is Co-Director Of WAC Campaign

Harry Brandt has been named co-field director with Charles B. McDonald in the Women's Army Corps recruiting drive to be conducted by motion picture theatres throughout the nation the week of May 11-17.

In conjunction with the drive a new short subject, produced by the Army Signal Corps, under the supervision of Capt. Jack L. Warner, Jr., and distributed by United Artists, entitled "It's Your War, Too," will be presented in over 700 first-run houses beginning Thursday.

## Zanuck to Come East On Roadshow Policy

HOLLYWOOD, April 17.—Darryl F. Zanuck, 20th Century-Fox production head, will leave on the Superchief Friday to confer at the home office on the roadshow policy for "Wilson". He will also hold talks with Moss Hart on "Winged Victory", with Wendell Wilkie on "One World" and with Captain Eddie Rickenbacker on "Rickenbacker".

## Robert Wolff in London

LONDON, April 17.—Robert S. Wolff has arrived here from New York to take over his new post as RKO managing director in Great Britain.

## Allied Meet Postponed

WASHINGTON, April 17.—The Spring board meeting of National Allied has been postponed from May 17-18 to May 24-25, at Philadelphia.

# Coast Flashes

*Hollywood, April 17*

JOSEPH SCHENCK left here today for New York.

•

Mabel Paige has been added to the cast of Paramount's "Murder, He Says," co-starring Fred MacMurray and Susan Hayward. E. D. Lashin is producing and George Marshall directs.

•

Producer Andrew Stone has closed a deal with United Artists for release of a "Sensations of 1946" next year. He is negotiating with Eleanor Powell for the lead.

•

George Bilson, assistant to Sid Rogell, RKO executive producer, has been named producer for six Leon Errol shorts and six Edgar Kennedy shorts on next season's schedule.

•

Patricia Munsell, recent winner of Metropolitan Opera Auditions-of-the-Air, has been signed by Warner Bros.

•

Anna Frenke, daughter of Eugene Frenke, producer, has joined Sol Lesser Productions.

•

Nate J. Blumberg, Universal president, arrived here today on the Superchief.

•

Lewis Milestone has started direction of Hunt Stromberg's forthcoming United Artists release.

•

Richard Blumenthal, formerly with Paramount, has signed a producing contract with Columbia.

•

ROBERT ROSSEN, writer-director, has resigned from Warner Bros.


# NEW YORK THEATRES

RADIO CITY MUSIC HALL
50th Street & 6th Avenue
RITA HAYWORTH • GENE KELLY
"COVER GIRL"
in TECHNICOLOR • A Columbia Picture
Music by Jerome Kern • Lyrics by Ira Gershwin
Gala Stage Show • Symphony Orchestra
1st Mezzanine Seats Reserved. CIrcle 6-4600

RKO PALACE B'WAY & 47th St.
Anna NEAGLE • Richard GREENE
"YELLOW CANARY"

LOEW'S STATE B'WAY & 45
ON SCREEN
Held Over 2nd Week
'NONE SHALL ESCAPE'
with MARSHA HUNT
IN PERSON
ALLAN JONES
Happy FELTON
Dick BUCKLEY
Added Attraction
CANADA LEE


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1924–44

# Twenty Friendly Years



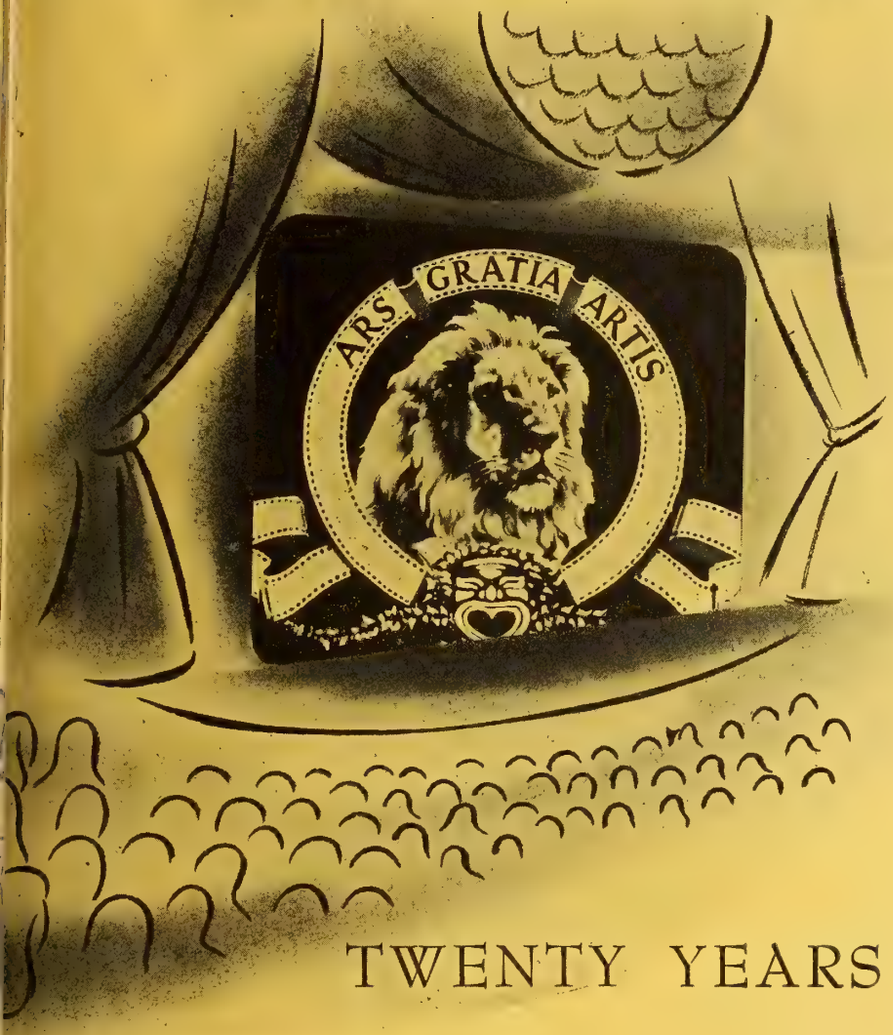

The Gay Anniversary Week Starts June 22nd

# Celebration



With fanfare on the air
And capers in all the papers—
With special events
And fitting ceremonies—
With advertising campaigns
And wide magazine tie-ups—
Leo of M-G-M starts the ball rolling
On June 22nd
To celebrate with all the industry
Twenty Friendly Years of M-G-M!

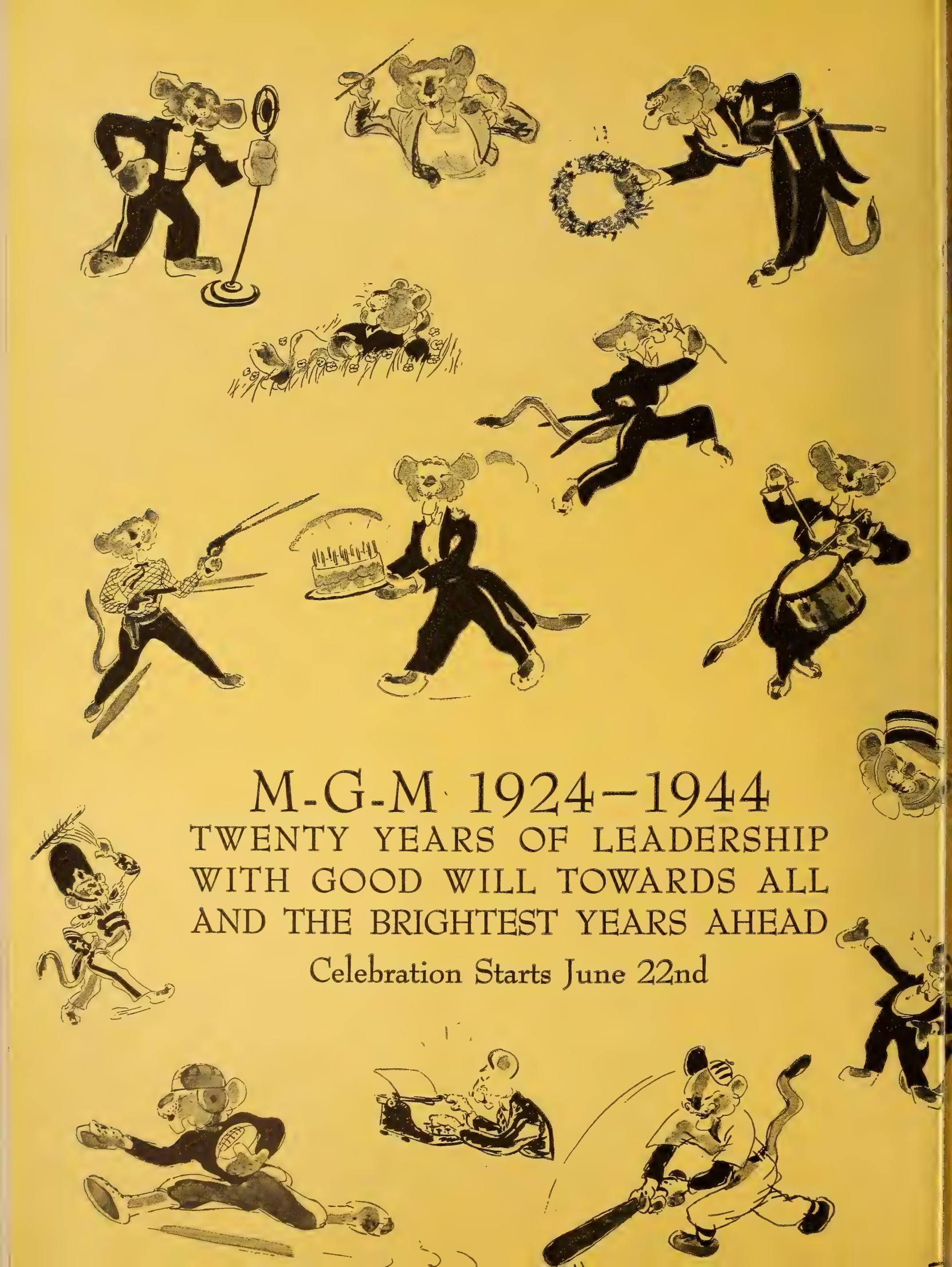
BEGINNING JUNE 22nd




TWENTY YEARS OF LEADERSHIP

# M·G·M

1924 – 1944



# M-G-M 1924–1944

## TWENTY YEARS OF LEADERSHIP
## WITH GOOD WILL TOWARDS ALL
## AND THE BRIGHTEST YEARS AHEAD

Celebration Starts June 22nd

# Production On Coast Is Up To 48 Filming

HOLLYWOOD, April 17.—As the mercury rose in the weatherman's thermometer so rose production during the week. RKO led the majors with nine pictures in work, counting three independently produced, while M-G-M was second with eight and Warners and Monogram were third with five each on the stages. Fourteen new pictures were put in work, nine finished, to bring the total before the cameras to 48. The previous week saw eight started, nine finished, to total 43 in work. The production scene follows:

**Columbia**

*Shooting:* "U-Boat Prisoner," Kay Kyser Musical, "Rough Ridin' Justice," "The Impatient Years."

*Finished:* "Louisiana Hayride."

**M-G-M**

*Shooting:* "Lost in a Harem," "Maisie Goes to Reno," "Mrs. Parkington," "The Picture of Dorian Gray," "Thirty Seconds Over Tokyo," "Secrets in the Dark," "Marriage Is a Private Affair," "National Velvet."

*Finished:* "Gold Town," "Meet Me in St. Louis."

**Monogram**

*Started:* "Are These Your Parents," with Helen Vinson, Lyle Talbot, Noel Neill, Richard Byron, Addison Richards, Ivan Lebedeff, Robin Raymond. "A Wave, a Wac, and a Marine," with Sally Eilers, Elyse Knox, Henny Youngman, Ann Gillis, Richard Lane, Ramsay Ames. "Alaska," with Margaret Lindsay, Dean Jagger, John Carradine, Kent Taylor, John Maxwell. "Three of a Kind," with Billy Gilbert, Shemp Howard, June Lang, Helen Gilbert, Maxie Rosenbloom.

*Shooting:* "The Girl Next Door."

*Finished:* "Leave It to the Irish," "Call of the Jungle."

**Paramount**

*Shooting:* "Practically Yours."

**PRC**

*Started:* "Mexican Fiesta," with Armida, Wallace Ford, El Brendel, Louis Albrini, Jack LaRue. "The Devil's Brand," with Dave O'Brien, James Newill, Guy Wilkerson, Ellen Hall.

**RKO-Radio**

*Started:* "Once Off Guard" (International), with Edward G. Robinson, Joan Bennett, Raymond Massey, Edmond Breon, Dan Duryea, Arthur Loft. "Sylvester the Great" (Goldwyn), with Bob Hope, Virginia Mayo, Walter Brennan, Walter Slezak.

*Shooting:* "That Hunter Girl," "Mademoiselle Fifi," "Cocktails for Two," "None But the Lonely Heart," "Heavenly Days," "Manhattan Serenade," "Belle of the Yukon" (International).

*Finished:* "Casanova Brown" (International), "The Falcon in Mexico."

**Republic**

*Started:* "Port of 40 Thieves," with Richard Powers, Stephanie Bachelor, Lynn Roberts, Olive Blakeney, Ellen Lowe, George Meeker, Patricia Knox, Russell Hicks. "Marshal of Monterey," with Allan Lane, Peggy Stewart, Wally Vernon, LeRoy Mason. "Haunted Harbor," with Kay Aldridge, Kane Richmond, Roy Barcroft.

*Shooting:* "Sing, Neighbor, Sing."

**20th Century-Fox**

*Shooting:* "The Big Noise," "Irish Eyes Are Smiling," "Wing and a Prayer," "The Keys of the Kingdom."

*Finished:* "Take It or Leave It."

**United Artists**

*Started:* "Double Furlough" (Vanguard), with Ginger Rogers, Joseph Cotten, Shirley Temple, Dare Harris.

*Shooting:* "Story of G. I. Joe" (Cowan), "Abroad With Two Yanks" (Small).

**Universal**

*Started:* "Pearl of Death," with Evelyn Ankers, Basil Rathbone, Nigel Bruce. "Make Way for Love," with Gloria Jean, Judy Clark, Henry Stephenson, Franklin Panghorn.

*Shooting:* "The Singing Sheriff," "The Devil's Brood."

**Warners**

*Shooting:* "The Very Thought of You," "To Have and Have Not," "The Doughgirls," "Give Me This Woman" (formerly "The Conspirators").

# *NLRB Curbs Wage Boosts*

(*Continued from page* 1)

under the "Little Steel" formula, but IATSE film exchange service employes who have received about 13 percent, have been pressing for an additional ten percent increase. The Wage Stabilization Board has turned down this request but an appeal has been taken to the War Labor Board and this appeal is still pending.

Recently, film exchange service employes in Seattle were understood to be considering mass resignations to force the issue on the pending wage increase but they have delayed action. Workers in the 31 exchange centers were provided with increased earning opportunities through overtime work in an interim settlement effected by IATSE officials with the film companies after several locals, including New York Local B-51, threatened to strike.

## *'The Negro Soldier' in 4-Theatre Start*

The Broadway world premiere of "The Negro Soldier," produced for the Special Services Division of the Army under the supervision of Col. Frank Capra, will be held simultaneously at the Rialto, Victoria, Gotham and Broadway Trans-Lux theatres Friday. Prints have been made available, free of charge, to all theatres, under special arrangements with the War Activities Committee.

A special screening of th film will take place at the Normandie Theatre Thursday at midnight, under the joint auspices of the War Department and the Entertainment Industry Emergency Committee.

## *Franklin Honored Today*

Sidney Franklin will be presented today with a silver plaque by Gus Eyssell, director of Radio City Music Hall, in recognition of the record achieved at that theatre by three of Franklin's pictures, "Random Harvest," "Mrs. Miniver" and "Madame Curie," which played the houses a total of 28 weeks. The plaque is the first of its kind ever awarded by the Music Hall and will be held by Franklin until his record is surpassed. Franklin's most recent picture, "The White Cliffs of Dover," has been booked by that theatre for next month.

# Theatre Television Interests SMPE

(*Continued from page* 1)

semi-annual conference of the Society of Motion Picture Engineers at the Hotel Pennsylvania here.

Refinements in both camera equipment and in television receiving and projection sets to make this possible were outlined by William H. Sayer, development engineer of the Allen B. DuMont Laboratories. Sayer also told the engineers that the Radio Technical Planning Board contemplates the use of unattended booster relay stations to transmit programs to theatres and other receiving points within a metropolitan center, as well as for long range transmission.

Captain E. M. Watson of the Army Air Forces, told of the achievements of the Army's gun sight aiming-point camera, which films what is hit by shells.

**See Films in Majority**

Sherman Price, president of Filmedia Corp., said that motion pictures are likely to make up the bulk of television programs, but means must be found for greatly speeding up the present rate and volume of production, and at much lower costs. For a 15-minute television show five times a week, he pointed out, the week's production would be equal to that required for a seven and one-half reel motion picture on which Hollywood now spends weeks or even months.

The motion picture engineers will observe Army-Navy Day at today's sessions with armed forces personnel discussing special uses of motion pictures in combat and training.

# Skouras Group Sees Tom Clark on New Theatre Building

(*Continued from page* 1)

the department of justice to explain the situation to Clark.

McMurphey has been trying to interest Fox West Coast in the building of theatres in California, where recent surveys showed the possible need of a considerable number of houses. On the whole, it was learned, the circuits have not been interested in this construction, in part because of the lack of adequate information regarding the postwar future of such houses and in part because of the uncertainty as to how the Department of Justice would view such circuit expansions.

Following his meeting with the group, Clark explained that the matter had not been put up to him officially. He did not say what position the department would take on such expansions but there were indications that if the war program necessitates the provision of additional recreational facilities which independent interests will not or cannot handle, no serious obstacles would be placed in the way of major circuits approached by the War Production Board.

## *20th Backs Air Show*

A one year contract has been signed by 20th-Fox, the Roxy Theatre and radio station WMCA, in which 20th-Fox and the Roxy will jointly sponsor in the metropolitan area the 6.30 to 6:45 program, "World Front Page."



## British Houses Get $400,000,000

(Continued from page 1)

**comparatively close to the $81,800 average of the 16,500-odd theatres grossing around $1,350,000,000 in the U. S., as computed by *Motion Picture Daily* sources.**

The report from the bureau's film section further discloses that, "Despite wartime restrictions affecting the construction and remodeling of theatres, facilities for the exhibition of motion pictures are said to be adequate in the United Kingdom. Official statistics regarding the number of regular theatres are not available, but trade sources estimate the total to be between 5,000 and 5,300. Total attendance is reported to be in excess of 25,000,000 weekly, or 1,300,000,000 annually.

"More than 80 percent of the films registered in the 1943 film year were of foreign—predominantly United States—origin, and more than 75 per cent of the aggregate footage exhibited was from the United States," the report concluded.

### *Roadshow Selznick Film*

HOLLYWOOD, April 17.—David O. Selznick's "Since You Went Away" will be exhibited on a roadshow basis it was announced here today by Gradwell Sears and Neil Agnew, sales executives, following a sales conference on forthcoming United Artists productions.

## *20th-Fox Foreign Income Is Now 40% of Total*

(Continued from page 1)

pany's recent annual financial statement reported an estimated income of $2,000,000 from National). Of the remaining $8,385,000, all accruing from film rentals, 60 percent, or $5,031,000 was earned from domestic rentals and 40 percent, or $3,354,000, was foreign film income. "Our foreign trade has hit an all-time peak," Connors said.

"Motion pictures are enjoying their greatest boom in history throughout Great Britain, despite the early curfew, constant threat of air raids and warlike conditions," he disclosed.

"When Hitler first started his invasion of Europe and all of the American film companies had to close branches, fears that the once profitable foreign distribution was gone for many years seemed justified," Connors continued. "But after the first serious effects of the blitz had worn off and the English sought respite from their troubles, they turned to motion pictures for their only relaxation. The South American film market is also greater than ever before," he said.

"But this success presents a definite threat to American films after the war," Connors warned. "England has seen what a tremendous influence American films are exerting upon the lives and habits of their people and many will seriously compete for this world-wide business, which has been mostly reserved to this country, after peace has been restored.

Connors explained why it is more expensive to make pictures today than it was before the war. "In the first place," he said, "our studios have lost over 2,000 skilled technicians to the armed services. Those who replace them lack experience and training. In the past it was possible to complete camera work on most pictures in from 35 to 40 days. Now on the same type of picture it often requires 100 days, which ties up stages and brings added production costs."

He declared that his company's sales policy is a fair one; that it does not want more than the picture is worth after it has had trial runs in about 300 key spots. By the same hand, he said, when a picture shows justifiable drawing power, the company feels it has the right to ask a fair price for the product.

### *B & K Stockholders Meet*

CHICAGO, April 17.—Reports on wartime earnings, improvements and investments will highlight the annual meeting Wednesday of the stockholders of Balaban and Katz Theatres here.

### *Halor, Actor, Killed*

PALM SPRINGS, April 17.—Ray Halor, 42, star of silent films, was killed yesterday in an automobile collision between Palm Springs and Cathedral City.

## *IATSE Pacts Start May 15*

(Continued from page 1)

dividual agreements is expected to go on all this week. Remaining representatives of the studio IATSE locals left for California last night leaving power of attorney for the actual signing with IATSE officials.

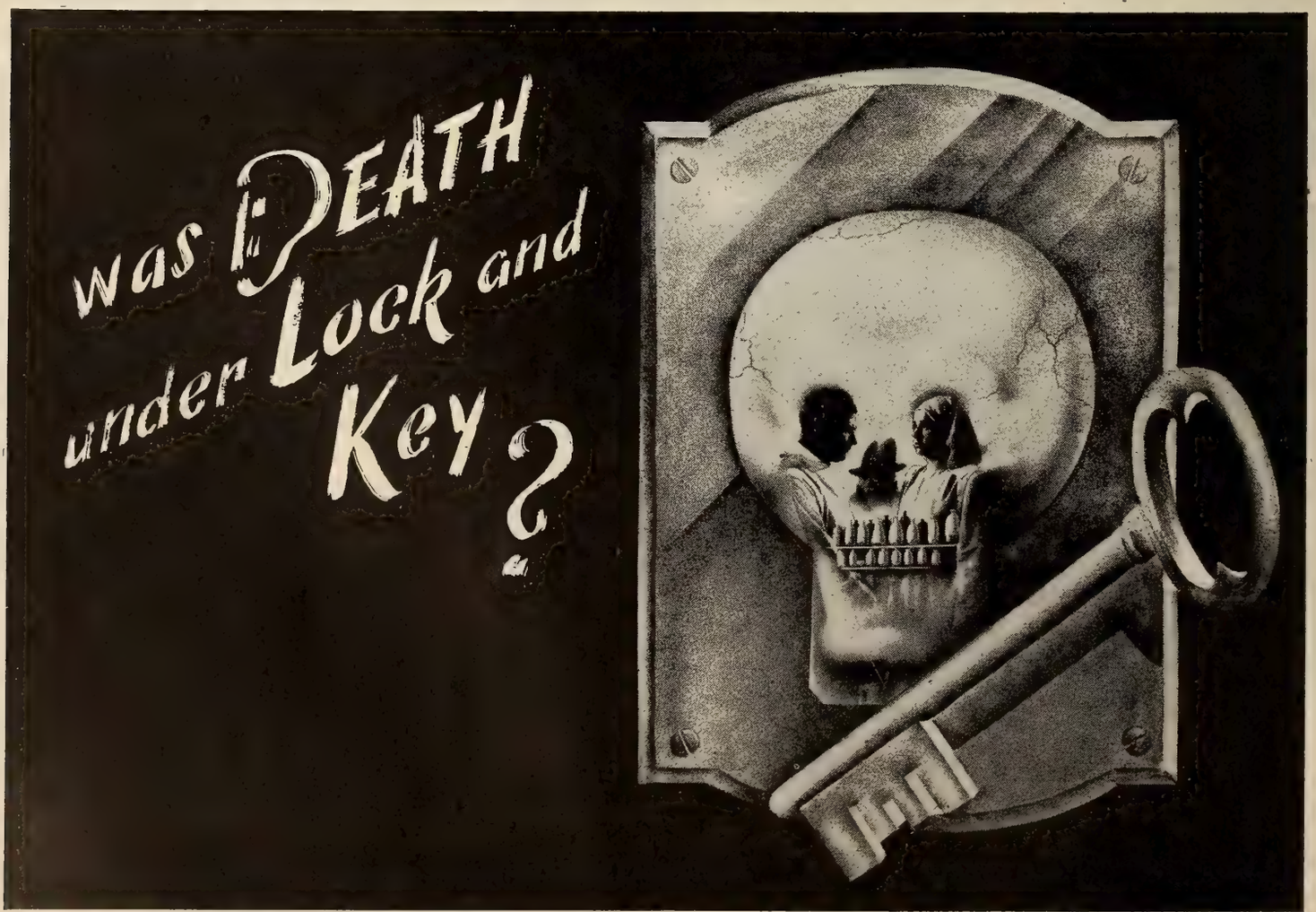
Actual submission of the new five-year agreements to the War Labor Board for approval is expected to take place early in May.

Meanwhile, film company heads met at the office of Pat Casey again yesterday to work on demands of American Federation of Musicians' studio local for staff orchestras for the various studios and other AFM demands.

### *Amalgamated Sold to MGM and Korda*

(Continued from page 1)

are now being used for war production. British producing units of several American companies have been stymied for months in England because of the non-availability of studio space, the comparatively little space left by authorities producing war films being occupied by native producers. So far as is known, no other American company has any actual property ownership of a British studio. Elstree is the site of the building of the first commercial motion picture studio, built many years ago by the late J. D. Williams.



First in Film and Radio News Brief, Accurate and Impartial

# MOTION PICTURE DAILY

Alert, Intelligent and Indispensable to the Motion Picture Industry

VOL. 55. NO. 77 NEW YORK, U.S.A., WEDNESDAY, APRIL 19, 1944 TEN CENTS

## Average Per Theatre Is Up by $2,232

### *143 Key Houses Gross $2,506,800 in Week*

Reports from MOTION PICTURE DAILY field correspondents disclose that last week's average box-office receipts at key downtown film houses jumped to $17,530 per theatre, from $15,298 in the preceding week, to hit the third highest average for the year, being topped only by $18,761 in the week ending March 17-18, and $20,664 in the week ending Jan. 7-8, which included New Year's holiday influences. Last week embraced school holiday flows.

**Current averages, generally, are running several thousand dollars weekly ahead of corresponding periods last year.**

Some typical comparisons follow: Week ending April 15, 1944, $17,530 and $12,711 in the same week last year; April 8, 1944, $15,298, and $13,803 one year ago, etc.

Films that stand out as box-office

(*Continued on page 9*)

## *Film Comedy Aids Training*

The influence of slapstick comedy in motion pictures to impress vital training and instructions on fighting men at times when they may be too tense to learn from books and charts was described in a paper presented yesterday at the 55th semi-annual technical conference of the Society of Motion Picture Engineers at the Hotel Pennsylvania here. Prepared by Lt. (j.g.) J. E. Bauernschmidt of the Training Film Branch of the Navy's Bureau of Aeronautics, the

(*Continued on page 11*)

### *1944 UJA Campaign Launched Friday*

The Amusement industry's participation in the 1944 war campaign of the United Jewish Appeal will be discussed at the first luncheon-meeting for the drive on Friday, April 21, in the Hotel Astor here. The inaugural function has been called by David Bernstein, Barney Balaban, and Albert Warner. A large representation of leaders in the motion picture and

(*Continued on page 11*)

### *British Exhibitors Taking No Chances*

**London, April 18.—On the day of the coming victory, theatre audiences throughout Great Britain will not be able to celebrate by smashing seats, breaking bulbs and ruining screens, as they did on Nov. 11, 1918, Armistice Day of World War I. Remembering that experience, the Cinema Exhibitors Association of Great Britain has decided to close houses in Great Britain on Armistice Day of World War II.**

## 'Cover Girl' Helps Music Hall to Big 3rd Week $123,000

Business at downtown New York first-runs is continuing considerably above average with weekend rainstorms which hit Saturday's business only mildly affecting the week's take. The reopening of schools Monday, after a ten-day holiday, did not see any appreciable falling off of business at Radio City Music Hall with "Cover Girl" and the Hall's Easter show expected to do about $123,000 on their third week after counting $79,500 on the first four days, ending Sunday. The combined show will hold for a fourth and if the blistering pace continues, even longer before making way for M-G-M's "The White Cliffs of Dover."

(*Continued on page 11*)

## Broader Film Fields To Open from War Experience: Harmon

WASHINGTON, April 18.—Important fields for the motion picture will widen broadly after the war when the industry puts into practice the developments it has made in the production of informational, educational and technical pictures for the war program, it was predicted here today by Francis Harmon, executive vice-chairman of the War Activities Committee.

Harmon was the principal speaker at a luncheon given to more than 100 Army, Navy and Government officials and visual war workers by the motion picture bureau of the Office of War Information in commemoration of the 50th anniversary of commercial films.

Stanton Griffis, chief of the bureau, introduced Harmon, who stressed the

(*Continued on page 11*)

## Film Balances from Brazil Withheld

All remittances to U. S. distribution companies from Brazil have been held up since late last year but a release of company balances there is expected to be effected in the near future, heads of major company foreign departments were told at a meeting here yesterday.

Publication recently of Brazil's new tax decree, together with the expectancy that a new exchange rate will be agreed upon soon by Brazil and the

(*Continued on page 11*)

## Drift from War Areas Seen Affecting Films

### *Population Shifts Held to Pose Serious Problems*

WASHINGTON, April 18.—Posing potential problems for Government and industry alike, including motion pictures, new shifts in population have made their appearance and are gaining momentum, it was disclosed today in reports from War Manpower Commission field offices.

**Reversing a flow of migration which began in 1940 with the inception of the defense program, populations now are beginning to leave some of the war centers.**

So far, the outflow has been most marked in areas where war production cut-backs have occurred and among people who, on the premature assumption that the war will soon be over, seek to line up permanent jobs before the war ends. But officials are

(*Continued on page 9*)

## *Press British Trade Probe*

LONDON, April 18.—Taking of evidence has been completed here by the special committee which the British Board of Trade's Film Council appointed in January "to investigate measures necessary to counteract the danger of a film trade monopoly," it was learned here today. BOT president Hugh Dalton, who originally urged the group to act with all possible speed, is now pressing for an early recommendation on any needed legislation or administrative orders.

J. Arthur Rank, whose spreading

(*Continued on page 11*)

### *H. J. Griffith Denies Monopoly Suit*

OKLAHOMA CITY, April 18.—H. J. Griffith of Griffith Amusement Co. today filed an answer in the monopoly suit of three independents, denying that his company had conspired with distributors to monopolize first and second run features.

Griffith denies in his Federal court statement that the Odeon, Shawnee, Okla.; Mystic, Picher, Okla., of the State, Vinita, Okla., are comparable

(*Continued on page 11*)

## *42 Area Chairmen Named For Wac Recruiting Drive*

The complete national committee for the industry's Women's Army Corps recruiting week, May 11-17, has been set up by chairman Edward L. Alperson here.

In addition to the executive committee, consisting of Ned E. Depinet, distributor's division chairman; Harry Mandel, national publicity director, and Harry Brandt and Charles B. McDonald, co-field directors, the following will serve as exhibitor area chairmen:

Lou R. Golding, Albany; W. K. Jenkins, Atlanta; Frank A. Hornig, Baltimore; Sam Pinanski, Boston; Charles Moskowitz, Metropolitan New York; Sam Rinzler, Brooklyn; Fred

(*Continued on page 9*)

### *Balaban & Katz Net $1,883,060 in 1943*

CHICAGO, April 18.—A net income of $1,883,060 for the fiscal year ended Jan. 1, 1944, equal to $7.16 a share after deductions of $52,000 for contingencies, as compared with $1,818,913 in 1942, or $6.91 a share after deductions of $41,109, was reported here today at the annual meeting of stockholders of the Balaban and Katz Corp.

Current assets as of Jan. 1, 1944, were $2,816,105, against liabilities of $2,796,330, and assets as of Jan. 1, 1943, were $2,004,269 and liabilities $3,045,764. During 1943 the corpora-

(*Continued on page 11*)

# Personal Mention

IRVING MAAS, assistant director of 20th Century-Fox's international department, is en route to Latin America on a five weeks business trip.

•

EARL R. MORIN, motion picture inspector of the Connecticut State Police, and his bride, the former MRS. HARRIET FOSTER, are spending their honeymoon here. He is attending the semi-annual SMPE convention.

•

F. E. OSBORNE, independent theatre operator in Batavia and Hammondsport, N. Y., this week celebrated his 77th birthday visiting Buffalo exchanges.

•

JUSTIN HERMAN, Paramount short subject script writer, is the father of a baby daughter, born to MRS. HERMAN, at the New York Hospital.

•

CHARLES RAMB, manager of Warner's Capitol, Philadelphia, has recovered from an operation and has returned to his post.

•

BOB FINKEL, Universal salesman in New York, and MRS. FINKEL have become the parents of a boy, ALAN BARRY.

•

MARIO LUPORINI of 20th Century-Fox's international department, left New York yesterday for a two months stay in Mexico City.

•

NICK LAMANTIA, former Universal New Orleans branch manager, is in the Army at Camp Beauregard, La.

•

ALEX HALPERIN, Warner Theatres Chicago film buyer, is vacationing in Hollywood, Florida.

•

JESSE GAW, assistant manager at Loew's Poli, Hartford, is visiting in Boston.

•

JAMES C. PETRILLO, American Federation of Musicians head, is in Chicago.

•

KAY KAMEN, Walt Disney merchandise head, is visiting in Mexico City.

•

HAROLD HUTCHINS, Hilman periodicals national advertising manager, left yesterday for Chicago.

•

JESSE L. LASKY is scheduled to arrive in New York tomorrow from St. Louis.

•

BILL PRAGER, RKO Buffalo exploiteer, has returned to that city from Boston.

•

ROBERT GOODFRIED, United Artists exploiteer, left last night for Atlanta.

•

DAVE EPSTEIN, Coast publicist, returned last night to Hollywood.

•

ARTHUR DE BRA of the MPPDA was in Baltimore last night.

# Insider's Outlook

By RED KANN

*Hollywood, April 18*

THE big and solitary question is: Will one-quarter keep him content?

That was how the column closed itself last Thursday—on the question of David O. Selznick and his large-sized expansion in relation to his association with, and ownership interest in, United Artists.

Today, the exploration probes deeper.

■

The situation at UA is changing, and with speed. After fiddling around for about eight months while Korda made up his mind and changed it—also terms—Sir Alex now withdraws from the company. At an impressive profit, he withdraws as a 25 per cent stockholder with one million U. S. dollars for his end.

Purchased out of assets and reserves of UA Productions, that wholly-owned subsidiary of UA Corp., of which Arthur W. Kelly was president and which was to help finance producers, the acquired stock goes into the treasury.

■

Thus, technically at any rate, it is no person's stock, but corporation stock. It leaves Selznick, Mary Pickford and Charlie Chaplin the remaining owners at one-quarter each on the books. But, since they jointly own UA Corp. and this overall entity owns UA Productions, in point of influence and operations each partner is now a one-third participant.

Thus, too, there would seem to be supplied a partial answer, at least, to last week's question repeated today.

At best, it is a part-way answer. Part-way because the competent Selznick is also a very ambitious Selznick. An accepted analysis of him here encompasses these motivations and objectives, but it must be pointed out it is others than David himself who supply the ingredients:

1.—He wants to be top-kick in any setup of which he is a part. This suggests management or control or both.

2.—He seeks a broadly-flung company bearing his family name and has had this on his reputed list of futures for some time.

■

No one professes to know in definite terms how these objectives will be attained. But it is assumed in quarters which break down situations into reasonably well-integrated parts that they will be. Selznick, through Danny O'Shea as direct spokesman for Vanguard, is on record with the statement the future ties to UA through the stock ownership held in the Vanguard name.

This being the state of affairs, it would seem to follow in uncomplicated vein that Selznick will do his concentrating on his present alliance. Therefore, the elimination of Korda is construable as only one step of others yet to take form and shape.

■

Within UA, Selznick and Miss Pickford are far closer allies than Selznick and Chaplin or Miss Pickford and Chaplin. Variously at odds on other matters, the Korda deal widens the breach, serves to bring David and Miss Pickford into even closer business harmony and sets Charlie further along on a road of his own.

The finish? That would be asking much too much when there is no substantial reason to believe the principals themselves know.

■

Meanwhile, there is continued buzzing about Neil F. Agnew and what he is doing in the picture. He is doing this:

After two decades plus with Paramount, he broke away for a better deal financially and for a journey of excitement and new routines in a different segment of the same field—selling. On the dollar side and in the sort of tax days these are, Agnew probably won't fare sharply better with Vanguard than he did with Paramount. He does expect, however, to find exhilaration browsing along new pathways in his own end of the business. He thinks those new pathways are waiting for him.

■

On the Selznick side, what about Agnew? As reported, David wants to have in New York a selling factor on whom he can place complete dependability. Structurally, Selznick is the kind of person who will never "include himself completely out" of any of his activities. Therefore, he will be having his say in sales, too, but the dominant say will be Agnew's.

This will relieve the producer for production, but it also sets up a valuable asset if and when Selznick ever contemplates the need for a national sales manager of his own.

■

What about Agnew in relation to Grad Sears and Carl Leserman?

Harmony, and nothing but harmony, exudes on all sides. Earlier reports that Agnew had in mind a super sales cabinet to represent Vanguard in half dozen key cities—a sales organization functioning within the regularly constituted UA setup—have passed out of the picture, if ever the proposal seriously existed.

The common view is there is no such need; that such an arrangement would throw confusion, uncertainty and resentment into the existing machinery; that it would fabricate obstacles in the way of the Sears - Leserman management and, for the long pull, retard rather than help. Finally, the view is that the regular sales force at UA is the one which must assume the selling responsibility all the way down the line and regardless of what steam may be generated in the boilers at the outset.

■

Highly significant in this evaluation of the tangibles and the intangibles is the inflexibility of Sears where the boundaries of his authority are concerned. His boundaries are also Leserman's and both will not brook invasion.

They were engaged to run UA sales and that's what they intend doing. While their contractual situation remains in its current status, it is an entirely safe bet to make that Sears and Leserman will continue to control and operate the jobs they were hired to perform.

## M-G-M Auditors Meet

M-G-M will hold an auditors' meeting April 25-26 at the Hotel Astor here. Among the field auditors who will attend are Arthur Sterling, Arthur Sklar, Thomas Grady, John Ash, Parke Agnew, Edward Urschell, W. Gillilan, Charles Bell, Carl Gentzel, Oliver Broughton, F. W. N. Beckitt, Miss G. Hawkins, and a number of home office executives.

## Dowden Heads Drive

Edward C. Dowden of Loew's has been named chairman of the motion picture special gifts committee for the Brooklyn Diocesan Catholic Charities drive, by Bishop Thomas E. Molloy. The diocese includes Brooklyn, Queens, Nassau and Suffolk.

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## Republic's '44-45 Lineup April 25

Republic's 1944-45 program will be announced at a two-day regional sales conference to be held Tuesday and Wednesday, April 25-26, at the company's Hollywood studios, the home office reported here yesterday. H. J. Yates, Sr., is now at the Coast, and will remain for the meeting. James R. Grainger, President of Republic Pictures, will arrive there April 21. Western district sales manager Francis Bateman will head a contingent of men from that area.

Republic is committed to 32 features and 32 Westerns for the current season, and there is not expected to be any change in 1944-45.

**Will Discuss Releases**

In addition to the announcement, there will be discussions on the promotion of forthcoming releases: "Man From Frisco," which co-stars Michael O'Shea and Anne Shirley; "Storm Over Lisbon," starring Vera Hruba Ralston, Richard Arlen, and Erich Von Stroheim; two Roy Rogers' specials, "Yellow Rose of Texas" and "Song of Nevada," and the series of Red Ryder Westerns based on the cartoon strip.

Republic will continue to back its top production with heavy campaigns in key cities and has allocated $250,000 for "Man From Frisco" in the 32 key cities and an additional $100,000 for subordinate spots.

Among those who will also attend the Coast sessions are branch managers John Frey, Los Angeles, and Sid Weisbaum, San Francisco; J. T. Sheffield, franchise holder of the Northwest, and branch managers F. M. Higgins, Seattle; J. H. Sheffield. Portland; Gene Gerbase, Denver; and H. C. Fuller, Salt Lake City.

## Para., Univ. Handle Specials Abroad

Paramount will handle international distribution of "Memphis Belle," as well as domestic, with the exception of Great Britain where the Army Air Force documentary will be handled by the British Ministry of Information by agreement with the Office of War Information.

Foreign distribution of "With the Marines at Tarawa" will be handled by Universal, which also is handling domestic distribution of the picture. Both distribution assignments were made at a meeting of major company foreign department heads here yesterday.

## Dinner on Monday For Schwalberg

A. W. Schwalberg, who will leave Warners at the end of next week to become Eastern representative of the Spitz-Goetz International Pictures on May 1, will be given a testimonial dinner Monday night at the Waldorf Astoria by associates and friends at Warners.

## Lazarus on Duty Here

Private Paul Lazarus, Jr., former United Artists advertising publicity director, has been assigned from the Camp Upton, L. I., reception center to publicity duties for Wac recruiting at Manhattan headquarters in Whitehall Street.

# Review

## "Show Business"

*(RKO-Radio)*

THE good news is that RKO has a swell film in "Show Business," produced by Eddie Cantor. Without resorting to over-lavish production sequences or the usual beautiful girls and specialty numbers, it emerges as one of the better film musicals of the year, providing grand, appealing entertainment with a plentiful helping of comedy, supplied by Cantor and Joan Davis, and a tasteful romance between George Murphy and Constance Moore. It certainly should prove to be one of RKO's big box-office pictures of the year.

Essentially this is the story of four hard-working troupers. Murphy is a popular song-and-dance man of burlesque in 1914 when he helps Cantor get a break during an appearance as an amateur at Miner's old Bowery Theatre. Murphy is something of a lothario but Nancy Kelly has definite designs upon him. With Cantor as his partner, Murphy decides to break into vaudeville. His engaging personality attracts Miss Moore who, with Miss Davis, are a "sister act" handled by Don Douglas who is in love with Miss Moore. All four team as an act and their struggles provide many of the hilarious sequences. Murphy and Miss Moore eventually get married but Miss Kelly succeeds in breaking up the marriage on the night that Miss Moore gives birth to a daughter who dies. They are eventually remarried on the night that Murphy, Cantor and Miss Davis score in Ziegfeld's "Whoopie" on Broadway.

Full credit for making this film what it is go to the ingratiating performances of Cantor, Murphy and the Misses Davis and Moore. Cantor is cast in the type of role that made him a favorite with the American public for many years. Miss Davis is finally provided with an ample opportunity to display her type of comedy and she registers throughout. Murphy is a likeable and capable song-and-dance man and Miss Moore is quite pleasant. Miss Kelly is effective as Murphy's "pack of trouble" who can handle a song as well as the rest of them. Under Edwin L. Marin's deft direction they provide the simple story with the proper warmth and render a dozen old tunes in a manner which spells enjoyment.

The old standby, "It Had to Be You," is destined for a revival as a result of the play it receives here. Cantor is tops in delivering "Making Whoopie." The old favorites, "Dinah," "I'm Alabamy Bound," "I Don't Want To Get Well," and "I Want a Girl Just Like the Girl That Married Dear Old Dad," are also spotted to good advantage. The screen play by Joseph Quillan and Dorothy Bennett, from a story by Bert Granet, makes a generous use of Cantor's background, but it admirably avoids making this either a panorama of show business or a personal narrative. C. Bakaleinikoff acted as musical director and musical numbers were created and staged by Nick Castle. Robert DeGrasse was director of photography.

Running time, 92 minutes. "G."* Released in block No. 10.

MILTON LIVINGSTON

*"G" denotes general classification.

## Montana ITO Annual Meeting Is May 11

BILLINGS, MONT., April 18.—The annual meeting of the Independent Theatre Owners of Montana will be held on May 11 at the Northern Hotel here with election of officers and a forum on trade problems scheduled to take place. Sam Gillette, president of the Inter-Mountain Theatre Owners of Idaho, Utah and Nevada, will speak.

Officers of the ITO of Montana are: Stewart North, president; J. H. Moran, vice-president; J. M. Suckstorff, secretary-treasurer, and Arthur F. Lamey, general counsel.

## HVC Will Open New Hospital Circuit

HOLLYWOOD, April 18.—The Hollywood Victory Committee has issued a "call to service" to 500 top players in launching a campaign to send stars and featured performers on the USO-Camp Shows new Army and Navy hospital circuit for the entertainment of service men and women returned from overseas to recover from wounds. The committee has given service hospitals first priority on entertainment.

## SOPEG, Para. Dispute Settlement Attempt

Arbitration proceedings to resolve the job classification and salary schedule adjustment controversy between Screen Office and Professional Employes Guild, Local 109, CIO and Paramount, involving some 400 Paramount home office "white collarites" have been adjourned for two weeks to give both sides a chance to meet and again attempt to reach an agreement.

Arbitration hearings were held in the Paramount board room here on Monday with both sides presenting their cases. At the close of all-day sessions, an arbitration panel consisting of Thomas Murphy of the New York Newspaper Guild, who was appointed in the place of Richard Seller, also of the Guild; Albert G. Whaley, lawyer appointed by Paramount, and Aaron Horvitz, impartial arbitrator agreed upon by both sides, directed the two-week adjournment.

## Lipton at Astoria

Private David Lipton, former advertising publicity director for Columbia, is now stationed at Astoria, L. I., with the Army Signal Corps Photographic Section, but with an unassigned status for the time being.

# Coast Flashes

*Hollywood, April 18*

WARNERS and Busby Berkeley have agreed to cancellation of his director's contract. Settlement of the contract was pending when Berkeley joined M-G-M some time ago.

•

A Hollywood chapter of the Laughmakers Club of America will be formed here next Friday night at the Egyptian Theatre preview of "Up in Mabel's Room." The club has one rule: "Every comedian a president." The members, as well as trade and daily press representatives, will be guests of the "Mabel" cast.

•

Cagney Productions has purchased "Blood on the Sun," Garrett Fort's story of an American newspaperman in Tokyo during the period when the Japs were planning world conquest. James Cagney, who will return from an overseas USO tour next month, will star.

•

Kenneth MacGowan's first production for Paramount will be "Rainbow's End," a Harold Shumate original melodrama with music, laid in the American West of 1875. The film will be in Technicolor, with a special budget.

•

Last of the 86 short subjects on Warners 1943-44 schedule will go into production tomorrow under Gordon Hollingshead's supervision. Final short is "Musical Movieland" in Technicolor.

•

RKO-Radio has purchased the rights to the comic strip, "Dick Tracy," by Chester Gould. They will produce it with all the major characters retained.

•

Hal Horne, 20th-Fox advertising-publicity director, and Charles Schlaifer, advertising manager, will leave Friday for the East on the Superchief.

•

Universal announced today they will make "The Return of the Sheik," with Maria Montez starred, in Technicolor. Paul Malvern will produce.

## Chicago Lauded as 20th Sales Leader

CHICAGO, April 18.—Tribute was paid today by Tom Connors, 20th Century-Fox distribution vice-president, to 50 local exhibitors at a luncheon at the Hotel Blackstone for their cooperation in sustaining the Chicago exchange of the company as the country's leader in volume of sales.

Among those present today, representing Chicago and Midwest interests were: John Balaban, Walter Immerman, William K. Hollander, and Harry Lustgarten of Balaban and Katz; James Coston of Warner Bros. Theatres; Jack Kirsch, leading the Allied Independent Theatre operators; Tom Gorman of RKO Theatres; Sam Traynor of Bailey Enterprises, and Jack Rosen of Indiana-Illinois Theatres.

## J. Irving White Dies

LOS ANGELES, April 18.—J. Irving White, 79, veteran of more than 50 years on stage and screen, died yesterday in Cedars of Lebanon Hospital.


M-G-M EAL-TICKET !
TWO GIRLS AND A SAILOR
GASLIGHT
SPRINGTIME 5
Charles Boyer, Ingrid Bergm
Joseph Cotten in "GASLIGHT" w
Dame May Whitty, Angela La
bury, Barbara Everest • Screen P
by John Van Druten, Walter Rei
and John L. Balderston • Ba
Upon the Play by Patrick Hamil
Directed by George Cukor • Produ
by Arthur Hornblow, Jr.




"TWO GIRLS AND A SAILOR" with Van Johnson, June Allyson, Gloria DeHaven, Jose Iturbi, Jimmy Durante, Gracie Allen, Lena Horne • Harry James and His Music Makers with Helen Forrest • Xavier Cugat and His Orchestra with Dina Romay • Tom Drake, Henry Stephenson, Henry O'Neill, Ben Blue, Carlos Ramirez, Frank Sully, Albert Coates, Donald Meek, Amparo Novarro, Virginia O'Brien, Wilde Twins • Original Screen Play by Richard Connell and Gladys Lehman • Directed by Richard Thorpe
Produced by Joe Pasternak

"ANDY HARDY'S BLONDE TROUBLE" with Lewis Stone, Mickey Rooney, Fay Holden, Sara Haden, Bonita Granville, Jean Porter, Keye Luke and Herbert Marshall Screen Play by Harry Ruskin, William Ludwig and Agnes Christine Johnson • Directed by George B. Seitz

"MEET THE PEOPLE" Starring Lucille Ball, Dick Powell with Virginia O'Brien, Bert Lahr, "Rags" Ragland, June Allyson and Vaughn Monroe and His Orchestra • Spike Jones and His City Slickers • Screen Play by S. M. Herzig and Fred Saidy
Directed by Charles Riesner
Produced by E. Y. Harburg

"THREE MEN IN WHITE" with Lionel Barrymore, Van Johnson, Marilyn Maxwell, Keye Luke, Ava Gardner, Alma Kruger, "Rags" Ragland Original Screen Play by Martin Berkeley and Harry Ruskin • Directed by Willis Goldbeck

## Hollywood Is Cited For Bond Sales

HOLLYWOOD, April 18.—Official recognition of Hollywood's effort in war bond sales was extended at a Beverly Hills Hotel luncheon today when a distinguished service citation from the Treasury Department was presented to Henry Ginsberg as chairman of the Hollywood M. P. War Finance Committee. Signed by Secretary Morgenthau, it was presented by Robert H. Moulton, War Finance Committee state chairman for Southern California.

"We wonder just how the rest of the country gets along without the motion picture industry," he said.

In addition to members of the Hollywood committee, special guests included Rear Admiral I. C. Johnson, Major General Walter P. Story, Howard D. Mills, regional director of the War Finance Committee for 11 Western states, and Dorothy Lamour.

The occasion was the second anniversary of the Hollywood committee which has sold $56,000,000 in war bonds, aside from the purchases made by film corporations here. Attendance at the luncheon was a complete cross-section of the production community, including representatives of independent and major companies, guilds, unions, publicists and agents.

## *Fitzgibbons Names 6th Loan Chairmen*

TORONTO, April 18.—Provincial chairmen for the motion picture section of the Canadian National War Finance Committee have been announced by J. J. Fitzgibbons, chairman of the executive committee of the industry's War Services Committee, who will head the industry's Sixth Victory Loan.

They are: K. M. Leach, Strand Theatre, Calgary, Alberta; D. Griesdorf, Odeon Theatres, Vancouver, British Columbia; J. Pearson, Corona Theatre, Winnipeg, Manitoba; Reg. March, 20th-Fox, St. John, N. B.; R. S. Roddick, Capitol Theatre, Halifax, and W. H. Cuzner, Strand Theatre, Sydney Mines, both Nova Scotia; N. A. Taylor, 20th Century Theatres, Toronto, and Herb Allen, Toronto, Ontario; Eugene Beaulac, Quebec Allied Theatrical Industries, Montreal, Quebec; W. Winterton, Capitol Theatre, Saskatoon, Sask., and Ray Lewis, Canadian M. P. War Services Committee, Toronto, Ontario, secretary.

## *Exhibitors Liable for Violating Curfew*

MILWAUKEE, April 18.—Exhibitors here would be held liable under an amended curfew ordinance as recommended by the judiciary committee of Milwaukee's council. If adopted, serious complications to showmen and their employes would result.

Agents of companies, corporations and individuals operating amusement places, hotels and rooming houses would be held liable for violations. The ordinance forbids the presence of minors under 16 in public places after midnight. Under the amendment, amusement place operators would be liable to a fine ranging from $10 to $100 and up to 30 days in jail.

# *Review*

## *"Pin-Up Girl"*

*(20th Century-Fox)*

"PIN-UP GIRL" is another lavish 20th Century-Fox Technicolor musical starring Betty Grable which is rich in popular entertainment value and geared for top box-office returns. However, unlike its recent predecessors, "Coney Island" and "Sweet Rosie O'Grady," the emphasis in this stunning William LeBaron production is on the timely red, white and blue of these days. Featured are Martha Raye, Joe E. Brown, Eugene Pallette and Charlie Spivak and his band.

Miss Grable, packing her customary appeal in all departments which saw her voted the top money-making star of 1943 in *Motion Picture Herald's* last annual poll, is presented here as the darling of the USO canteen in her home town in the Midwest, who goes to Washington to become a stenographer and emerges as a popular night club entertainer. Though she is "engaged" to some 500 service boys, she finally settles upon a "heart-throb" in the person of John Harvey, a returned sailor hero of Guadalcanal. Comedy is supplied by Brown as a night club show producer and Miss Raye, his featured nemesis. Spivak and his orchestra, aided by Miss Grable and Miss Ray, are provided with plenty of musical opportunities in the eight tunes of the Mack Gordon-James Monaco score, with "You're My Little Pin-Up Girl," "Don't Carry Tales Out of School" and "Time Alone Will Tell" seemingly destined for "Hit Parade" attention. "The Story of the Very Merry Widow" and "Red Robins, Bob Whites and Blue Birds" supply the musical background for two top production numbers.

LeBaron has wisely prevented the "usual complications" in the Robert Ellis-Helen Logan-Earl Baldwin screenplay—from a Libbie Block story—from interfering with the film's tasteful production, including a grand dance spectacle on roller skates and a rousing uniformed military drill finale. Bruce Humberstone's direction keeps the slim story paced with the opulence of the entertainment.

The Condos Brothers are featured in two dance specialties; Pallette is convincing as the blustering old Navy sea horse chained to a Washington desk; Dorothea Kent has her moments in trying vainly to lasso Miss Grable's flair for adventure as her home town chum, and Dave Willock is Harvey's sailor buddy. Ernest Palmer handled photography and Hermes Pan staged the dances with a good assist from Gae Foster in the roller skating sequence.

Running time, 83 minutes. "G."* Released in May in Block No. 5.

MILTON LIVINGSTON

**"G" denotes general classification.*

## *End 'Canteen' Fight; To Resume Shooting*

HOLLYWOOD, April 18.—Warners and the Screen Actors Guild reached an agreement on the application of the Guild's rule 33 to "Hollywood Canteen," and the studio has announced immediate resumption of production. For purposes of this picture, the Guild will consider a minimum week's salary as normal compensation for actors wishing to appear in brief roles.

In a joint statement the Guild declared it had received assurances from Warners that no pressure would be exerted to force actors into the picture and that none was contemplated. Warners will dismiss its suit against SAG and further conferences on "pressure pictures" will be conducted on an industry-wide basis.

## *Rafael Cobian Gets 31 Goldwyn Reissues*

Rafael Ramos Cobian, Puerto Rican distributor, has acquired reissue rights in that counttry to 31 Samuel Goldwyn productions, ranging from "Bulldog Drummond" to "The Westerner," the Goldwyn office announced here this week. George Callahan represented Cobian.

This is the third South American reissue deal for this series of pictures. Henry R. Arias represented the producer in the negotiations.

## *SWG Calls Industry 'Vigilante' Meeting*

HOLLYWOOD, April 18.—The executive board of the Screen Writers Guild has dispatched a telegraphic invitation to 40 talent, labor and producer groups to "join representatives of all branches of the industry in a meeting on May 2 at the Hollywood Roosevelt Hotel, to the end that picture making and picture makers will no longer be convenient scapegoats for pressure groups."

The telegrams also stated: "This conference is called to plan an industry-wide meeting dedicated to effect a vigilante program of public relations to protect the industry's patriotic efforts and the freedom of the screen from unprincipled attacks. This will ensure that only the industry as a whole speaks for industry."

SWG spokesman said the action followed closely on heels of censorious action taken by its membership against the Motion Picture Alliance for the Preservation of American Ideals, which had charged that the industry was rife with "Communism-Fascism" and had sought in vain to get cooperative action from the guild.

## *William Green in Chicago*

CHICAGO, April 18.—William Green, M-G-M publicist with the Des Moines office, is temporarily in charge of publicity at the local branch during the absence of W. G. Bishop, on tour of the Western division with John E. Flynn, general sales manager.

## $538,794 More for Red Cross Drive

Additional reports from 80 theatres of the RKO Circuit, 160 theatres in Florida, 360 in Louisiana, 180 in Colorado, and from 60 theatres in the Martin circuit in the South to Joseph Bernhard, national chairman of the motion picture industry's 1944 Red Cross campaign show collections totaling $538,794 for those houses.

First 80 houses of the RKO circuit to report 1944 Red Cross collections to Edward L. Alperson, general manager, showed a total of $184,834, an average of more than $2,300 per theatre.

E. V. Richards, Louisiana WAC exhibitor chairman, reported from New Orleans that 360 of the 540 theatres in that territory had taken in $152,612, averaging $425 each. Rick Ricketson, state chairman for Colorado, reports $50,511 from 180 theatres with 100 houses still to report. The Martin circuit collected $23,000 in 60 theatres, a substantial average for small community theatres. J. L. Cartwright, Florida exhibitor chairman, reports collections of $127,837 from 160 theatres, an average of $800 per theatre, with returns to come from 140 more Florida houses.

## *Memphis Withholds Report on Booths*

MEMPHIS, April 18.—C. J. Verret has been appointed chairman and Hillman O. McKenzie, X-ray official, and J. Nolan Cullen, projectionist at the Warner theatre here, have been appointed members of the Memphis Board of Examiners of M. P. Operators. McKenzie and Cullen were named to succeed former chairman Fred S. Bauer, Sr., and A. G. Shelton who recently resigned after filing a report on theatre booths.

The report has been withheld except for the information on 29 of the city's 34 booths. Thirteen booths were held to be satisfactory, 12 passable and four lacking in sanitary or safety facilities. Names of the theatres were not disclosed.

Simultaneously the city commission amended the ordinance lowering the age of the operators' helpers from 18 to 17.

## *SAG Would Protect Television Players*

HOLLYWOOD, April 18.—The directors of the Screen Actors Guild have appointed a committee to confer with the Associated Actors and Artistes of America unions on the best procedure for protecting television players from "merciless advertising agency treatment."

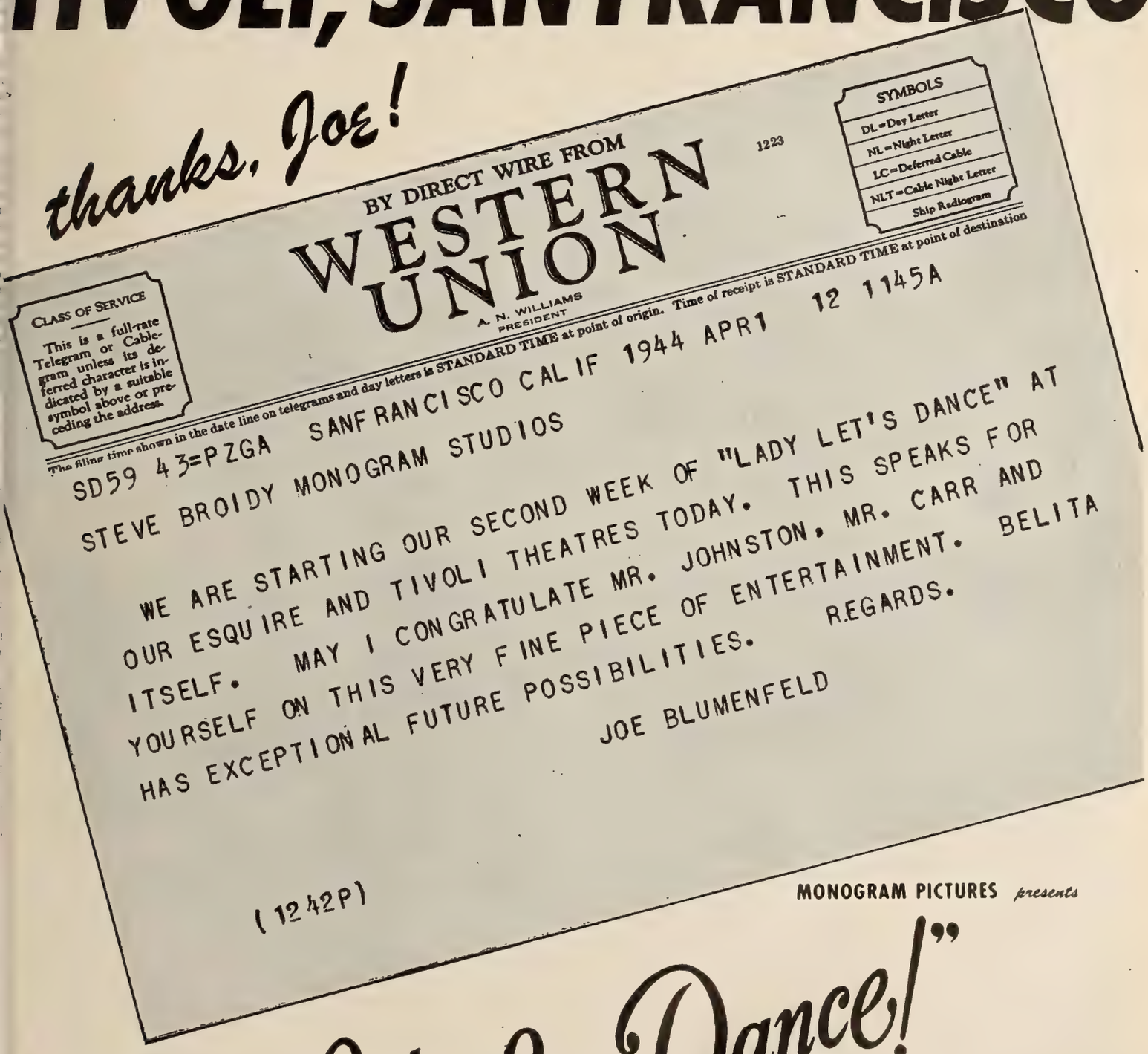
Named on the committee were Murray Kinnell, Walter Abel and Florence Marston, who are all now in New York, where conferences on "television players' affiliation with AAAA" will be started immediately.

## *Johnson to IATSE Meet*

Lou Johnson, president of Local B-51, Film Exchange Employes Union, New York, has been named delegate to the IATSE convention, to be held in St. Louis May 28. Johnson will represent all department B and F locals in this 10th district.

# HELD OVER AT ESQUIRE & TIVOLI, SAN FRANCISCO

*thanks, Joe!*



BY DIRECT WIRE FROM
WESTERN UNION
A. N. WILLIAMS PRESIDENT

1223

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STEVE BROIDY MONOGRAM STUDIOS

WE ARE STARTING OUR SECOND WEEK OF "LADY LET'S DANCE" AT OUR ESQUIRE AND TIVOLI THEATRES TODAY. THIS SPEAKS FOR ITSELF. MAY I CONGRATULATE MR. JOHNSTON, MR. CARR AND YOURSELF ON THIS VERY FINE PIECE OF ENTERTAINMENT. BELITA HAS EXCEPTIONAL FUTURE POSSIBILITIES. REGARDS.

JOE BLUMENFELD

(1242P)

MONOGRAM PICTURES *presents*

# "Lady, Let's Dance!"

A SCOTT R. DUNLAP Production

*starring* **BELITA**

The Most Versatile Girl on the Screen

## Baseball Fans Swell 'Cover Girl' Gross

CINCINNATI, April 18. — Weekend returns, plus accelerated attendance from baseball fans here this week, will give "Cover Girl" at the RKO Palace an estimated $17,500, while "Swingtime Johnny," with George White's Scandals on the RKO Albee stage, is heading for around $22,000.

Estimated receipts for the week ending April 18-22:

**"Swingtime Johnny" (Univ.)**
RKO ALBEE—(3,300) (50c-60c-70c-85c-96c) 7 days, plus Saturday midnight show. Stage: George White's Scandals. Gross: $22,000. (Average: $22,000).
**"Lady in the Dark" (Para.)**
RKO CAPITOL—(2,700) (44c-50c-60c-70c) 7 days, plus Saturday midnight show, 2nd week. Gross: $9,500. (Average: $10,000).
**"Casanova in Burlesque" (Rep.)**
**"Law Men" (Mono.)**
RKO FAMILY—(1,000) (30c-40c) 4 days. Gross: $1,700. (Average, $1,600).
**"Henry Aldrich, Boy Scout" (Para.)**
**"Empty Holsters" (WB reissue)**
RKO FAMILY—(1,000) (30c-40c) 3 days. Gross: $850. (Average: $800).
**"The Miracle of Morgan's Creek" (Para.)**
**"The Memphis Belle" (WAC-Para.)**
RKO GRAND—(1,500) (44c-50c-60c-70c) 7 days, plus Saturday midnight show, 2nd week. Gross: $9,000. (Average: $9,500).
**"Knickerbocker Holiday" (UA)**
**"The Memphis Belle" (WAC-Para.)**
KEITH'S—(1,500) (44c-50c-60c-70c) 7 days. Gross: $6,500. (Average: $5,000).
**"The Purple Heart" (20th-Fox)**
RKO LYRIC—(1,400) (44c-50c-60c-70c) 7 days, plus Saturday midnight show, 2nd week. Gross: $5,800. (Average: $5,500).
**"Cover Girl" (Col.)**
RKO PALACE—(2,700) (44c-50c-60c-70c) 7 days, plus Saturday midnight show. Gross: $17,500. (Average: $15,000).
**"Passage to Marseille" (WB)**
RKO SHUBERT—(1,500) (44c-50c-60c-70c) 7 days, 3rd week, after two weeks at the Palace. Gross: $4,500. (Average: $5,000).

## 'Marseille' Nets Neat $20,000 in Cleveland

CLEVELAND, April 18.—"Passage to Marseille" at Warners Hippodrome with $24,000, and "Action in Arabia" with a vaudeville show headed by Martha Raye at the RKO Palace, grossing $26,500, were the only current shows to go over par.

Estimated receipts for the week ending April 19:

**"Desert Song" (WB)**
ALLEN—(3,000) (44c-55c-65c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $8,200. (Average: $8,500).
**"Passage to Marseille" (WB)**
WARNERS' HIPPODROME—(3,500) (44c-55c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $24,000. (Average: $22,100).
**"Purple Heart" (20th-Fox)**
WARNERS' LAKE—(714) (44c-55c-65c) 7 days, 3rd week. Gross: $2,300. (Average: $3,200).
**"Swing Fever" (M-G-M)**
LOEW'S OHIO—(1,268) (43c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $4,000. (Average: $5,000).
**"Action in Arabia" (RKO)**
RKO PALACE—(3,300) (50c-60c-85c-95c) 7 days. Stage: Martha Raye and vaudeville. Gross: $26,500. (Average: $25,400).
**"Lady in the Dark" (Para.)**
LOEW'S STATE—(3,300) (43c-65c), 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $16,500. (Average: $19,000).
**"Knickerbocker Holiday" (UA)**
LOEW'S STILLMAN—(1,900) (43c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $8,000. (Average: $10,000).

## Film Classics Sets 2 More Franchises

Consummation of two additional Film Classics franchises was announced by George A. Hirliman, president, upon his return here from regional conferences in the South.

John W. Mangham, head of Films Classics of Atlanta, will also operate the two new companies, which will cover the Memphis and New Orleans territory and will be named Films Classics of Tennessee and Film Classics of Louisiana.

# Reviews

## "Days of Glory"

*(RKO)*

"DAYS OF GLORY" has a fresh array of talent, headed by Tamara Toumanova, internationally-known ballerina, in her first cinematic role. Others include Gregory Peck, former Broadway stage star, Alan Reed, Maria Palmer and Lowell Gilmore, all handling their first feature film assignments with refreshing sincerity and an apparent genuine appreciation of their characterizations. Jacques Tourneur directed the newcomers with sensitive skill, and the result is an appealing picture which should pull. As an expression of propaganda for the Russian cause, parts of the story are lost for those who have seen other film versions of Russia's heroic defense of the homeland.

Essentially this is the story of a band of guerillas, commanded by Peck, operating from a deserted monastery outside the gates of a Nazi-held town. The principal theme is parallelled by the delicately handled story of love between Miss Toumanova and Peck and ofttimes this secondary tale rises above the main story thread. Eventually all members of the little group are killed, including the 16-year-old partisan hero, Glenn Vernon, who turns in an inspired performance. Last defenders of the town are Peck and Miss Toumanova who see the town re-won by the Soviets as a result of their courageous action, before they, too, are killed. The music score, which clings throughout to a note of hope and a promise of better days to come, was written by Daniele Amfitheatrof and directed by C. Bakaleinikoff. It adds much to the production.

Producer Casey Robinson wrote the screen adaptation from an original by Melchior Lengyel.

Running time, 86 mins. "G."* Released in Block 5.

HELEN MCNAMARA

## "Slightly Terrific"

*(Universal)*

*Hollywood, April 18*

SLIGHTLY is hardly the word to use in describing how "Slightly Terrific" falls behind the title implications with only rare bits of comedy by Leon Errol and the zestful efforts of youthful song-and-dance artists worthy of note.

The well-worn plot is really two-in-one, providing little creditable continuity between the struggling comedy bits of Errol and the youthfully exuberant dancing and singing of Anne Rooney, Eddie Quillan, Betty Kean, Jayne Forrest and Lillian Cornell, together with specialty groups of dancers.

A group of juvenile stage aspirants mistakes Errol for the wealthy member of twins and thinks it has found an angel. Learning their mistake they win a break when Anne's appealing youth wins over the hard-hearted twin. Eddie Cline directed for associate producer Alexis Thurn-Taxis from a screenplay by Stanley Davis and Edward Dein based on an original by Edith Watkins and Florence McEnany.

Running time, 62 minutes. "G."* Release date May 5.

JACK CARTWRIGHT

**"G" denotes general classification.*

## 'Arms' Looks Like $8,600 Over Par

BUFFALO, April 18. — An enormous week is anticipated here on the basis of weekend grosses. "Up In Arms" opened to capacity and looks good for $20,800. "A Guy Named Joe" at the Buffalo and "Lady in the Dark" at the Great Lakes, both in second weeks, kept up their pace.

Estimated receipts for the week ending April 22:

**"A Guy Named Joe" (M-G-M)**
BUFFALO—(3,489) (40c-50c-60c-70c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $21,000. (Average: $17,400).
**"Lady in the Dark" (Para.)**
GREAT LAKES—(3,000) (40c-50c-60c-70c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $22,500. (Average: $16,600).
**"Tampico" (20th-Fox)**
**"Hot Rhythm" (Mono.)**
HIPPODROME—(2,100) (40c-50c-60c-70c) 7 days. Gross: $11,800. (Average: $9,700).
**"Up in Arms" (RKO)**
TWENTIETH CENTURY—(3,000) (40c-50c-60c-70c) 7 days. Gross: $20,800. (Average: $12,200).
**"Cover Girl" (Col.)**
**"Calling Dr. Death" (Univ.)**
LAFAYETTE—(3,000) (40c-50c-60c-70c) 7 days, "Cover Girl" 2nd week. Gross: $15,400. (Average: $12,400).

## 'Marseille' Sets Pace In Indianapolis Run

INDIANAPOLIS, April 18. — "Passage to Marseille" and "Memphis Bell" will gross $14,000 at the Indiana this week to take the lead here.

Estimated receipts for the week ending April 18-20:

**"Memphis Belle" (WAC-Para.)**
**"Chip Off the Old Block" (Univ.)**
CIRCLE—(2,800) (32c-55c) 7 days. Gross: $11,000. (Average: $11,800).
**"Passage to Marseille" (WB)**
**"Memphis Belle" (WAC-Para.)**
INDIANA—(3,200) (32c-55c) 7 days. Gross: $14,000. (Average: $11,600).
**"Song of Russia" M-G-M)**
**"Memphis Belle" (WAC-Para.)**
LOEW'S—(2,800) (32c-55c) 7 days. Gross: $10,000. (Average: $11,500).
**"Tender Comrade" (RKO)**
LYRIC—(2,000) (32c-55c) 7 days, move over from Indiana. Gross: $6,000. (Average: $4,900).

## SPG Names Moses

Vivian Moses of RKO's home office publicity department, has been elected second vice-president of the Screen Publicists Guild here succeeding Carl Rigrod, who recently joined Donahue and Coe, advertising agency.

## 'Buffalo Bill' Pulls Big in Kansas City

KANSAS CITY, April 18.—"Buffalo Bill" at the Esquire, Uptown and Fairway theatres is a film the town is wild over and all three chalked up $16,700 for the week's run.

Estimated receipts for the week ending April 19-22:

**"Buffalo Bill" (20th-Fox)**
ESQUIRE—(800) (45c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $7,500. (Average: $6,000).
**"See Here, Private Hargrove" (M-G-M)**
**"Nine Girls" (Col.)**
MIDLAND—(3,600) (40c-60c) 7 days. Gross: $17,500. (Average: $14,000).
**"Lady in the Dark" (Para.)**
NEWMAN—(1,900) (46c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $14,000. (Average: $11,000).
**"Up in Arms" (RKO-Goldwyn)**
**"The Falcon Out West" (RKO)**
ORPHEUM—(1,900) (45c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $16,500. (Average: $10,000).
**"Where Are Your Children?" (Mono.)**
**"Weekend Pass" (Univ.) and Stage**
TOWER—(2,200) (40c-60c) 7 days. Gross: $12,000. (Average $9,400).
**"Buffalo Bill" (20th-Fox)**
UPTOWN—(2,000) (45c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $7,500. (Average: $5,600).
**"Buffalo Bill" (20th-Fox)**
FAIRWAY—(700) (45c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $1,700. (Average: $1,600).

## Toronto Giving 'Joe' Healthy $16,200

TORONTO, April 18.—"A Guy Named Joe" was heading for $16,200 at Loew's Theatre with crowds in line despite wintry weather, while "Lady in the Dark" appeared to be holding up to $15,300 in its second week at Shea's Theatre.

Estimated receipts for the week ending April 20:

**"The Adventures of Tom Sawyer" (Alliance)**
EGLINTON — (1,086) (18c-30c-48c-60c) 6 days, 2nd week. Gross: $4,000. (Average: $4,000).
**"Standing Room Only" (Para.)**
IMPERIAL—(3,373) (18c-30c-42c-60c-90c) 6 days, second week. Gross: $11,800. (Average: $12,800).
**"A Guy Named Joe" (M-G-M)**
LOEW'S — (2,074) (18c-30c-42c-60c-78c) 6 days. Gross: $16,200. (Average: $11,200).
**"Lady in the Dark" (Para.)**
SHEA'S — (2,480) (18c-30c-42c-60c-90c) 6 days, 2nd week. Gross: $15,300. (Average: $12,800).
**"Swing Out the Blues" (Col.)**
**"What a Woman!" (Col.)**
TIVOLI — (1,434) (18c-30c-48c) 6 days, moveover. Gross: $3,900. (Average: $4,400).
**"Follow the Boys" (Univ.)**
UPTOWN—(2,761) (18c-30c-42c-60c-90c) 6 days, 2nd week. Gross: $11,300. (Average: $9,800).

## Lasky, March Invited To Twain Ceremony

Jesse L. Lasky and Fredric March, producer and star of Warners' "The Adventures of Mark Twain," have been invited to ceremonies commemorating the 34th anniversary of Twain's death, to be held Friday in New York University's Hall of Fame.

On May 2 a benefit preview of the film will be held at the Hollywood Theatre here under the auspices of the Madison Square Boys Club; and on the next day, simultaneous with the regular opening at the Hollywood, station WABC will conclude a special series of advertising broadcasts which Warner Brothers launched over the Columbia network yesterday.

## RKO Plans Tournament

RKO will hold its 1944 "War Bond Golf Tournament" May 16 at the Westchester Country Club. The ticket committee is headed by J. A. Farmer and Dick Gavin.

# 42 Chairmen Named For Wac Campaign

(*Continued from page* 1)

J. Schwartz, Queens; Andrew Gibson, Buffalo; H. F. Kinsey, Charlotte; John Balaban, Chicago; Col. Arthur Frudenfeld, Cincinnati; Nat Wolf, Cleveland; R. J. O'Donnell, Dallas; "Rick" Ricketson, Denver; A. H. Blank, Des Moines.

Also, Earl Hudson, Detroit; Marc Wolf, Indianapolis; Elmer Rhoden, Kansas City; Charles Skouras, Los Angeles; M. A. Rosenberg, McKees Rock, Pa.; M. A. Silver, Pittsburgh; M. A. Lightman, Memphis; Harold Fitzgerald, Milwaukee; John Friedl, Minneapolis; Don Jacocks, Newark; Harry Lowenstein, Newark; I. J. Hoffman, New Haven; E. V. Richards, New Orleans; Maurice F. Barr, New Orleans; L. C. Griffith, Oklahoma City; William Miskell, Omaha; John Rugar, Park City, Utah.

Also, Earle W. Sweigert, Philadelphia; Albert Finke, Portland, Ore.; Ed Fay, Providence; Harry Arthur, St. Louis; B. V. Sturdivant, San Francisco; Frank Newman, Sr., Seattle; W. J. Crockett, Virginia Beach, Va.; Carter Barron, Washington; John J. Payette, Washington, and A. Joseph de Fiore, Wilmington, Del.

## *Century Entertains*

Century Circuit executives will be hosts to their employes tomorrow in recognition of their cooperation in the Fourth War Loan Drive. A dinner will be held at Town and Country Restaurant, following which the group will attend "Follow the Girls."

# *Average Gross in 143 Key Houses Is Up by $2,232*

(*Continued from page* 1)

leaders for the past month in the list of wide-scattered communities reporting indicate a continuing preference for light entertainment, especially musicals, although some serious war films also held the attention of the public.

A compilation of the leading pictures follows: 20th-Fox: "The Song of Bernadette," "Four Jills in a Jeep," "Jane Eyre," "The Purple Heart"; Paramount: "Lady in the Dark," "Standing Room Only," "The Miracle of Morgan's Creek," "The Uninvited"; RKO: "Higher and Higher," "Tarzan's Desert Mystery," "Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs" (reissue), "Up in Arms" (Goldwyn), "Tender Comrade"; M-G-M: "Broadway Rhythm," "Rationing," "A Guy Named Joe," "Swing Fever"; Warners: "Shine On, Harvest Moon," "In Our Time," "The Frisco Kid," "Passage to Marseille"; Columbia: "Cover Girl," "None Shall Escape," "Beautiful but Broke," "What a Woman," "The Ghost That Walks," "Nine Girls"; Universal: "Chip Off the Old Block," "Moonlight in Vermont," "Phantom Lady," "The Impostor"; Republic: "The Fighting Seabees," "My Best Gal"; Monogram: "Women in Bondage."

Composite records for each week of the year to date, compared with the same weeks last year, follow:

| 1944 Week Ending | No. of Theatres | Total Gross | Average Per Theatre |
|---|---|---|---|
| Dec. 31-Jan. 1.. | 135 | $2,213,500 | $16,396 |
| Jan. 7-8 ..... | 117 | 2,417,700 | 20,664 |
| Jan. 14-15 ..... | 134 | 2,040,700 | 15,229 |
| Jan. 21-22 ..... | 149 | 2,311,400 | 15,513 |
| Jan. 28-29 ..... | 147 | 2,365,200 | 16,090 |
| Feb. 4-5 ..... | 153 | 2,512,200 | 16,419 |
| Feb. 11-12 .... | 137 | 2,220,900 | 16,211 |
| Feb. 18-19 ..... | 155 | 2,459,800 | 15,870 |
| Feb. 25-26 ..... | 161 | 2,760,100 | 17,144 |
| March 3-4 ..... | 147 | 2,397,100 | 16,307 |
| March 10-11 ... | 147 | 2,463,400 | 16,758 |
| March 17-18 ... | 153 | 2,661,100 | 18,761 |
| March 24-25 ... | 150 | 2,487,700 | 16,585 |
| Mar. 31-Apr. 1 | 152 | 3,025,000 | 13,329 |
| April 7-8 ..... | 153 | 2,340,600 | 15,298 |
| April 14-15 .... | 143 | 2,506,800 | 17,530 |

| 1944 Week Ending | No. of Theatres | Total Gross | Average Per Theatre |
|---|---|---|---|
| Jan. 1-2 ..... | 151 | $2,813,506 | $18,632 |
| Jan. 8-9 ..... | 154 | 2,424,300 | 15,742 |
| Jan. 15-16 ... | 149 | 1,830,500 | 12,285 |
| Jan. 22-21 ... | 127 | 1,648,600 | 12,981 |
| Jan. 29-30 ... | 127 | 1,789,500 | 14,091 |
| Feb. 5-6 ..... | 126 | 1,743,000 | 13,040 |
| Feb. 12-13 ... | 132 | 1,919,000 | 14,538 |
| Feb. 19-20 ... | 139 | 1,885,900 | 13,568 |
| Feb. 26-27 ... | 149 | 2,005,200 | 13,458 |
| March 5-6 ... | 142 | 1,933,400 | 13,615 |
| March 12-13 . | 151 | 1,944,600 | 12,878 |
| March 19-20 . | 143 | 1,968,300 | 13,764 |
| March 26-27 . | 147 | 1,938,200 | 13,185 |
| April 2-3 .... | 123 | 1,785,800 | 14,519 |
| April 9-10 ... | 147 | 2,029,100 | 13,803 |
| April 16-17 .. | 147 | 1,868,500 | 12,711 |

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# Drift from War Areas Seen Affecting Films

(*Continued from page* 1)

fearful that it will spread to other war centers and develop into a new migration "back home."

The most seriously affected area so far reported is Richmond, Cal., which is losing population at the rate of 10,000 workers a month, plus their families. Buffalo is reported to be losing 1,500 workers a month and Baltimore, where several thousand workers are urgently needed, has lost between 15,000 and 20,000 during the Winter, barely balanced by the number of new workers coming in. Evidences of a startling out-migration also are reported from Detroit and several other centers of war production.

So far, the new trend in migration has not progressed to a point where its effect upon exhibitors or other business men can be even roughly evaluated, but it is a portent of what will happen when the end of the war closes the war-production plants.

## *4F Labor Draft Out*

WASHINGTON, April 18.—The House military affairs committee today killed legislation which would have forced 4F draft registrants in non-essential industries into labor groups for war job assignments.



# Holdovers in Philadelphia Grossing Big

PHILADELPHIA, April 18.—The week got off to a big start in spite of holdovers and second-runs predominating here. The "Uninvited," at the Aldine, sole major opening, expects to gross $15,200 for the week in addition to $4,500 already in from a Sunday dual showing at the Earle. Among the holdovers, "Cover Girl" at the Boyd still holds big, pointing to $20,300 for its second week.

Estimated receipts for the week ending April 19-21:

**"The Uninvited" (Para.)**
ALDINE—(900) (40c-45c-50c-65c-75c-85c) 7 days. Gross: $15,200. (Average, $14,600)

**"For Whom the Bell Tolls" (Para.)**
ARCADIA—(600) (75c-$1.10) 7 days, 2nd run. Gross: $10,000. (Average, $4,000)

**"Cover Girl" (Col.)**
BOYD — (3,000) (40c-45c-50c-65c-75c-85c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $20,300. (Average, $18,000)

**"Knickerbocker Holiday" (U. A.) (6 days) $21,200**

**"The Uninvited" (Para.) (1 day) $4,500**
EARLE—(3,000) (50c-65c-85c-95c) 6 days of vaudeville including Les Brown's orchestra, Carol Bruce, Chris Cross, The Albins, Doris Day, Gordon Drake, Butch Stone, Randy Brooks & Dick Shanahan. Gross: $21,200. (Average, $27,800)

**"The Miracle of Morgan's Creek" (Para.)**
FOX — (3,000) (40c-45c-50c-65c-75c-85c) 7 days, 4th week. Gross: $18,900. (Average, $20,500)

**"A Guy Named Joe" (M-G-M)**
KARLTON — (1,000) (40c-45c-50c-65c-75c-85c) 7 days, 2nd run, 3rd week. Gross: $6,500. (Average, $6,600)

**"The Lodger" (20th-Fox)**
KEITH'S—(2,200) (40c-45c-50c-65c-75c-85c) 7 days, 2nd run. Gross: $6,500. (Average, $5,800)

**"Shine On, Harvest Moon" (W. B.)**
MASTBAUM—(4,700) (40c-45c-50c-65c-75c-85c) 7 days, 3rd week. Gross: $17,900. (Average, $22,500)

**"Broadway Rhythm" (M-G-M)**
STANLEY — (3,000) (40c-45c-50c-65c-75c-85c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $17,200. (Average, $20,000)

**"It Happened Tomorrow" (U. A.)**
STANTON — (1,700) (40c-45c-50c-65c-75c-85c) 7 days. Gross: $14,700. (Average, $9,400)

## 4 More USO Hospital Shows Get Underway

USO-Camp Shows has anounced four new units are touring service hospitals.

Eddie Cantor is making personal appearances at recuperation centers in Iowa, Kansas, Illinois and Michigan, concluding in Utica April 22. Ann Dvorak and Jean Brooks will do shows in Texas and Tennessee, while Marguerite Chapman and Tina Thayer will begin a tour in Tennessee, Indiana, Kentucky, Ohio and Pennsylvania this week. Janine Crispin, instead of Lois Collier as previously scheduled, will accompany Maria Montez on a tour of seven hospitals in California.

## Schools Enlist Aid Of Theatremen

BIRMINGHAM, Ala., April 18. — Theatre managers here have been asked by school superintendents of the five school systems in Jefferson County to refuse admission to children under 16 unless accompanied by parents, until after 3:30 P. M. on school days.

This action was taken following the report that truancy is on the rise as a result of school children cutting classes to go to motion picture theatres.

# Short Subject Reviews

## "The Irish Question"
*(March of Time)*

The March of Time, with a prescience that is to be admired, is Johnny-on-the-spot with a well-rounded discussion in "The Irish Question" of what is at present a 'hot Irish potato,' i.e. Eire's neutrality. When the U. S. request for the removal of Axis diplomats who were in a position to spy on Allied troops stationed in Northern Ireland was rejected, Ireland's neutrality was brought sharply into focus.

The background of the Irish peoples' steadfast grip on neutrality, which they have clutched as tightly as their independence, is herewith presented in a comprehensive survey of the country; its life, which is sustained principally from the soil; the religious faith as exemplified by the parish priest and the spiritual life; the beautiful countryside, and many other aspects of Gaelic life. To the average Irishman, who yearns for that part of Ireland still under British rule, President de Valera has gained in stature by his grim stand for the land's continued neutrality. Running time, 18¾ mins.

## "Unusual Occupations"
*(Paramount)*

A variety of interesting subjects comprise this short, which is both colorful and entertaining. Included are sequences showing a girl parachute tester and a whittler who adorns his cafe with carved heads of presidents. There are shots of San Francisco's Chinatown telephone operators who are American-born girls of Chinese parentage and who are bi-linguists. The final sequence, devoted to the Navy's fire-fighting schools, is exciting and enlightening. This is a well balanced subject of interesting sidelights, both serious and light. Running time, 10 mins.

## "Mackinac Island"
*(M-G-M)*

James Fitzpatrick tours the island haven of Lake Michigan for his current Traveltalk. His pictures and accompanying comments of this colorful community on Mackinac Island make for interesting and absorbing material. Running time 9 mins.

## "Along the Cactus Trail"
*(M-G-M)*

The Cactus Trail, which wends its twisted way from Riverside, Cal., into Arizona, provides the background for another Fitzpatrick Traveltalk. The camera has caught some lovely scenes and unique shots of desert plant life which are delightful. Pausing at Mission Inn, famous old Western hostelry, the commentator obtained some of the last shots of the late beloved American composer, Carrie Jacobs Bond. Music score is excellent. Running time 9 mins.

## "Donald Duck and the Gorilla"
*(RKO)*

The kids will especially love Donald Duck's latest. Donald, with Huey, Dewey and Looey, is visited by an escaped gorilla. A riotous chase follows in which Donald triumphs over the beast with a surprisingly effective device. Running time 7 mins.

## "Patrolling the Ether"
*(M-G-M)*

The radio intelligence division of the Federal Communications Commission is the subject of this M-G-M miniature. It's an interesting treatment of a vital group of men and women working with radio to uncover espionage rings in this country. Radio "hams" achieve a share of deserved credit in this exciting two-reeler. Running time 20 mins.

## "Heroes on the Mend"
*(Paramount)*

The Sportlight series takes time out from the usual type of sports reel to show how America is taking care of her wounded service men returned from overseas. The subject is timely, interesting and handled well. There are shots of the service hospital in Palm Springs, Col., and a Santa Barbara resort converted into a convalescent home. The film winds up with a jive session which tears not a little at the heartstrings as the camera catches badly maimed boys, minus a leg or an arm, jitterbugging—and smiling. Running time, 9 mins.

## "Important Business"
*(M-G-M)*

Robert Benchley is writing his scripts again. In this one Benchley, as a small-town business man, barges into Washington, expecting to conquer the town in one day. He gets as far as a telephone booth in the railroad station. This is Benchley comedy at its best. It's a good tonic. Running time 10 mins.

## "Radio Rampage"
*(RKO)*

Edgar Kennedy is at his blustering best in his current effort. He attempts to repair his radio aerial and after tearing several walls down in an attempt to locate the built-in aerial, he calls a repair man who informs him the "built-in" aerial is built into the radio cabinet. Kennedy fans will especially like "Radio Rampage." It's good slapstick. Running time 16 mins.

## "Poppa Knows Worst"
*(RKO)*

Leon Errol is in the same kettle of hot water he's always in. Mrs. Errol catches him making dates with a blonde and determines to teach him a lesson. Her method is unique but not too interesting. Running time 17 mins.

## "Groovie Movie"
*(M-G-M)*

Pete Smith goes deep into the history of the modern jitterbug routine and literally fights his way back to the "civilized" hep cat. The jive addicts will enjoy this reel tremendously. Featured jive "artists"—and they are, too—are strictly "in the groove." Running time 10 mins.

## "Busy Buddies"
*(Columbia)*

The Three Stooges operate a restaurant. The methods of modern "cookery" demonstrated by "Curly" are unique but all in all this comedy falls short of previous "Stooge" vehicles. The comedy routine is monotonous. Running time, 16½ mins.

# Hollywood

By JACK CARTWRIGHT

*Hollywood, April 18*

PRC producer Jack Schwartz is putting final preparation touches on "Mexican Fiesta," which will start shortly with Harold Young directing Armida in the star role. . . . Producer Paul Malvern has set Anne Gwynne, who played a very meaty part in "Weird Woman," for the feminine lead in "The Devil's Brood." . . . Nunnally Johnson is back in town for production of his own script, "Once Off Guard" at International. It stars Edward G. Robinson and Joan Bennett with Raymond Massey, for RKO release.

•

**Ever since he came here to start production on "The Private Life of Dr. Paul Joseph Goebbels," W. R. Frank, producer-exhibitor, has been handing this hard-to-surprise town something to be surprised about. First, it was when he set a starting date and adhered to it. Now it's the staging of a twin world premiere of the picture at the Century, Minneapolis, and the Orpheum, St. Paul, April 20, without waiting to obtain a release deal through any distributor. Frank hopes, and probably with reason, to obtain either a United Artist or RKO release. He believes he now has a much better, tighter and faster picture after cutting from two-hour and 40-minute running time to one hour and 38 minutes.**

•

*Herman Millakowsky, now preparing to produce "Where Are Your Parents?" at Republic, did not produce "Where Are Your Children?" at Monogram, as inadvertently stated. Millakowsky produced "Women in Bondage." Producer Jeffery Bernerd made "Where Are Your Children?" and is now preparing "Are These Your Parents?" for Monogram. . . . Ed Gardner, producer and star of radio's "Duffy's Tavern" is in town conferring with B. G. De Sylva on the script for Paramount's production under the same title.*

•

**When Producer-director John Auer finishes work on his current untitled musical at RKO-Radio he will face Uncle Sam. He has just been reclassified 1-A. Dennis Day, one of the leads, will go into the Navy and bandleader Charlie Barnet, who plays a prominent part, has already left for New York to report for his physical. . . . Producer Jack Skirball has announced he will produce "Fickle Fortune," for UA release. Fred Allen stars.**

•

*Walter Lantz, "Cartune" producer for Universal, now has a "live action" feature in work for the U. S. Bureau of Aeronautics. It's titled "Enemy Bacteria" and combines "live action" with animated cartoons. . . . Because the impending invasion front in Europe constitutes a problem in "Story of G.I. Joe," Lester Cowan says he is prepared to shoot sequences to fit any invasion front immediately when the United Nations effect another European landing.*

# 'Cover Girl' Helps Music Hall to Big 3rd Week $123,000

(*Continued from page* 1)

The booking of Paul Whiteman and his orchestra into the Roxy some time ago to start today will prevent the Roxy from holding over "Four Jills in a Jeep." The second week's gross was reported as about $100,000. "Buffalo Bill" and a stage bill headed by Whiteman, Victor Borge and Joan Edwards will take over today with 20th Century-Fox's "Pin-Up Girl" starring Betty Grable set to follow. A first week's gross of $70,000 is expected for "Broadway Rhythm" and a stage show featuring Ginny Simms, Mitzie Mayfair and Frankie Carle and his orchestra at the Capitol with $53,000 claimed for the first four days. The show will hold.

### 'Lady' in Record Run

"Lady in the Dark" with Xavier Cugat and Dean Murphy holding up the stage end, started its ninth week yesterday at the Paramount to become the first film in the theatre's 18-year history to make such a stand; eighth week's gross was about $67,000, with 875,000 persons said to have seen the show, topping the previous eight-week figure of 830,500, set by "Star Spangled Rhythm." A tenth week for the combined show will end May 2 with "Going My Way" set to follow.

The Strand, presenting "Uncertain Glory" and a Ted Lewis stage show, is headed for $54,000 on its second week on the basis of the first three days' business of $24,360 and will hold the combined show, Initial week's take surpassed early estimates to reach $60,000.

Second week's receipts of "Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs," at the Manhattan were higher than those of the record-breaking initial week, reaching almost $35,000. The third week for this revival on Broadway began yesterday. "See Here, Private Hargrove" reached the end of its fourth week at the Astor with a gross in excess of $30,000 and it will start a fifth today. "The Song of Bernadette" will draw about $42,500 on its 12th week at the Rivoli and will continue. From last Wednesday through Sunday the film grossed $35,000. Ninth week of "Passage to Marseille" at the Hollywood is expected to yield $19,000 and it will hold until it makes way for "The Adventures of Mark Twain" on May 6.

### 'Lost Angel' Holds Over

"Lost Angel" expects a second week of $22,000 at the Criterion on the basis of weekend business. It is expected to hold for a third before making way for Universal's "Follow the Boys." The Palace is expected to wind up its week of "Yellow Canary" with about $16,000. RKO's "Seven Days Ashore" will follow with the company's "Show Business" set for May 8. "Address Unknown" will do approximately $15,000 on its first week at the Globe on the basis of business Saturday and Sunday and it will hold over.

Final week of "Voice in the Wind" at the Victoria wound up its run at about $9,500. United Artists' "Knickerbocker Holiday" will open today and Paramount's "Hour Before the Dawn" is set to follow. Final six days of the fourth week of "Women in Bondage" at the Gotham is expected to yield about $8,500, after a third week's take of $10,500. United Artists' "Up in Mabel's Room" will open on Friday at the Gotham. Second week of "Lady and the Monster" at the Rialto is estimated to do $9,000 on the basis of weekend business and the picture will hold for a third week. Columbia's "The Whistler" is set to follow.

# *Broader Film Fields Seen By Harmon as War Result*

(*Continued from page* 1)

increased importance of documentary and instructional films as aids to winning the war and said that even greater opportunities will be afforded the industry to aid in wininng the peace to follow.

Among those attending the luncheon were Thomas Armat, inventor of the vitascope and contemporary of Thomas A. Edison; Elmer Davis, director of the Office of War Information and George Healy, Jr., chief of the OWI's domestic branch; Major General A. D. Surles, director of the War Department's Bureau of Public Relations; Rear Admiral C. H. Woodward, Navy Department; Theodore Gamble, national director of the War Finance Division, Treasury Department; Col. Hal Roach, Lieut. Col. Frank Capra, Thomas Baird, chief of the film division, British Information Services, and Sergeant Norman T. Hatch, one of the eight Marine Corps "fighting cameramen" who filmed the landing on Tarawa.

### Coe Predicts 'News Rooms' in Theatres

BALTIMORE, April 18.—In the postwar television era, theatres are envisioned as containing special rooms where patrons may see telecasts of spot news events, according to a prediction by Charles Francis Coe of the Motion Picture Producers and Distributors of America, in a speech prepared for delivery here tomorrow at the weekly luncheon of the Advertising Club of Baltimore.

Coe regards the newsroom as one of the many improvements that can be made when, as he foresees, existing houses, originally built for silent films, are rebuilt into "veritable temples which a great and growing art demands."

### Foresees Dimension Films

The theatre of the future, Coe further believes, will demand a much larger screen, for dimension pictures. "Films artistically," he adds, "will grow with the needs of entertainment and higher standards of acceptance. I can see no art form for the people as a whole which will ever surpass the films, whose product is the synthesis of all the arts."

Coe's appearance here tomorrow will be part of the celebration of the 50th anniversary of commercial motion pictures, for which William K. Saxton, city manager for Loew theatres in Baltimore, and Frank Lawton are co-chairmen. The MPPDA executive will review the progress of films since the first "peep-show" in New York on April 14, 1894.

# Film Comedy Aids Service Training

(*Continued from page* 1)

paper was presented by Lt. H. B. Roberts of the same unit.

"Reports from the fleet," Lt. Roberts said, "reveal that men as they near combat area, forsake classrooms, manuals, charts, and all other aids to learning, but they will look at films. We must capitalize on this preference for films as a teaching medium by making them entertaining as well as authoritative, for a relaxed audience is one that will learn more."

### Other Features

Other features of the Army-Navy Day sessions yesterday of the three-day conference included a paper on the objectives and effects of training films as a means of controlling human behavior, and a slide film with sound designed to instruct armed forces personnel in the Pacific on the best behavior for their own preservation in event of capture by the Japanese.

Other papers at the afternoon session included "Training Film Formula" by Lt. Orville Goldner; "The Screen's the Limit" by Lt. R. B. T. Schmuck; "Getting the Most for the Navy Training Film Dollar" by Ensign L. R. Goldfarb; and "The Camera Versus the Microphone in Training Film Production," by Lt. H. R. Jensen.

The presentation of the society's annual Journal Award will be a feature of the final day's sessions of the conference today.

# *H. J. Griffith Denies Monopoly Suit*

(*Continued from page* 1)

to theatres of Griffith houses. Operators of the three theatres are demanding $606,000 damages from Griffith.

Griffith also stated that the claim for damages is nullified by the statute of limitations. He says the suit was filed more than three years after the alleged offenses. Griffith is secretary and director of Griffith Amusement and Griffith Southwestern Theatres. The plaintiff operators are M. L. Riggs, Vinita; A. B. Momand, Shawnee, and J. D. Wineland, Picher.

May 1 has been set for hearing on their request for a preliminary injunction.

# *Cantor on Camp Tour*

Eddie Cantor, film, radio and stage star and producer and star of RKO's "Show Business" will broadcast his weekly "Time to Smile" program from service posts for the remainder of the season. His radio show, heard Wednesdays from 9 P. M. to 9:30 over NBC, will originate from the Great Lakes Naval Training Station tonight.

# *Press British Probe Of Film Monopoly*

(*Continued from page* 1)

activities are understood to have inspired the committee's appointment, was one of those who testified, as were officials of the Cinematograph Exhibitors Association, the British Film Producers Association and the Kinematograph Renters Society, plus a number of persons outside the industry. The sessions were private.

Albert Palache, London banker, is chairman of the committee, which also includes Sir Walter Citrine, general secretary of the Trades Union Congress; Philip Guadella, author and historian, who is honorary director of the Iberto-American Institute of Great Britain, and Professor Albert Arnold Plant of the London University School of Economics. All four are described as "independent" members of the BOT's film council.

# *Film Balances from Brazil Withheld*

(*Continued from page* 1)

United States, are expected to make possible the resumption of remittances, it was said.

The foreign managers offered no objection to the shipment of projector carbons to Argentina when the subject was broached at yesterday's meeting. Some company representatives reported that they will send selected films to Spain's International Sample Fair to be held at Barcelona in June. Others indicated their product would not be represented there.

Robert Riskin, head of the OWI's Overseas Films Division, addressed the meeting.

# *1944 UJA Campaign Launched Friday*

(*Continued from page* 1)

theatrical fields has already been indicated by UJA headquarters.

"The program of the United Jewish Appeal means that thousands of lives will be saved in the coming months, lives that would otherwise be needlessly lost," declared Bernstein. "With that in mind, the amusement industry intends to go all out for this drive—as it does for every humanitarian cause."

Monroe Goldwater, chairman of the UJA of Greater New York for 1944 will be the principal speaker at Friday's luncheon.

# *Balaban & Katz Net $1,883,060 in 1943*

(*Continued from page* 1)

tion reduced its fixed obligations $737,057.

John Balaban, secretary and treasurer, reported that, attendance this year has been running seven and one-half to eight percent above a year ago and that the net for the first quarter was a trifle above that of last year. In answer to a question from a stockholder, he said that the increased Federal tax beginning April 1 had not as yet affected attendance. All directors were reelected.

# *B & K Plan for Television*

CHICAGO, April 18. — Television equipment specifications have been included in the postwar construction plan for the new Balaban and Katz theatre to be erected at State and Lake Streets here.

# THIS NEEDS THE SIGNATURE OF A PATRIOT– YOU!

"In recognition of the meritorious services rendered to our Armed Forces by the WOMEN'S ARMY CORPS I wish to pledge the wholehearted cooperation of myself and entire theatre personnel in promoting National WAC Recruiting Week.

I will exhibit the special trailer at every 'performance,' as well as display the advertising material, all of which will be made available to me without charge.

I will publicize this campaign as widely as possible during this week and cooperate fully with other exhibitors in my vicinity in any and all activities to further promote its success."



*"Shoulder to shoulder with the troops in the war effort—"*

## MOTION PICTURE THEATRE WOMEN'S ARMY CORPS RECRUITING CAMPAIGN

**Week of May 11th thru 17th**

*Your Pledge Card is in the mails. Sign it and return at once to your local War Activities Committee Chairman.*



*Sponsored by War Activities Committee of Motion Picture Industry, 1501 Broadway, New York City*

First in Film and Radio News Brief, Accurate and Impartial

# MOTION PICTURE DAILY

Alert, Intelligent and Indispensable to the Motion Picture Industry

VOL. 55. NO. 78 NEW YORK, U.S.A., THURSDAY, APRIL 20, 1944 TEN CENTS

FREE COPY DO NOT REMOVE

## U.S. Claim for Axis 'Grab' Is Prepared

### *Bill for $3,500,000,000 For American Losses*

WASHINGTON, April 19.—An itemized bill for over $3,500,000,000 has been prepared in the U. S. Treasury for presentation to Axis countries at the close of the war, representing the holdings of American motion picture and all other companies and individuals in those countries, probably all of which have been seized by the enemy.

In a report on the census of American property abroad undertaken last year, Secretary Morgenthau disclosed tonight that investments of United States industries and individuals in foreign countries runs to more than $13,300,000,000. No specific information was revealed as to the foreign holdings of the motion picture or other industries.

Approximately 220,000 reports were

(*Continued on page 12*)

## CEA Scores 'Bell's' Advanced Prices

LONDON, April 19.—Highlight of the Cinematograph Exhibitors' Association general council meeting here today was an attack on Paramount for its sales policies on "For Whom the Bell Tolls." Council delegates alleged that distributors were endeavoring again to establish what they characterized as the objectionable and unnecessary principles of extended playing time and increased prices.

The council was informed that ten provincial pre-release "Bell" bookings had already been arranged at increased prices.

John Davis, Odeon's managing director, who negotiated the general booking of "Bell Tolls," declared that on no account would Odéon counte-

(*Continued on page 12*)

## *Davis Again Head of Hollywood Canteen*

HOLLYWOOD, April 19.—Bette Davis has been reelected president of the Hollywood Canteen, which, under the auspices of 42 crafts, unions and guilds, is beginning its third year with a record of having entertained 1,580,000 service men and women to date.

The board of governors, also reelected, includes: J. K. Wallace, John

(*Continued on page 12*)

### *Off to War, He Wants No New Partner*

**Buffalo, April 19.—Leon Bernard Scott, co-owner with Schine Theatres of the Maggie Grand Theatre, Harlan, Ky., who testified last week in U. S. District Court here in the Government proceedings against Schine, will leave for the Navy on April 25 and has petitioned Federal Judge John Knight for removal of his theatre from the divestiture section of the court's temporary order which has delayed the Schine anti-trust trial two years. Schine owns a half interest in the theatre and Scott contends it is not fair that a new partner be forced upon him when he must leave for military service.**

## Wallis-Hazen Tieup Talks Progress

There is a distinct possibility of Joseph Hazen, former vice-president and a director of Warner Bros., becoming associated with Hal Wallis, former Warner producer, in activities soon to be undertaken by the latter, Wallis said yesterday.

"I have met with Hazen and it appears possible now that we may be able to work out some agreement," Wallis said.

Replying to a question, Wallis said that it would not be correct to infer from this that he plans to organize

(*Continued on page 12*)

## *M-G-M Set for 20th Birthday*

"While it is an acknowledged fact that no company can expect to have all of the 17,000 theatres in the United States as consistent customers, we of M-G-M feel that the best tribute that could be extended to Leo the Lion would be to have him roar on every screen in the country, whether that screen has displayed the M-G-M trademark or not," William F. Rodgers, M-G-M vice-president and general sales manager, said yesterday in announcing that M-G-M has set aside the week of June 22-28 to celebrate its 20th birthday.

In discussing the forthcoming celebration, Rodgers stated that a number of important plans are now being promulgated by the sales, advertising, exploitation and publicity departments which will mark Leo's anniversary

(*Continued on page 13*)

## Jersey Allied Meet Will Be June 20-22

Allied Theatre Owners of New Jersey will commemorate its silver jubilee and the industry's golden anniversary at its convention at the Hotel Chelsea, Atlantic City, June 20-22. Representatives of independent theatre owners, circuit heads and distributors have been invited to attend, including the industry's anniversary committee.

At a recent meeting, president Har-

(*Continued on page 12*)

## WPB Quota on Projectors Fixed at 350

### *But Production Depends On Labor Clearance*

By BERTRAM F. LINZ

WASHINGTON, April 19.—A program for the manufacture of approximately 350 projector units for civilian use in the third quarter this year has been approved by the War Production Board, but actual construction of the equipment was disclosed today to be dependent upon the ability of manufacturers to secure important parts and to use their labor for civilian manufacturing.

**While the production of this equipment would be the first real "break" exhibitors have so far received on projectors, it is not expected that they would begin to reach the market before the end of this year or early 1945.**

The approximately 350 projectors which have been approved represent

(*Continued on page 13*)

## US Reconditioning Control Altered

WASHINGTON, April 19.—The procedure under which motion picture sound and certain other repairmen purchase controlled materials and other materials, parts, and sub-assemblies, has been amended by the War Production Board to indicate that they may use the amendment to obtain materials with which to recondition or rebuild damaged or used items for resale.

The changed procedure, which is contained in CMP Regulation No. 9A, as amended, redefines the term "re-

(*Continued on page 13*)

## *Academy of Music Hearing on May 5*

An order was signed yesterday by Judge John Knox in Federal District Court here giving notice to all creditors, stockholders and others connected with the bankrupt Fox Theatres Corp., that a hearing will be held May 5 on a proposed settlement under which the Academy of Music and other assets would be turned over to Fox Theatres trustees.

The property was transferred to

(*Continued on page 7*)

## *WAC Names 31 Assistant Chairmen in Field Areas*

The War Activities Committee here yesterday named 31 distributor representatives throughout the country to serve as assistants to distributor chairmen in exchange areas on all WAC projects and to take over the chairmanship in the absence of chairmen.

Leon J. Bamberger, assistant to national distributor chairman Ned E. Depinet, said yesterday in announcing the list that the new executives are being appointed, also, in order to facilitate and speed up the distributors of War Information shorts and bulletins and special documentaries.

The list of assistants follows: Harry Alexander, 20th-Fox, Albany; Hubert Lyons, RKO, Atlanta; Moe

(*Continued on page 12*)

## *Bergman Sets Aside $50,000 for Chicago*

CHICAGO, April 19.—More than $50,000 was appropriated today for newspaper and regional radio advertising to re-establish Chicago as the Midwest premiere key for Universal pictures in the ensuing 90 days, it was disclosed here by Maurice Bergman, Eastern publicity director, after conferences with district manager M. M. Gottlieb and Midwest publicity director Harry Keller.

Reversing the general Chicago trade custom of scattering prior playdates throughout the territory, Universal will give first Midwest runs to the

(*Continued on page 12*)

# Equipment Meeting High US Standards

High standards for 16mm equipment being set by the armed forces and met by manufacturers, the results of the demand that "the show must go on" despite every possible adverse condition to be found on the battlefronts of the world, were described yesterday at the morning session of the last day of the conference here of the Society of Motion Picture Engineers, held in the Hotel Pennsylvania.

Papers presented by Capt. Lloyd T. Goldsmith of the Army Signal Corps photographic center; J. V. McNair, secretary of the war committee on photography and cinematography, and S. L. Chertok of the American Standards Association, described functions and progress of the war committee set up by the ASA to study needs and to establish standards. The project was undertaken by the War Production Board for the armed forces.

**Films Highlighted Meeting**

The three-day meeting, SMPE's 55th semi-annual conference, has been highlighted by discussions of the importance of films in the armed services and a symposium on the advances in television technique and production.

The society brought the conference to a close yesterday afternoon with the presentation of its annual *Journal* award to William L. Bell and Ray R. Scoville, sound engineers employed in development work at Bell Telephone Laboratories, for their article describing equipment for reducing background noise in film sound recording systems.

The presentation was made by Herbert Griffin of New York, SMPE president, and the citation was read by Sylvan Harris, chairman of the award committee.

## *Warner Directors to Meet Here Today*

With the exception of vice-president Jack L. Warner, who is on the Coast, all directors of Warner Brothers Pictures, Inc., are to attend a board meeting scheduled to be held here today. Business on the agenda includes last week's resignation of vice-president Joseph H. Hazen.

Those who will attend are: president Harry M. Warner, vice-presidents Albert Warner and Stanleigh P. Friedman, and R. W. Perkins, Samuel Carlisle, Charles S. Guggenheim, Morris Wolf and Waddill Catchings.

It is possible that a successor to Hazen on the board of directors may be named today and that his duties in handling consent decree matters for the company may be assigned to another member of the legal department.

## *$11,050,000 in Bonds Are Sold in Omaha*

OMAHA, April 19.—Sixty bond premieres and 104 "Free Movie" days during the Fourth War Loan drive netted $11,050,000 in bond sales for the campaign, Frank Hannon, WAC chairman for this area, reports. This represents an increase of $4,050,000 over the local Third War Loan total.

# *Personal Mention*

H. A. ROSS, president of Ross Federal Service, left New York yesterday on tour of the company's Southern branches.

•

CAPT. M. J. CULLEN, former Loew Theatres' division manager in Kansas City, and SERGT. I. M. (BILL) STEIN, ex-stage manager of the K. C. Tower, are currently handling the Algiers Opera House, North Africa, for soldiers.

•

I. J. SCHMERTZ, 20th Century-Fox Chicago branch manager, is the grandfather of a daughter born to his daughter-in-law, MRS. SCHMERTZ, whose husband, RAY, is a salesman at the exchange.

•

C. G. KEENEY, manager of the Park and Rajah Theatres, Reading, Pa., became a grandfather recently when a son was born to LT. and MRS. BERNARD B. KEENEY.

•

HARRY GRUBER, owner of the Glen and New Glen Theatres, Glenburnie, Md., is confined to the Bon Secours Hospital, Baltimore, from a heart attack.

•

JACK PARVER, manager of the Eastwood Theatre, East Hartford, Conn., left yesterday for a week's visit in Rochester, Minn.

•

BEN LORBER, Universal home office insurance man, is South on a 10-day trip.

EDDIE CANTOR will arrive in New York from the Coast April 23.

•

JAMES B. HICKEY, 23, son of DUKE HICKEY, MPPDA publicist, has been graduated from the Twin Engine Army Flying School, Pecos, Texas, with a second lieutenant's commission in the U. S. Army Air Corps.

•

M. B. HOROWITZ, Washington Circuit general manager in Cleveland, is a one-man committee collecting used golf clubs and funds to buy new clubs for the convalescent servicemen at Crile General Hospital.

•

MRS. BESSIE K. MOORE, owner and manager of Moore's Theatre, Grimsby, Ont., is the recipient of the local Lions Club's "Outstanding Citizenship Award" for 1944.

•

J. A. BALLANTYNE, SR., father of ROBERT BALLANTYNE, owner of the Scott-Ballantyne Company, Omaha, celebrated his 91st birthday recently.

•

BERNIE LEVY, Proven Pictures' Hartford supervisor, is in Boston on company business.

•

LEONARD WILLINGER, M-G-M Kodachrome photo expert, is enroute to Hollywood from Chicago.

•

FRANK N. PHELPS, Warner Theatres labor relations contact, left last night for Chicago and Milwaukee.

## *DeMille to Arkansas 'Wassell' Opening*

Cecil B. DeMille will leave Hollywood tomorrow for Little Rock, Ark., for the two-theatre premiere there of "The Story of Dr. Wassell." The openings are scheduled for April 26 at the Robb and Rowley Capitol and Arkansas theatres. Two days prior to that DeMille, Cmdr. Corydon M. Wassell, Signo Hasso, Carol Thurston and other members of the cast will appear on several national broadcasts from CBS's KLRA. A program of luncheons, receptions, a dinner and visits to Camp Robinson is planned.

## *National Houses Got $439,000 for Drive*

A total of $439,000 was collected for the recent Red Cross drive by National Theatres, Charles P. Skouras, company president, disclosed here today.

Southern California theatres collected $176,000; Northern California, $104,000; Midwest, $40,000; Wisconsin, $31,000; Northwest, $60,000, and Mountain area houses, $28,000.

## *Block Numbers Switched*

A typographical transposition yesterday resulted in RKO-Radio's "Show Business" being designated in block No. 10 when it should have been block No. 5, in a review of that film, and 20th Century-Fox's "Pin-Up Girl" being designated in block No. 5 when it should have been in block 10.

## *SLRB Hears 'IA' on RKO Union Claims*

A hearing was held here yesterday before the State Labor Relations Board on the attempt of the IATSE to separate cashiers from the jurisdiction of the newly-formed Motion Picture Theatre Operating Managers, Assistants and Cashiers Guild embracing help in RKO theatres in Greater New York. A further hearing has been set for next week.

IATSE had previously claimed jurisdiction over doormen, ushers and matrons in RKO and other theatres. When the new RKO union sought to be designated collective bargaining agent for RKO circuit cashiers along with managers and assistants at an SLRB hearing several weeks ago, the IATSE entered the picture.

## *Jack Pegler Joins the Biow Ad Agency Here*

Jack Pegler, advertising account executive recently with Foote, Cone and Belding where he handled the RKO account, among others, has been appointed an account executive for Biow here.

Pegler will make his headquarters in the New York office of the agency.

## *'306' Gives Ambulance*

New York IATSE projectionists' Local 306 voted an ambulance, fully equipped, to U. S. Armed Forces, out of union funds at a meeting held at the Manhattan Center here yesterday.

# *Coming Events*

**Today and tomorrow**—Warner district managers' meeting, New York.

**April 21**—Amusement industry committee luncheon for United Jewish Appeal, Hotel Astor, New York.

**April 21-28**—Republic sales meeting, Hollywood.

**April 24**—Testimonial dinner for A. W. Schwalberg, Hotel Waldorf-Astoria, New York.

**April 25-26**—M-G-M auditors' meeting, Hotel Astor, New York.

**April 30-May 10**—Motion picture division drive for Catholic Charities, New York.

**May 2**—Industry labor leaders "Vigilante" meeting, Hotel Roosevelt, Hollywood.

**May 8**—PRC sales meeting, Hollywood.

**May 9-10**—Annual meeting, National Film Carriers, New York.

**May 11-17** — Theatres' recruiting campaign for Women's Army Corps.

**May 11** — Montana ITO annual meeting, Hotel Northern, Billings, Mont.

## No 'Blazoning' of War Effort: Coe

Charles Francis Coe, of the MPPDA, is scheduled today to commend theatre owners of the country for not using "vast advertising campaigns" to "blazon" their achievements in the war effort, in an address prepared for delivery before the national congress of the Daughters of the American Revolution at the Hotel Commodore here.

"The talking patriot is rarely the fighting one, and it is by action, not by words, that true Americanism can best be expressed," Coe will say. "Only patriotism in action can win for us. Those who are fighting and dying to keep this nation free are not making their sacrifices for the 'isms' by which others would dilute our common effort."

Coe will stress that the industry is making its contributions "humbly to all the fighting fronts and the working fronts behind the line. Those who have given free 10,000 motion picture programs to our armed forces in the combat areas are not asking for gratitude from their Government. The artists who comprise the Hollywood army of more than 1,500 actors and actresses who have made over 12,000 free appearances in approximately 2,200 events are not seeking the limelight," he concludes.

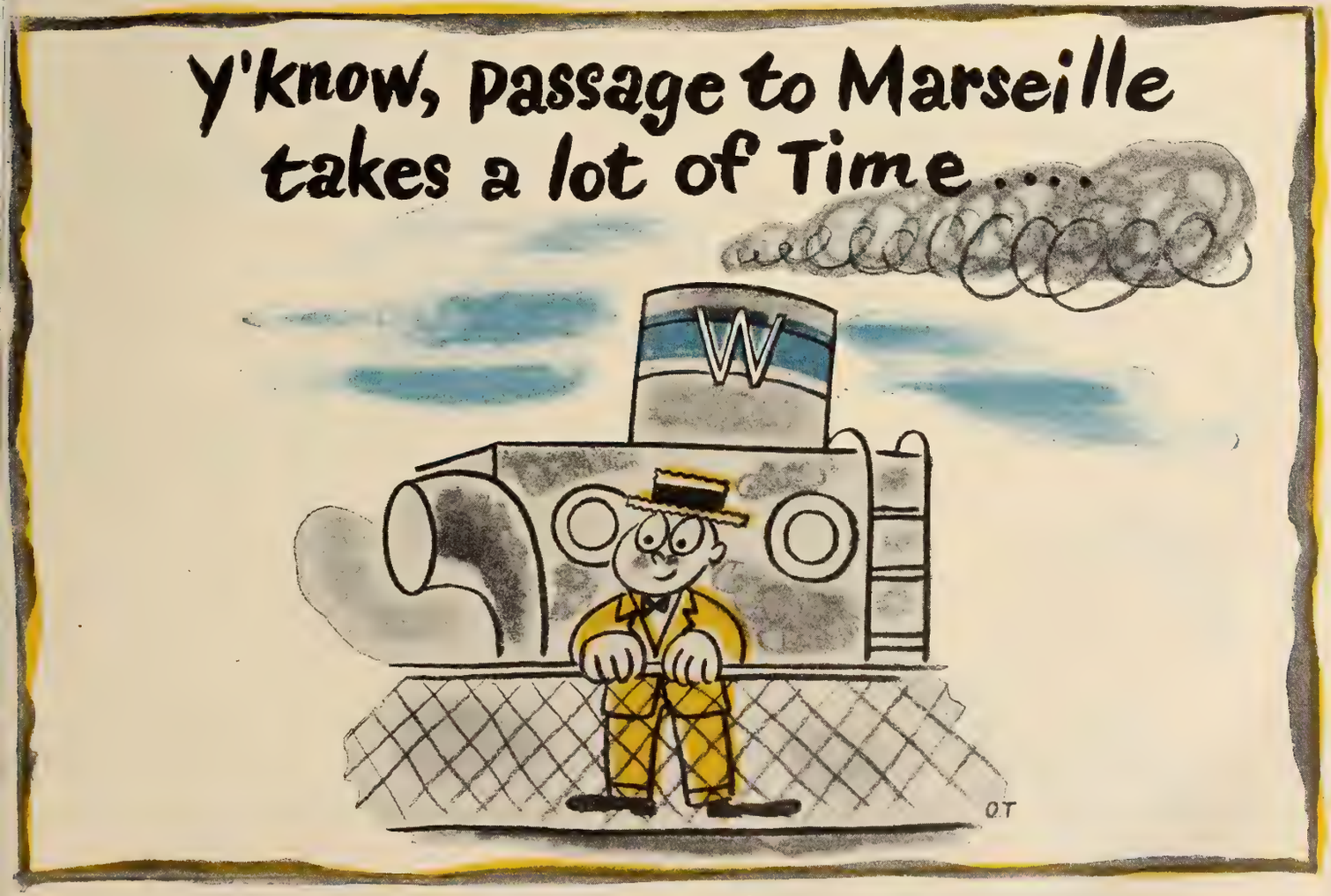
## *Wm. Wehrenberg Dies*

ST. LOUIS, April 19.—William Wehrenberg, brother of Fred Wehrenberg, president of the Eastern Missouri and Southern Illinois MPTOA, died here this week.

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Y'know, Passage to Marseille takes a lot of Time....




3rd MONTH ALREADY AT THE N.Y. HOLLYWOOD

STRICTLY FROM WARNERS!

Jack L. Warner, *Executive Producer*

HUMPHREY BOGART in 'PASSAGE TO MARSEILLE' • CLAUDE RAINS • MICHELE MORGAN • PHILIP DORN • SYDNEY GREENSTREET • HELMUT DANTINE • PETER LORRE • GEO. TOBIAS

A HAL B. WALLIS Prod'n Screen Play by Casey Robinson & Jack Moffitt • From a Novel by [illegible] • Music by Max Steiner Directed by MICHAEL CURTIZ

Naturally!

# MGM

# WHEREVER YOU

Again New York's Main Stem is *very* M-G-M, and it's the same throughout the nation!




*(Oh, Mr. Winchell, watch for* → *M-G-M's "White Cliffs of Dover" next attraction at Radio City Music Hall)*




## LIONIZED BY WINCHELL!

**Read what WALTER WINCHELL said in his column!**

'THE MAGIC LANTERNS: 'Rationing' with Wallace Beery came to the Globe Theatre and convulsed the patrons. It is an M-G-M hit...'Lost Angel' which arrived yesterday at the Criterion is one of those delights with Margaret O'Brien, a show in herself. Roy Rowland directed with skill. Another M-G-M click ...'See Here, Private Hargrove' (a third M-G-M socko) is the biggest laff show in the cinema cathedrals. Robert Walker (of the Mme. Curie picture) is the person in it to yip about..."




M.G.M ALL AROUND THE TOWN!

*(Above) New York newspaper ad*

LOOK!

New Star!

M·G·M



THEY'RE GIVING THIS LITTLE GIRL A GREAT BIG HAND!

**M-G-M's Happy Easter Hit is the Talk of the Town!**

"Margaret O'Brien is a new child wonder! She firmly establishes herself as the marvel of the current cinema! Sheer delight!"—*News*

"A new Hollywood star of the first magnitude! A joyous event! A treat to be enjoyed!"—*Herald Tribune*

"Margaret O'Brien is terrific! Fine comedy for the entire family."—*Mirror*

"A completely captivating child! Tugs at your heartstrings...A heart-warming actress of amazing ability. 'Lost Angel' is a film find!"—*Journal-American*

"A deft mixture of comedy, melodrama and sentiment. Hits the bull's-eye of popular appeal. Margaret O'Brien passes with flying colors!" —*Post*

"Margaret O'Brien an entrancing youngster with a gift for acting and a fine sense of comedy!"—*Sun*

"'Lost Angel' will be filling Loew's Criterion for weeks with the enchanting glow of a little girl's charm...Margaret O'Brien, an actress with emotional depth...simply astonishing!" —*World-Telegram*

"One of Hollywood's most gifted actresses!"
—*Life Magazine*

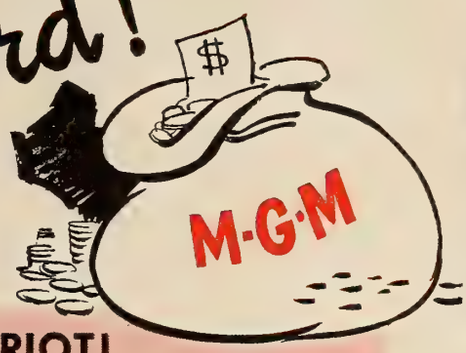
M.G.M's *Lost Angel*

Starring MARGARET O'BRIEN

*with* JAMES CRAIG
MARSHA HUNT · Philip Merivale
Henry O'Neill · Donald Meek

NOW AT LOEW'S Criterion BROADWAY & 45th ST.
GIVE TO THE RED CROSS

New Record!




TECHNICOLORIOT!

## "BROADWAY RHYTHM"

Biggest for M-G-M at Capitol, N. Y. since new policy began!

M·G·M New Showmanship!

## "TUNISIAN VICTORY"

Biggest Ballyhoo of modern times at Wash., D. C. Premiere. Watch for detailed campaign! Copy it and cash in!

(*Above*) *New York newspaper ad*

[*Advertisement*]

# Spring Will Be a Little Late This Year

**By WEIR HAPPY**

A Mid-Western Port, April 20, 10:00 A.M., Cincinnati Time—(Censored) — A communique from the battle front to Field Marshall Milton Crandall's headquarters disclosed that exhibitors in the Mid-West are singing the praises of Universal for a grand job in promoting good will between the exhibs and civic authorities.

The communique further revealed that civic minded citizens and groups have taken the offensive and are firing their best shots in the Ladies Courageous campaign which has completely encircled this territory.

**Allies Are Helpful**

Field Marshall Crandall, grizzly veteran of many campaigns, arrived in the field to personally assume command of the Universal Army and found helpful and willing allies in the 70 cities where simultaneous openings of Walter Wanger's production are now in progress.

A plane, christened Ladies Courageous at the Aeronca Plant in Middletown, Ohio, took off after the launching to visit each of these 70 cities and deliver ballots for the purpose of nominating the lady courageous of these communities. The quest for this lady is now in full sway. Mayors of these towns are cooperating fully. The first pages of newspapers are telling the story as well as Station WLW.

This campaign offers conclusive evidence that the motion picture industry can gain added good will from civic tie-ups. The exhibitors who have benefited from the Ladies Courageous campaign urge other exhibits to follow the boys, pardon, follow suit.

And speaking of Follow the Boys, the Charles K. Feldman production which hits Broadway at the Criterion Theatre next week, the Home Office staff is very busy following the program outlined for the promotion of this entertaining picture which tips its hat to the Hollywood Victory Committee and the USO.

**Bergman in Chicago**

Follow the Boys is receiving terrific treatment. Whether one listens to the radio, reads the newspapers or travels in the subway he gets the impression he is being followed by Follow the Boys. Where one turns he is reminded that Follow the Boys is not advice to the bobby-sock generation—but the title of a picture.

Not only in New York, but everywhere, is the campaign hectic. As a matter of fact, Maurice Bergman, Eastern Director of Advertising and Publicity, is at this moment in Chicago setting up a tremendous program. Mr. Bergman is traveling light—which means he'll be home very soon.

Follow the Boys made its debut in Toronto not so very many days ago. The turnstiles clicked at such a merry pace it sounded as though the Canadian Royal Air Force was taking target practice in the lobby. Not only was the first week's business overwhelming; the second week was even bigger. In other words, Follow the Boys is like a beard—it grows on you.

# Review

## *"Address Unknown"*

*(Columbia)*

FROM Kressmann Taylor's celebrated story Columbia, in "Address Unknown," has fashioned a tense and powerful film that mounts steadily toward a compelling climax. Paul Lukas, Academy Award winner, further enhances his stature by adding another superb portrayal to his gallery of full-bodied characterizations. Further, he is immediately projected into the forefront for consideration of yet another Award by his magnificent performance. William Cameron Menzies, famed as a production-designer, produced and directed, heightening the drama by deliberate somber lighting.

Lukas, in the story, has returned to his native Germany with Mady Christians, his wife, and his family. Behind in America he leaves his son, Peter Van Eyck, and Morris Carnovsky, his Jewish partner, to carry on their art business. He falls under the influence of a German baron, Carl Esmond, and is converted to Nazism. His letters to Carnovsky become cool and distant and finally Lukas asks that they cease their correspondence. Meanwhile, K. T. Stevens, Carnovsky's daughter and beloved of Van Eyck, makes her debut in Berlin and is hooted off the stage by Nazi ruffians. Pursued by her tormentors, she is denied sanctuary by Lukas and is killed. From America begins the deadly chain of coded cables and letters that leads to Lukas' doom. Thus is depicted the slow disintegration of a man who turned from the warm light of America to the murky darkness of the Nazi dungeon.

Herbert Dalmas' screen play has faithfully adhered to the spirit of the original with the exception of a new twist to the ending; he has Lukas' son revealed as the letter writer. This is a difficult picture in which to gauge financial rewards, for the story, although amazingly received in its original form, has become somewhat dated. Then, too, Menzies' handling is somewhat "arty" with its emphasis on low lighting. But here is a picture that can be exploited by smart showmanship, capitalizing on the fine acting of Lukas, Carnovsky, Van Eyck, Miss Christians, Esmond, and Miss Stevens, that can boost grosses into top brackets. The camera work of Rudolph Mate is to be commended, and so is the musical score and arrangement of Ernst Toch.

Running time, 72 mins. "G"* Release date not set.

CHARLES RYWECK

**"G" denotes general classification.*

## *New Troubles Over Kaimann Theatres*

ST. LOUIS, April 19.—The family quarrel between members of the Kaimann family, theatre operators here, which resulted in the wounding of one brother and the death of another last January, has flared anew. Mrs. Marguerite Kaimann, widow of William Kaimann, who shot himself after wounding his brother Clarence, has applied for a restraining order in Circuit Court here against the Balka Corp., one of the companies owned by the Kaimann family.

Mrs. Kaimann, who was named vice-president of Kaimann Brothers Amusement Co. and Hyde Park Amusement Co. after the death of her husband, charges that other members of the family are attempting to exclude her from participation in the operation of the companies, which own eight neighborhood theatres and operate several others under lease. The restraining order directs Balka to show cause on April 27 why its prohibition to the electing of a vice-president and director to succeed William Kaimann should not be made permanent. Balka corporation operates two theatres, the Janet and the Bridge, both in North St. Louis.

## *RCA Plant Gets 'E'*

LANCASTER, Pa., April 19.—The RCA division plant here has been awarded an Army-Navy "E" for accomplishments in the production of war equipment. Presentation ceremonies will be held April 24 at the plant, which has been operating 16 months, manufacturing electron tubes.

## *Warner Bros. District Managers Meeting*

Two-day meetings of Warner district managers, called by Ben Kalmenson, general sales manager, will get under way this morning at the home office, with Kalmenson presiding.

In addition to discussing the handing of forthcoming product, particularly "The Adventures of Mark Twain," which is to be placed in general release later in the season following its 200 special advanced-price premieres, the session will take up current sales matters.

Field executives at the meeting will include Henry Herbel, Wolfe Cohen, Ralph L. McCoy, Hall Walsh, Harry A. Seed, Charles Rich, Robert Smeltzer, Norman Ayers. Charles Einfeld, who arrived in New York last week from the studio also will participate. Among home office executives taking part, besides Kalmenson, will be Arthur Sachson, Roy Haines, Jules Lapidus, Mort Blumenstock, Norman H. Moray, A. W. Schwalberg, Howard Levinson, Ed Hinchy, I. F. Dolid, Bernard R. Goodman, Ralph Clark, A. C. Brauninger and Charles Baily.

## *Eaton Appeal Today*

MEMPHIS, April 19.—Counsel for John W. Eaton, owner-operator of the Peabody Theatre here, who was recently sentenced to 30 days on an involuntary manslaughter count, is scheduled to make a motion in Criminal Court here tomorrow for a new trial. Eaton was convicted as the result of an explosion which killed Elroy Curry, theatre maintenance man.

# Coast Flashes

*Hollywood, April 1*

HARRY COHN, president of Columbia, and Mrs. Cohn, are the parents of a boy. Mrs. Cohn is the former Joan Perry.

•

Joe E. Brown will be honored by the Independent Motion Picture Distributors at a dinner next Tuesday in the Ambassador Hotel. W. Ray Johnston, Leon Fromkess, A. W. Hackel and Edward Finney comprise the committee on arrangements.

•

Edmund C. Grainger and H. J. Yates will preside, beginning Tuesday, at a two-day Republic sales conference in the studio, with Western exchange managers attending. Similar sessions will follow at Chicago and New York.

•

Lester Cowan today named Jack Diamond, New York publicist, as publicity director for "The Story of GI Joe." Cowan will appoint separate publicity heads for "Tomorrow the World" and the new Garbo picture.

•

Sam Wood's next production for Columbia will be "Jubal Troop," a Western novel, which is tentatively scheduled to go into production May 15. Gary Cooper, it is understood, will be starred.

•

Fred MacMurray's first at 20th Century-Fox will be "Nob Hill" in Technicolor. Andre Daven will produce.

•

Lawrence Weingarten, M-G-M studio executive, is reported recovering from an appendectomy at Cedars of Lebanon Hospital.

## *Radio Donates Time Worth $202,000,000*

WASHINGTON, April 19.—Time and facilities donated to the Government and the war effort by the broadcasting industry last year are estimated by the National Association of Broadcasters to have had a value in excess of $202,000,000.

A compilation by the NAB divided the total between the networks with $105,644,000 and individual stations with $96,500,000.

The largest beneficiary of network and station contributions was the Treasury Department, which was estimated to have received $49,698,000 in time for its war bond and other drives.

## *Performance Record For Camp Shows*

HOLLYWOOD, April 19.—Setting a new record, 62 players have given 457 performances on USO-Camp Shows tours so far in April, the Hollywood Victory Committee reported yesterday. Appearances at 52 Army and Navy general hospitals have been made by 19 performers.

In addition to Gene Kelly, the pioneer of the new hospital circuit, those touring have included Eddie Cantor, Brian Donlevy, Akim Tamiroff, Leonid Kinsky, Martha O'Driscoll, Gale Sondergaard, Sheila Ryan, K. T. Stevens, Gloria Stuart and Hillary Brook.

# 'Lost Angel' Finds $25,000 in Boston

BOSTON, April 19. — Business was good but not exceptional, with the two Loew theatres, the State and Orpheum, doing excellent business on "Lost Angel," although both were off on opening. Loew's Orpheum got $25,000.

Estimated receipts for the week ending April 20:

**"Gung Ho" (Univ.)**
RKO BOSTON—(3,200) (50c-65c-85c-$1.10) Gross: $31,000. (Average: $29,300.) Stage: show with Bill Robinson.
**"The Sullivans (20th-Fox)**
**"Timber Queen" (Para.)**
FENWAY — (1,373) (40c-65c-75c) Gross: $6,500. (Average: $7,300).
**"Up in Arms" (RKO)**
**"Passport to Destiny" (RKO)**
KEITH MEMORIAL—(2,900) (40c-50c-65c-85c) Gross: $13,000. (Average: $15,300).
**"Standing Room Only" (Para.)**
**"The Navy Way" (Para.) 7 days, 2nd week**
METROPOLITAN — (4,367) (40c-55c-65c-85c) Gross: $26,000. (Average: $28,300).
**"Lost Angel" (M-G-M)**
**"Hey Rookie" (Col.)**
LOEW'S ORPHEUM — (2,900) (40c-55c-65c-85c) Gross: $25,000. (Average: $23,800).
**"Lost Angel" (M-G-M)**
**"Hey Rookie" (Col.)**
LOEW'S STATE — (3,200) (40c-55c-65c-85c) Gross: $11,000. (Average: $13,200).
**"The Sullivans" (20th-Fox)**
**"Timber Queen" (Para.)**
PARAMOUNT — (1,700) (40c-55c-65c-85c) Gross: $12,000. (Average: $11,500).

## *Academy of Music Hearing on May 5*

(*Continued from page* 1)

Skouras Theatres Corp. as a result of negotiations between that company, the Fox Theaters trustees, the First National Bank of Atlanta, the stockholders protective committee, and the Ktima Corp., a Skouras subsidiary. Authority to make the sale was given the receiver for Fox Theatres by former Judge Martin Manton of the Circuit Court of Appeals.

Fox Theatres' trustees applied in October, 1943, for an order setting aside the sale, subject to an agreement of all interested parties to restore the status quo. The settlement, it is understood, is to be made without prejudice.

Involved in the settlement are the common capital stock of the Fox Realty Co., certain realty transfers relating to the Academy of Music, and a claim in favor of Fox Theatres against the William Fox Realty Co. in the sum of over $300,000.

If the proposed settlement is approved by the court, the transfer would be effective as of Mar. 1, 1944, and Skouras Theatres and Ktima would be released of all obligations to all parties concerned. The petition was signed by attorney Robert Aronstein, representing the Atlanta bank, and by the Fox Theatres' trustees, Kenneth P. Steinreich and Leopold Porrino.

## *'U' Contributes $16,000*

Some $16,000, representing film rentals in excess of production costs of Victory shorts, has been turned over to the Red Cross by Universal. This contribution is over and above the $20,000 turned in during the drive.

## *Postpone Chicago 'Shows'*

CHICAGO, April 19.—The "Show of Shows" Chicago performance for the Emergency Committee to Save the Jewish People of Europe has been postponed from June 1 to early October.

## *Training Audience Set at 23,000,000*

**Washington, April 19.—War Department training films and film bulletins are now being shown about 200,000 times a month to soldier audiences estimated at 23,000,000 in the United States and approximately 100,000 times a month to a smaller audience overseas, it is reported by the Army Pictorial Service.**

## *'Lady in Dark' Hits Bright $16,000*

PROVIDENCE, April 19.—"Lady in the Dark" did the best business of the week at the Strand, where the gross was just barely under $16,000.

Estimated receipts for the week ending April 20:

**"Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs" (RKO)**
**"The Falcon Out West" (RKO)**
RKO-ALBEE—(2,239) (35c-44c-55c-60c) 6 days, 2nd week. Gross: $10,500. (Average: $12,800).
**"Lady in the Dark" (Para.)**
**"The Memphis Belle" (Para.-WAC)**
STRAND—(2,200) (44c-55c) 7 days. Gross: $16,000. (Average: $10,500).
**"The Heavenly Body" (M-G-M)**
**"The Memphis Belle" (Para.-WAC)**
LOEW'S STATE—(3,232) (35c-44c-55c) 7 days. Gross: $16,000. (Average: $17,700).
**"Shine On, Harvest Moon" (WB)**
**"The Memphis Belle" (Para.-WAC.)**
MAJESTIC—(2,250) (35c-44c-55c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $11,500. (Average: $12,100).
**"The Song of Bernadette" (20th-Fox)**
FAY'S—(1,800) (76c-80c-$1.10) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $16,000. (Average: under regular scale and old policy, $6,500).
**"Broadway Rhythm" (M-G-M)**
CARLTON—(1,526) (35c-44c-55c) 7 days, 2nd week, moveover from Loew's State. Gross: $4,000. (Average: $4,000).
**"The Underdog" (PRC)**
METROPOLITAN—(3,050) (50c-60c-70c) 3 days. On stage: Henry Busse's Orchestra. Gross: $7,500. (Average: $7,900).

## *WB Releases 3 More French Versions*

TORONTO, April 19. — Three more Warner Hollywood films, dubbed in French, have been set for Canadian release, it was disclosed here yesterday by Wolfe Cohen, Warners' dominion manager. "The Sea Wolf" ("Ecumeur Des Mers") will be released May 6; "Always in My Heart" ("Tu Es Toujours Dans Mon Coeur"), May 27, and "Virginia City" ("La Caravane Heroique"), June 24.

Of the five French versions already released, "All This and Heaven, Too" ("Le Ciel et Toi") appears to be set for a record run at the Montreal Orpheum, Cohen reported.

## *Legion Passes Four New Productions*

The Legion of Decency this week reviewed four pictures, all of which were found acceptable. In Class A-1, unobjectionable for general patronage, were "Adventure in Music," Crystal; "Lumberjack," United Artists, and "Bermuda Mystery," 20th Century-Fox. "Follow the Boys," a Universal release, was put in Class A-2, unobjectionable for adults.

## *New Columbia Series*

Columbia will make a series of features based upon the radio show "The Whistler," following the single feature adapted from that program. The first is scheduled to go into production in June. Rudolph Flothow will produce.

# 'Marseille' $18,000 To Lead St. Louis

ST. LOUIS, April 19.—A cold, rainy weekend caused a slump in boxoffice receipts here this week. "Passage to Marseille" at the Fox is high for the week with an estimated $18,000.

Estimated receipts for the week ending April 19:

**"Standing Room Only" (Para.)**
**"Action in Arabia" (RKO)**
AMBASSADOR—(3,154) (40c-50c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $16,500. (Average: $15,700).
**"No Greater Love" (Artkino)**
**"Nine Girls" (Col.)**
MISSOURI—(3,514) (40c-50c-60c) 7 days. Gross: $14,500. (Average: $9,900).
**"Broadway Rhythm" (M-G-M)**
LOEW'S STATE—(3,162) (40c-50c-60c-65c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $14,500. (Average: $18,900).
**"Passage to Marseille" (WB)**
**"Hi, Good Lookin'" (M-G-M)**
FOX—(5,038) (40c-50c-60c) 7 days. Gross: $18,000. (Average: $18,700).
**"Tender Comrade" (RKO)**
**"Four Jills in a Jeep" (20th-Fox)**
SHUBERT—(1,900) (40c-50c-60c) 7 days. Gross: $6,500. (Average: $6,100).
**"Three Russian Girls" (UA)**
**"The Ghost That Walks Alone" (Col.)**
LOEW'S ORPHEUM—(1,900) (40c-50c-60c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $6,000. (Average: $7,100).
**"Ghost Ship" (RKO)**
**"The Fighting Seabees" (Rep.)**
ST. LOUIS—(4,000) (45c-50c) 7 days. Gross: $6,000. (Average: $5,200).

## *'Arms', Show Score Excellent $20,000*

BALTIMORE, April 19.—Business that made an excellent start on openings suffered somewhat over a rainy weekend. The Hippodrome, with "Up In Arms," plus a stage show, is scoring $20,000 and "Heavenly Body" is due for $18,500 at the Century.

Estimated receipts for the week ending April 13:

**"The Imposter" (Univ.)**
KEITH'S—(2,406) (35c-40c-50c-60c) 6 days. Gross: $15,000. (Average: $15,000).
**"The Heavenly Body" (M-G-M)**
CENTURY—(3,000) (35c-43c-55c- and 60c weekends) 7 days. Gross: $18,500. (Average: $17,500).
**"Four Jills in a Jeep" (20th-Fox)**
NEW—(1,581) (30c-40c-60c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $10,500. (Average: $11,000).
**"Shine on, Harvest Moon" (WB)**
STANLEY — (3,280) (35c-44c-55c-66c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $18,000. (Average: $18,000).
**"Up in Arms" (RKO)**
HIPPODROME—(2,205) (35c-44c-55c-65c) 7 days. Stage show: Wally Boag, Stubby Kaye, Arren & Broderick, Lynn & Larry, Frank Victor Quartette. Gross: $20,000. (Average: $18,500.)
**"Phantom Lady" (Univ.)**
MAYFAIR—(1,000) (25c-45c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $6,500. (Average: $7,000).
**"Kings of the Ring" (Lewis-Lesser)**
MARYLAND—(1,400) (30c-55c) 7 days. Gross: $6,500. (Average; $8,200).

## *'Lady' Still Leading Omaha in 2nd Week*

OMAHA, April 19.—Outstanding here was "Lady in the Dark," in its second week at the Paramount, a house that rarely holds over a picture. And "Corvette K-225," in another single billing at the Omaha Theatre was close behind with $10,100.

Estimated receipts for week ending April 19-20:

**"Up in Arms" (RKO-Goldwyn)**
**"Passport to Destiny" (RKO)**
BRANDEIS—(1,200) (44-60c) 7 days. Gross: $7,600. (Average: $6,500).
**"Corvette K-225 (Univ.)**
OMAHA—(2,000) (44c-60c) 7 days. Gross: $10,100. (Average: $8,400).
**"Cry Havoc" (M-G-M)**
ORPHEUM—(3,000) (55c-70c) 7 days. Gross: $14,000. (Average: $15,200).
**"Lady in the Dark" (Para.)**
PARAMOUNT—(2,900) (44c-60c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $11,100. (Average: $11,700).

# Cream of L.A. Money Goes To 'Cover Girl'

LOS ANGELES, April 19.—"Cover Girl" took the cream of amusement spending-money here in a climatically perfect week. It got $50,000 in the Pantages-Hillstreet duo, which averages $36,400.

Estimated receipts for the week ending April 19:

**"Buffalo Bill" (20th-Fox)**
**"The Memphis Belle" (WAC-Para.)**
CARTHAY CIRCLE—(1,516) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 7 days. Gross: $11,000. (Average: $11,200).
**"Buffalo Bill" (20th-Fox)**
**"The Memphis Belle" (WAC-Para.)**
CHINESE—(2,500) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 7 days. Gross: $18,000. (Average: $15,500).
**"None Shall Escape" (Col.)**
**"The Whistler" (Col.)**
EGYPTIAN—(1,500) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 7 days. Gross: $10,000. (Average: $9,500).
**"The Lady and the Monster" (Rep.)**
**"Trocadero" (Rep.)**
HAWAII—(1,000) (50c-60c-75c-80c) 7 days, 3rd week. Gross: $4,000. (Average: $6,200).
**"Cover Girl" (Col.)**
HILLSTREET—(2,700) (50c-60c-80c) 7 days. Gross: $24,000. (Average: $19,700).
**"Buffalo Bill" (20th-Fox)**
**"The Memphis Belle" (WAC-Para.)**
LOEW'S STATE—(2,500) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 7 days. Gross: $32,000. (Average: $24,100).
**"None Shall Escape" (Col.)**
**"The Whistler" (Col.)**
LOS ANGELES—(2,098) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 7 days. Gross: $25,500. (Average: $14,900).
**"Cover Girl" (Col.)**
PANTAGES—(2,000) (50c-60c-80c-$1.00) 7 days. Gross: $26,000. (Average: $16,700).
**"The Uninvited" (Para.)**
**"The Memphis Belle" (WAC-Para.)**
PARAMOUNT HOLLYWOOD—(50c-60c-80c-$1.00) 7 days. Gross: $14,000. (Average: $11,000).
**"The Uninvited" (Para.)**
PARAMOUNT DOWNTOWN — (50c-60c-80c-$1.00). Gross: $22,000. (Average: $20,300).
**"None Shall Escape" (Col.)**
**"The Whistler" (Col.)**
RITZ—(1,376) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 7 days. Gross: $9,000. (Average: $8,700).
**"Buffalo Bill" (20th-Fox)**
**"The Memphis Belle" (WAC-Para.)**
UPTOWN—(1,716) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 7 days. Gross: $13,500. (Average: $20,500).
**"Shine On, Harvest Moon" (WB)**
WARNERS HOLLYWOOD—(3,000) (50c-60c-80c-$1.00) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $18,046. (Average: $17,000).
**"Shine On, Harvest Moon" (WB)**
WARNERS DOWNTOWN—(3,400) (50c-60c-80c-$1.00) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $19,057. (Average: $18,700).
**"Shine On, Harvest Moon" (WB)**
WARNERS WILTERN—(2,200) (50c-60c-80c-$1.00) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $16,804. (Average: $15,200).

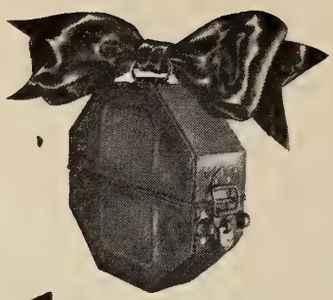
## *Kelly, Reynolds, Hall Touring Hospitals*

Nancy Kelly began a USO-Camp Shows hospital tour this week in Chicago. Her itinerary calls for appearances throughout Illinois, Iowa, Kansas, Colorado and Utah.

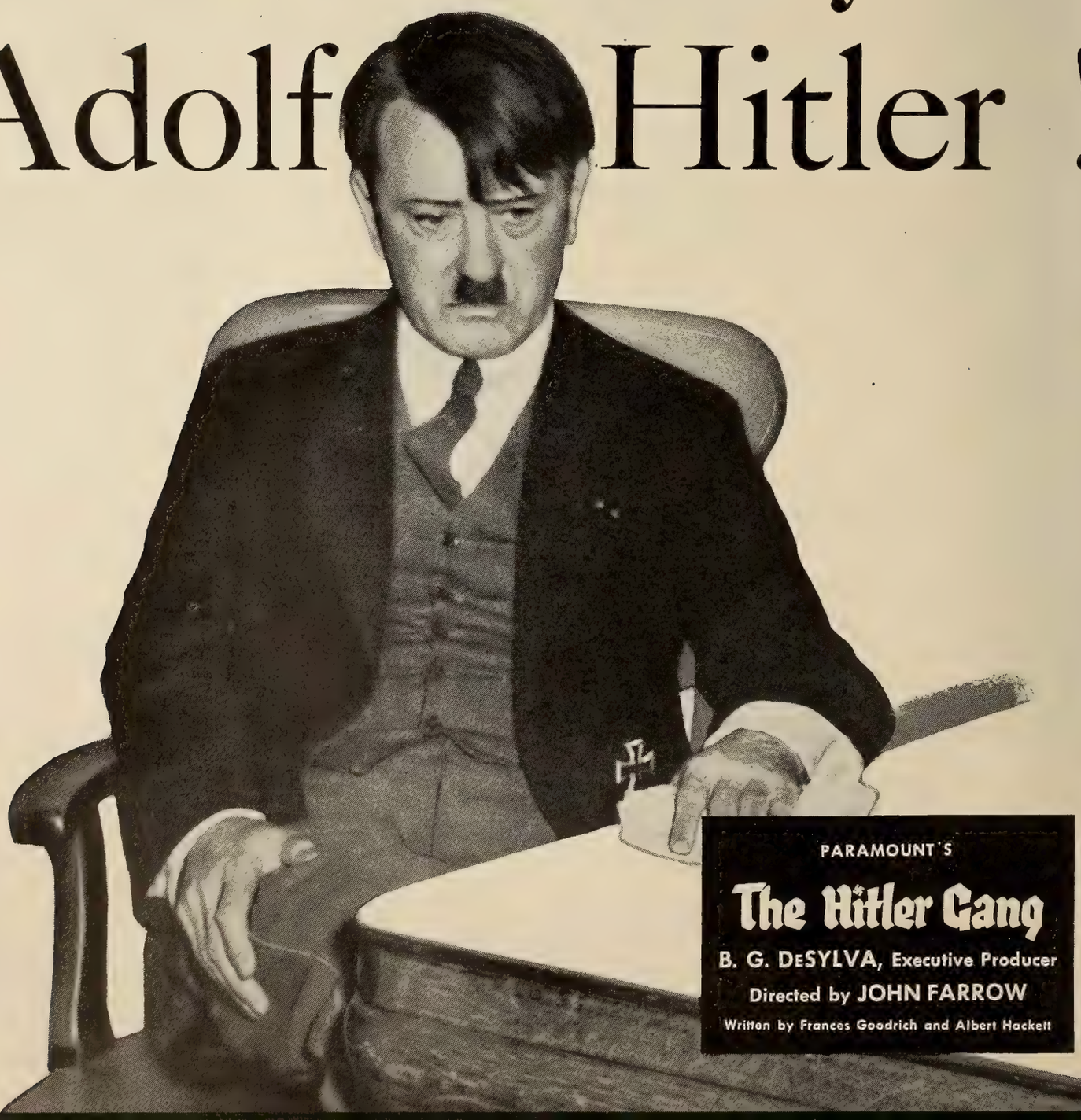
Another tour for the entertainment of service men convalescing from battle injuries will be made starting today by Marjorie Reynolds and Marian Hall. Their joint itinerary begins at El Paso, Tex., and will take them through Texas, Missouri, Kansas, Colorado, Utah, Oregon, Washington and California.

## *Mrs. A. Wills Dies*

Mrs. Anna K. Wills, 85, widow of actor George Browning Wills, and mother of the late Mrs. Charles Coburn, wife of the film actor, died recently in a hospital here.



# Unhappy Birthday, Adolf Hitler !



PARAMOUNT'S

**The Hitler Gang**

B. G. DeSYLVA, Executive Producer

Directed by JOHN FARROW

Written by Frances Goodrich and Albert Hackett

Today in New York, on Adolf Hitler's 55th birthday, there is a package especially for Der Fuehrer—a tin container enclosing eleven reels of a motion picture which depicts the true and unvarnished story of Hitler and his mob from the Armistice of 1918 through the blood purge of 1934—a motion picture called **The Hitler Gang**, produced in Hollywood by Paramount.

It is too bad that Hitler cannot see this film today, or it would be sure to add to the many unhappinesses of his already unhappy birthday.

But soon the whole world will see it, and will know Hitler at last for what he really is and was—a degraded stool-pigeon, a cowardly weakling, and the cold-blooded murderer of his 16-year-old niece!

They will know too why Goering took sojourns in a straight-jacket—what Hess was to Hitler—and how the German people themselves were taken over by a gang of the most vicious criminals the world has ever known.

**The Hitler Gang** will have its world premiere in New York May 6th at the Globe Theatre.

# From Paramount

Paramount Pictures

# THE "INVASION

FRONT PAGE N. Y. TIMES

"The whole course of a bombing mission in all its real and exciting detail."

WALTER WINCHELL

"A four-reeler to match the four orchids it deserves."

EDITORIAL PAGE N. Y. TRIBUNE

"A great contribution . . . graphic . . . emotional."

THE WAR DEPARTMENT PRESENT

# "The MEMP

HEDDA HOPPER

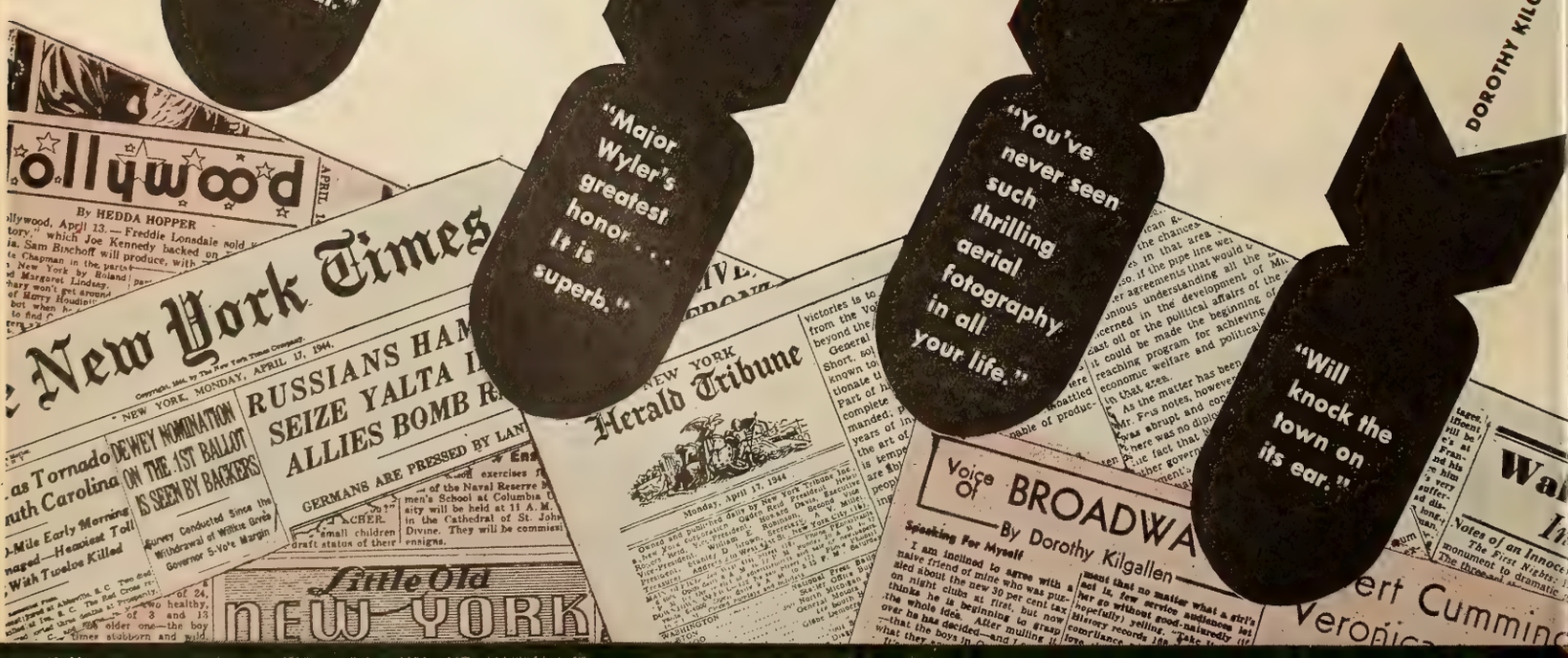
"Major Wyler's greatest honor . . . It is superb."

ED SULLIVAN

"You've never seen such thrilling aerial fotography in all your life."

DOROTHY KILGALLEN

"Will knock the town on its ear."





# HAS STARTED!

## War Dept.'s Terrific Technicolor Thriller Invades Front Pages, Editorial Pages, Publicity Targets Never Touched Before

***PRAISE AS HIGH AS THE SKIES THEY CONQUERED***
***GREETS 500-THEATRE NATION-WIDE PREMIERE***

PARAMOUNT DISTRIBUTES

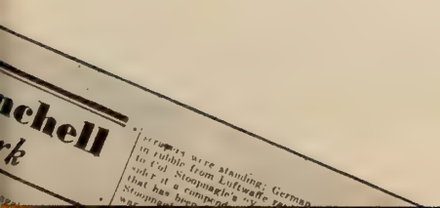
# HIS BELLE"

PHOTOGRAPHED BY U. S. 8th AIR FORCE PHOTOGRAPHERS AND COMBAT CREW MEMBERS.

PRODUCED BY U. S. 8th AIR FORCE PHOTOGRAPHIC SECTION IN COOPERATION WITH ARMY AIR FORCES FIRST MOTION PICTURE UNIT.

DISTRIBUTED BY PARAMOUNT PICTURES, INC. FOR OFFICE OF WAR INFORMATION THROUGH WAR ACTIVITIES COMMITTEE—MOTION PICTURE INDUSTRY.

**BOOK THE WAR'S GREATEST ACTION FILM *NOW* WHILE THIS ARMADA OF ACCLAIM IS SWEEPING THE PUBLICITY FRONT!**



# U.S. Claim for Axis 'Grab' Is Prepared

(Continued from page 1)

filed by motion picture and all other companies, showing that American holdings in Germany amount to $1,290,000,000, in Italy to $265,000,000 and in Japan $90,000,000 or more than three times the known Axis holdings in this country, estimated at $450,000,000. In addition, Americans own more than $2,000,000,000 of property in enemy-occupied areas, most of which is believed to have been seized by the Axis.

"The information, detailed in the reports which have been filed, will be of value after the war in unscrambling the problems of confiscated properties in enemy and enemy-occupied territory," Morgenthau pointed out.

The census was not confined to the Axis countries but was world-wide, disclosing that American assets in United Nations territory aggregate $8,000,000,000, including areas now under domination, and in Latin America amount to $3,250,000,000. The greatest American investment in any single country is $4,375,000,000, in Canada.

## *Friedberg, Proctor Join*

James D. Proctor and William Friedberg have formed a partnership in general publicity and have leased offices at 545 Fifth Ave. Frank Goodman will be associated with them.

# *WAC Names 31 Assistant Chairmen in Field Areas*

(Continued from page 1)

Grassgreen, 20th-Fox, Boston; Ralph Maw, Loew's, Buffalo; George Roscoe, Columbia and Charlotte; Sam Gorlick, RKO, Chicago; Allan S. Moritz, Columbia, Cincinnati; Lester Zucker, Columbia, Cleveland; Lloyd Rust, Republic, Dallas; Henry Friedel, Loew's, Denver; Lou Elman, RKO, Des Moines; Milton Cohen, RKO, Detroit; Claude McKean, Warners, Indianapolis; Frank Hensler, Loew's, Kansas City; Harry Cohen, RKO, Los Angeles; Al Avery, RKO, Memphis; J. H. Lorentz, 20th-Fox, Milwaukee; Ben Blotcky, Paramount, Minneapolis; Morey Goldstein, Loew's, New Haven; Moe Kurtz, 20th-Fox, New Jersey; Roger Lamantia, RKO, New Orleans; Robert J. Fannon, Republic, New York; Marion W. Osbourne, 20th-Fox, Oklahoma City; J. T. McBride, Paramount, Omaha; Wm. Mansell, Warners, Philadelphia; Arthur H. Levy, Columbia, Pittsburgh; Charles Powers, 20th-Fox, Portland; C. D. Hill, Columbia, St. Louis; W. G. Seib, Columbia, Salt Lake City; Newt Jacobs, RKO, San Francisco; Neal Walton, Columbia, Seattle, and John S. Allan, Loew's, Washington.

### Seadler Advertising Head For Recruiting of Wacs

Silas F. Seadler, M-G-M, has been named advertising counsellor for the WAC, Women's Army Corps "Recruiting Week" in theatres, May 11-17, Harry Mandel, general publicity director of the campaign, announced here yesterday.

At the same time, Seadler made known the drive's area public relations chairmen, as follows:

R. M. Kennedy, Birmingham; A. G. Pickett, Phoenix; Sam B. Kirby, Little Rock; Mort Goodman, Hollywood; Fay S. Reeder, San Francisco; Harold Rice, Denver; Lou Brown, New Haven; Benjamin Schindler, Wilmington; J. L. Cartwright, Tampa; William Brady, Atlanta; Nevin McCord, Boise; William Hollander, Chicago; William Elder, Indianapolis; Dale McFarland, Des Moines; Mel Miller, Topeka; Cliff Beuchel, Louisville; Maurice Barr, New Orleans.

### Others Named

Also: Connie Russell, Bangor; Frank Hornig, Baltimore; Harry Browning, Boston; Alice Gorham, Detroit; Charles Winchell, Minneapolis; Elizabeth Moody, Jackson; Les Kaufman, St. Louis; J. A. English, Montana; Ted Emerson, Omaha; Edward Fahey, Manchester; Eli Orowitz, Camden; Robert Paskow, Newark; George Tucker, Albuquerque; Art Brick, Las Vegas; Edward Dowden, New York; Seymour Morris, Gloversville; Roy Smart, Charlotte; Mike Cooper, Grand Forks; E. V. Dinerman, Cincinnati; Harry Schreiber, Columbus; Robert Busch, Oklahoma City; M. M. Mesher, Portland; James Ashcraft, Philadelphia; James Totman, Pittsburgh; John Carroll, Providence; Sam Suggs, Columbia; Fred Larkin, Sioux Falls; Charles Amos, Nashville; Ray Beall, Dallas; Helen Garrity, Salt Lake City; Frank A. Vennett, Rutland; George Peters, Richmond; Frank LaFalce, Washington, D. C.; Vic Gauntlett, Seattle; Sol Hyman, Huntington, W. Va.; Ed Hickey, Milwaukee, and Jack McGee, Cheyenne.

## *Bergman Sets Aside $50,000 for Chicago*

(Continued from page 1)

Chicago RKO Palace so that exhibitors in Minnesota, Wisconsin, Indiana, Iowa, Missouri, Kansas, and Nebraska will benefit from the campaigns which will cover the entire area. Heretofore, heavy advertising appropriations for runs in Chicago subsequent to the field were wasted as far as value to the public and exhibitors was concerned in these seven states, it was said.

## *Davis Again Head of Hollywood Canteen*

(Continued from page 1)

Garfield, Mervyn LeRoy, Carroll Hollister, and Mrs. John Ford, all vice-presidents; Jean Lewin, secretary; Alfred Ybarra, Jules C. Stein, Paul Jaffe, Chef Milani, Kay Kyser, Ann Warner, Georgia Fifield, Florine Bale, Doris Stein, Florence Cadrez, Harry Crocker, Dudley Furse, John Tegroen, Baron Moorehead, Bob Hope, Mrs. Ernest Hare, Carey Wilson, and Mack Miller, members of the executive board.

## *W. S. Gifford Reports On Television Web*

**American Telephone and Telegraph Co. is planning an intercity television network, designed to become nationwide ultimately, W. S. Gifford, A. T. & T. president, told stockholders of the company at their annual meeting here yesterday. Gifford also stated that the company's postwar plans include shortwave radio developments for use with television as well as long distance telephone.**

# Wallis-Hazen Tieup Talks Progress

(Continued from page 1)

his own company. He declined to specify in what capacity Hazen might be associated with him, explaining that the discussions had not progressed far enough to permit him to make a statement of that kind.

Wallis reiterated that he has "several" proposals under consideration and that all will be given further study with the arrival here of his attorney, Loyd Wright, who was delayed in his departure from the Coast. Wallis expects to be in New York until the end of next week.

MOTION PICTURE DAILY first reported the possible association of Wallis and Hazen on April 14.

# CEA Scores 'Bell's' Advanced Prices

(Continued from page 1)

nance increased prices. The council, nevertheless, passed a resolution pledging members to refuse bookings of the film if it were conditional upon increased rentals.

The council was informed that the Kinematograph Renters Society had refused to agree to district pools wherein provincial exhibitors would exchange pictures among themselves in the event of a transport breakdown consequent to a Second Front invasion. The KRS stated it had received governmental assurance that appropriate transport would be maintained. However, distributors are having standby programs ready for exhibitors in remote areas.

## *Jersey Allied Meet Will Be June 20-22*

(Continued from page 1)

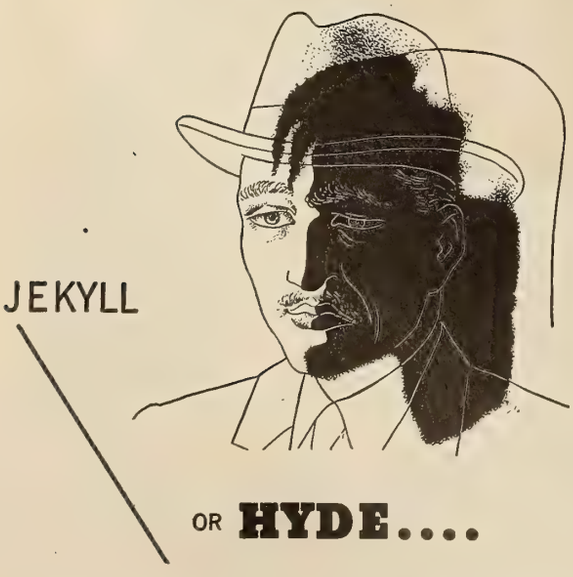
ry H. Lowenstein appointed the following convention committee: North Jersey, Irving Dollinger, chairman; Lee Newbury, George Gold, Helen Hildinger, David Snaper, Harry Hecht, Edward Lachman, David Mate, Henry Brown.

South Jersey: Ralph Wilkins, D. Roscoe Faunce, Simon Myers, Basil Ziegler.

Thornton Kelly, executive secretary, is convention manager.

## *Loew's Books 'Hargrove'*

M-G-M's "See Here Private Hargrove" has been booked for a week's run at 35 Loew houses around the country during the next several weeks.


*On the screen, the same man can be a Dr. Jekyll or a Mr. Hyde. In your projection booth as well, equipment can be hero or villain! It's up to you whether your equipment* acts—*or just* acts *up. For better all around help, get Altec . . . it's the service of specialists.*

ALTEC SERVICE CORPORATION 250 West 57th Street, New York 19, N. Y.

THE SERVICE ORGANIZATION OF THE MOTION PICTURE INDUSTRY

## US Reconditioning Control Altered

(*Continued from page 1*)

pairmen" to include persons who recondition or rebuild damaged or used items for resale. The amendment also indicates that sound and certain other repairmen may use materials and parts which they purchase under the procedure to carry on such reconditioning or rebuilding but, however, they may not use such materials or parts to replace material or parts which are still usable nor to replace material or parts solely to improve the original design of the article being reconditioned or rebuilt.

The amended regulation also prohibits repairmen from using the AA-3 preference rating which it assigns to obtain the following items: capacitors, microphones, loudspeakers, resistors, transformers, tubes and paint. These items are made available to repairmen and retailers on a pro-rata basis without the use of ratings.

The amendment also modifies the forms of controlled materials which may be purchased by repairmen under the procdure to conform them to the recent revision in controlled materials designations under schedule I to CMP regulation No. 1.

### *150 M-G-M Air Spots*

Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer has made arrangements for 150 radio spot announcements on all major stations in Los Angeles for their product in the week prior to the run and the first week of an engagement.

## *WPB Projector Quota Set At 350 for 3rd Quarter*

(*Continued from page 1*)

an increase of some 250 over the present program of Allen G. Smith, chief of the theatre equipment division, calling for 100 machines a quarter.

If the 350-projector program actually can be put under way in the third quarter, it is expected that efforts will be made to have the WPB approve comparable production for the following three months, but the fourth-quarter schedule has not yet been put before the WPB facilities bureau.

**Several Barriers**

Facing the expanded projection program are several barriers, including the tight supply of component parts, particularly ball bearings and electronic equipment; the shortage of lumber for shipping purposes, and the serious labor situation in some of the areas where various projector parts would have to be produced.

The War Manpower Commission has listed Chicago and Detroit, both with projection manufacturers and the former also with arc lamp and rectifier producers, as Class I areas where the labor situation is most critical. Indianapolis, where sound equipment is manufactured, and Toledo, where arc lamps and rectifiers are made, are in Class II. Easier conditions prevail in New York, St. Louis and some other sections.

Classification as a tight labor area automatically precludes any increase in civilian production without WMC approval, even though such increase would not require any additional workers. It will, accordingly, be necessary for the projector program to go before the labor production division of WPB with a view to securing an authorization for the manufacturers in Indianapolis, Chicago, Toledo, Detroit and other cities which may be in the shortage lists to increase their output.

**Would Relieve Exhibitors**

Actual construction of the additional machines contemplated in the third-quarter program would go far toward relieving projector troubles of many exhibitors, which recently were somewhat alleviated by the release of a considerable number of projectors manufactured in anticipation of Government orders which did not materialize. Several hundred projectors are understood to have been released during the first quarter with the consent of the Government agency.

An application for expansion of projector production was laid before the WPB facilities bureau several months ago by Smith, in anticipation of increased needs of theatres due to the wearing out of equipment which has not been manufactured in quantity for two years. The program was developed as the materials situation, originally extremely tight, eased up.

The projector situation also has been closely followed by George W. McMurphey, chief of the recreation division of the Office of Civilian Requirements, who found that a lack of available used projectors threatened to slow down his campaign to have new theatres built in war centers where additional recreation facilities are required.

The successful prosecution of the projector program is expected to be followed up by McMurphey with efforts to secure a limited resumption of seat manufacture, the other major bottleneck in his theatre program.

## *M-G-M Set for 20th Birthday*

(*Continued from page 1*)

with the prestige that befits the company.

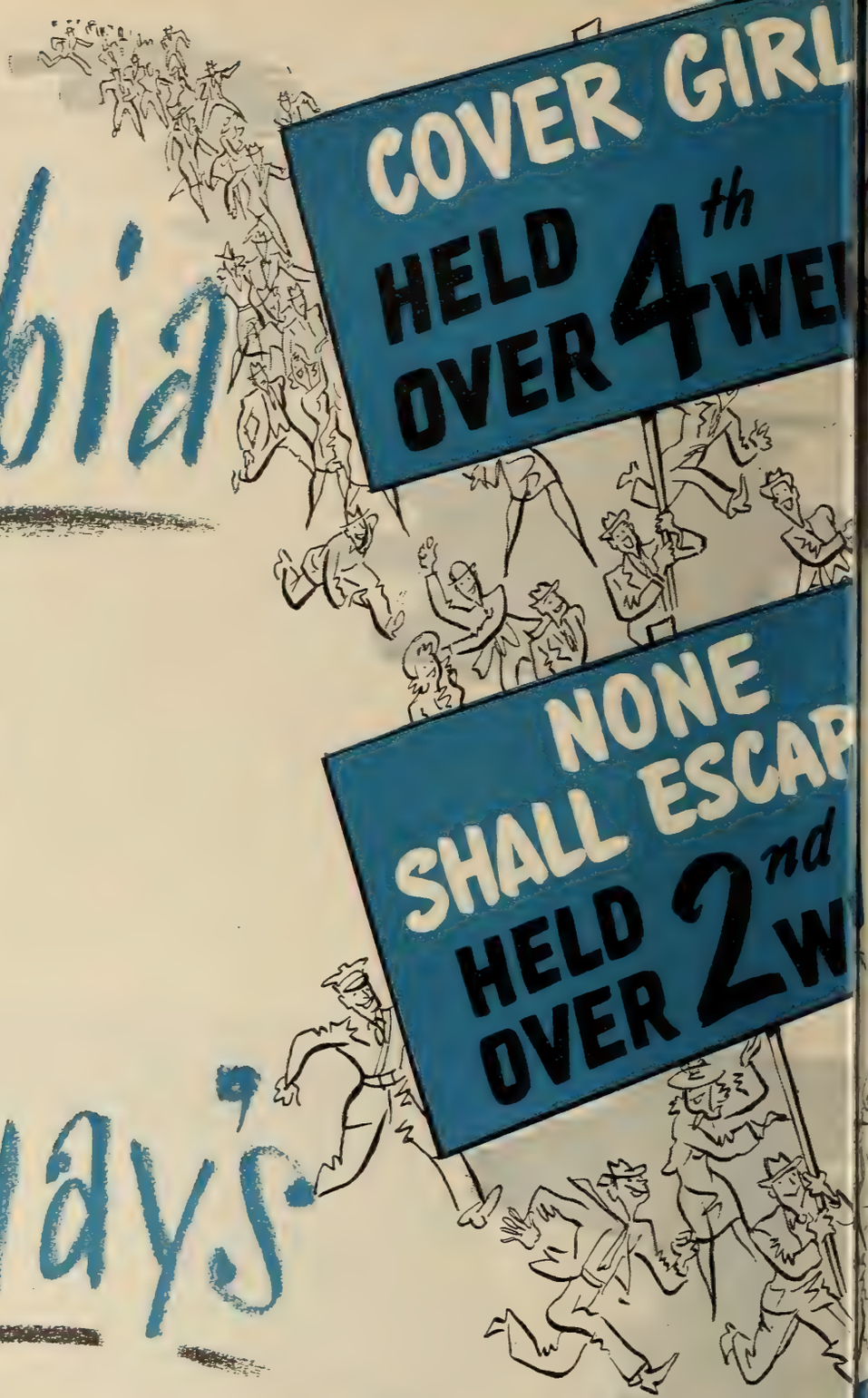
In revealing that M-G-M intends to contact every theatre owner and ask him to join the company in its celebration by showing Leo the Lion on his screen, or screens, during the week of June 22-28, Rodgers said:

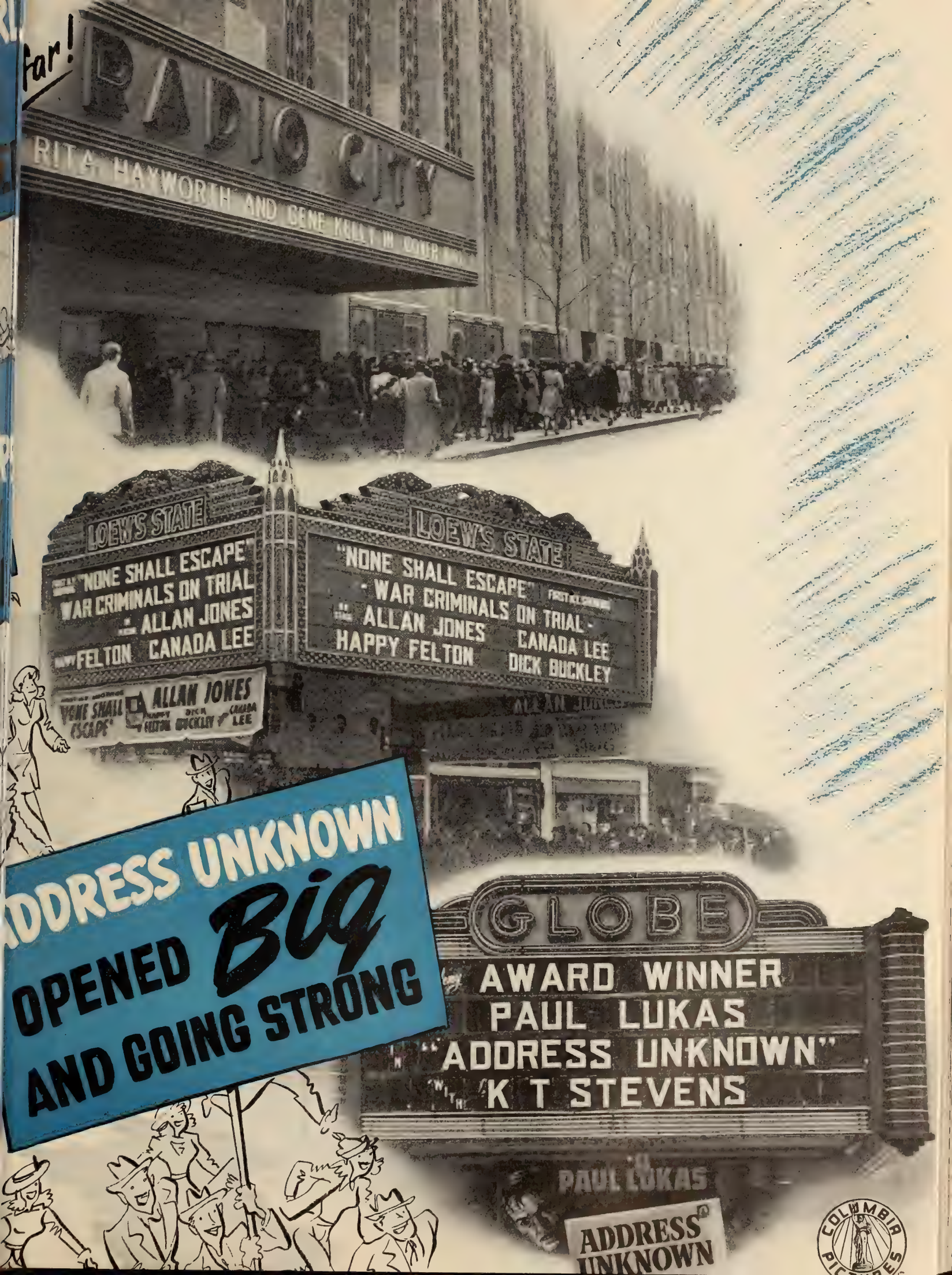
"We are not looking for a solid M-G-M week, but we would appreciate the cooperation of all exhibitors to help make our anniversary one of the outstanding events of the year."

Rodgers predicts that before June 22, every reader of newspaper or periodical, every radio listener and every motion picture fan will know that M-G-M is celebrating an important milestone in its history.



# Columbia Leads Broadway's Parade of Hits!




far!
RADIO CITY
RITA HAYWORTH AND GENE KELLY IN COLOR
LOEW'S STATE
"NONE SHALL ESCAPE"
WAR CRIMINALS ON TRIAL
ALLAN JONES
FELTON CANADA LEE
LOEW'S STATE
"NONE SHALL ESCAPE"
- WAR CRIMINALS ON TRIAL -
ALLAN JONES CANADA LEE
HAPPY FELTON DICK BUCKLEY
ALLAN JONES
DDRESS UNKNOWN
OPENED Big
AND GOING STRONG
GLOBE
AWARD WINNER
PAUL LUKAS
"ADDRESS UNKNOWN"
WITH K T STEVENS
PAUL LUKAS
ADDRESS UNKNOWN
COLUMBIA

# MOTION PICTURE DAILY'S BOOKING CHART

| WEEK OF | COLUMBIA | M-G-M | MONO. | PARA. | PRC | REPUBLIC | RKO RADIO | 20TH-FOX | U. A. | UNIVERSAL | WARNERS |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Mar. 25 | SUNDOWN VALLEY<br>Charles Starrett<br>Jeanne Bates<br>Walter "Dub" Taylor<br>O—55 mins | (Sixth Block)<br>SEE HERE, PRIVATE HARGROVE<br>Robert Walker<br>Donna Reed<br>C—101 mins. (420) | | (Fourth Block)<br>THE HOUR BEFORE THE DAWN<br>Franchot Tone<br>Veronica Lake<br>D—75 mins. (4317) | THUNDERING GUN SLINGERS<br>Buster Crabbe<br>THE AMAZING MR. FORREST<br>(English)<br>D—(413) | MOJAVE FIREBRAND<br>Wild Bill Elliott<br>G. "Gabby" Hayes<br>55 mins.—(377) | (Block Four)<br>TENDER COMRADE<br>Ginger Rogers<br>Robert Ryan<br>D—102 mins. (416) | | | HI GOOD-LOOKIN'<br>Harriet Hilliard<br>Eddie Quillan<br>Ozzie Nelson's Orchestra<br>Jack Teagarden's Orchestra<br>M—62 mins. (8044) | |
| April 1 | THE WHISTLER<br>Richard Dix<br>Gloria Stuart<br>D—59 mins. | THE HEAVENLY BODY<br>Hedy Lamarr<br>William Powell<br>D—95 mins. (421) | PARTNERS OF THE TRAIL<br>(Roughrider)<br>O—(353) | YOU CAN'T RATION LOVE<br>Betty Rhodes<br>Johnnie Johnston<br>C—79 mins. (4318) | GUNS OF THE LAW<br>James Newill<br>Tex O'Brien<br>O | MY BEST GAL<br>Jane Withers<br>Jimmy Lydon<br>Frank Craven<br>C-67 mins. | PASSPORT TO DESTINY<br>Elsa Lanchester<br>Gordon Oliver<br>D—64 mins. (417) | (April Releases. No definite date set)<br>BUFFALO BILL<br>(Technicolor)<br>Maureen O'Hara<br>Joel McCrea<br>D—(424)<br>90 mins. | | | |
| April 8 | COVER GIRL<br>(Technicolor)<br>Rita Hayworth<br>Gene Kelly<br>Phil Silvers<br>Jinx Falkenburg<br>M—107 mins. | SWING FEVER<br>Kay Kyser<br>Marilyn Maxwell<br>M—81 mins. (423) | LADY, LET'S DANCE<br>Belita<br>James Ellison<br>Frick & Frack<br>M—84 mins. (301) | THE NAVY WAY<br>Robert Lowery<br>Jean Parker<br>D—75 mins. (4316) | THE MONSTER MAKER<br>D—62 mins. (419) | THE LARAMIE TRAIL<br>Bob Livingston<br>"Smiley" Burnette<br>O—56 min. (355) | THE CURSE OF THE CAT PEOPLE<br>Simone Simon<br>Kent Smith<br>D—70 mins. (418) | TAMPICO<br>Lynn Bari<br>E. G. Robinson<br>D—75 mins. (425) | IT HAPPENED TOMORROW<br>Linda Darnell<br>Dick Powell<br>C—84 mins. | WEIRD WOMAN<br>Lon Chaney<br>Anne Gwynne<br>Evelyn Ankers<br>D<br>D—64 mins. (8027) | SHINE ON, HARVEST MOON<br>Ann Sheridan<br>Dennis Morgan<br>Irene Manning<br>M—112 mins. (313) |
| April 15 | JAM SESSION<br>Ann Miller<br>Jess Barker<br>M—80 mins. | RATIONING<br>Wallace Beery<br>Marjorie Main<br>C—93 mins. (418) | HOT RHYTHM<br>M—79 mins.<br>Dona Drake<br>Robert Lowery<br>(314) | (Special)<br>LADY IN THE DARK<br>(Technicolor)<br>Ginger Rogers<br>Ray Milland<br>M—100 mins.<br>(4336) | SHAKE HANDS WITH MURDER<br>D—63 mins. (422)<br>PINTO BANDIT<br>O—(456) | ROSIE, THE RIVETER<br>Jane Frazee<br>Frank Albertson<br>Vera Vague<br>C—75 mins. (313) | ESCAPE TO DANGER<br>Eric Portman<br>Ann Dvorak<br>D—84 mins. (419) | SHRINE OF VICTORY<br>British documentary—45 mins. | VOICE IN THE WIND<br>Francis Lederer<br>Sigrid Gurie<br>D—85 mins. | HER PRIMITIVE MAN<br>Louise Albritton<br>Robert Paige<br>D—79 mins. (8016) | |
| April 22 | GIRL IN THE CASE<br>Janice Carter<br>Edmund Lowe—D<br>WYOMING HURRICANE<br>Russell Hayden—O | BROADWAY RHYTHM<br>Ginny Simms<br>George Murphy<br>M—114 mins. (419) | | | | OH SUSANNA<br>Gene Autry<br>(reissue)<br>O—(3303) | ACTION IN ARABIA<br>George Sanders<br>Virginia Bruce<br>D—75 mins. (420) | | LUMBER JACK<br>(Harry Sherman Production)<br>William Boyd<br>O—64 mins. | MOON OVER LAS VEGAS<br>Ann Gwynne<br>David Bruce<br>D—69 mins. (8037) | UNCERTAIN GLORY<br>Errol Flynn<br>Paul Lukas<br>D—102 mins. (314) |
| April 29 | THE BLACK PARACHUTE<br>Larry Parks<br>Jeanne Bates<br>John Carradine<br>Osa Massen<br>D | TUNISIAN VICTORY<br>(Special Release)<br>(466)—80 mins.<br>(Documentary) | OUTLAW TRAIL<br>(Trailblazer)<br>53 mins. (364)<br>O | | MEN OF THE SEA<br>D—48 mins. (420)<br>Wilfrid Lawson<br>VALLEY OF VENGEANCE<br>Buster Crabbe<br>Al St. John<br>O—(464) | TROCADERO<br>Rosemary Lane<br>Johnny Downs<br>Bob Chester's Orch.<br>M—74 mins. (314) | UP IN ARMS<br>(special release)<br>Danny Kaye<br>Dinah Shore<br>(Technicolor)<br>C—105 mins. (452) | | | SLIGHTLY TERRIFIC<br>Leon Errol<br>Anne Rooney<br>Evelyn Ankers<br>C—58 mins. (8036) | |
| May 6 | ONCE UPON A TIME<br>Cary Grant<br>Janet Blair<br>James Gleason—D | (Seventh Block)<br>ANDY HARDY'S BLONDE TROUBLE<br>Mickey Rooney<br>Lewis Stone<br>C—107 mins. (424) | LAW MAN<br>Johnny Mack Brown<br>O—55 mins. (354) | (Fifth Block)<br>AND THE ANGELS SING<br>Dorothy Lamour<br>Fred MacMurray<br>Betty Hutton<br>M | THE CONTENDER<br>Buster Crabbe<br>Arline Judge<br>Julie Gibson<br>O—(418) | | (Block Five)<br>THE FALCON OUT WEST<br>Tom Conway<br>Barbara Hale<br>D—64 mins. | | | COBRA WOMAN<br>(Technicolor)<br>Maria Montez<br>Jon Hall<br>Sabu | THE ADVENTURES OF MARK TWAIN<br>Fredric March<br>Alexis Smith<br>Donald Crisp<br>D—130 mins. (315) |
| May 13 | UNDERGROUND GUERILLAS<br>(British)<br>John Clements<br>Mary Morris—D<br>RIDIN' WEST<br>Charles Starrett<br>Shirley Patterson<br>O | GASLIGHT<br>Ingrid Bergman<br>Charles Boyer<br>D—(425) | DETECTIVE KITTY O'DAY<br>Jean Parker<br>D—61 mins. | DOUBLE INDEMNITY<br>Fred MacMurray<br>Barbara Stanwyck<br>Edward G. Robinson<br>D | | JAMBOREE<br>Ruth Terry<br>George Byron<br>M—71 mins. (316) | DAYS OF GLORY<br>Tamara Touranova<br>Gregory Peck<br>D—86 mins | (May Releases. No definite date set)<br>PIN-UP GIRL<br>Betty Grable<br>John Harvey<br>Martha Raye<br>Joe E. Brown<br>M—(427) | | PARDON MY RHYTHM<br>Gloria Jean<br>Patric Knowles<br>M | |
| May 20 | STARS ON PARADE<br>Lynn Merrick<br>Larry Parks<br>Judy Clark<br>M | MEET THE PEOPLE<br>Dick Powell<br>Lucille Ball<br>M—100 mins. (426) | THE CHINESE CAT<br>Sidney Toler<br>D—64 mins. | THE HITLER GANG<br>Robert Watson<br>Victor Varconi<br>D—(4320) | WATERFRONT<br>John Carradine<br>J. Carroll Naish<br>D—(415) | COWBOY AND THE SENORITA<br>Roy Rogers<br>Mary Lee<br>Dale Evans<br>M—78 mins. | THE YELLOW CANARY<br>(British)<br>Anna Neagle<br>Richard Greene<br>D | | | | |
| May 27 | BY SECRET COMMAND<br>Pat O'Brien<br>Carole Landis<br>Chester Morris<br>D | THREE MEN IN WHITE<br>Lionel Barrymore<br>Van Johnson<br>D—(427) | JOHNNY DOESN'T LIVE HERE ANYMORE<br>Simone Simon<br>James Ellison<br>D | HENRY ALDRICH PLAYS CUPID<br>Jimmy Lydon<br>Diana Lynn<br>Charles Smith | MINSTREL MAN<br>Benny Fields<br>Gladys George<br>Roscoe Karns<br>O—(404) | MELODY TRAIL<br>(Reissue)<br>Gene Autry<br>O—(3304) | SEVEN DAYS ASHORE<br>Wally Brown<br>Gordon Oliver<br>C | BERMUDA MYSTERY<br>Preston Foster<br>Ann Rutherford<br>D—(428) | | | |
| June 3 | AMERICA'S CHILDREN<br>Pat Parrish<br>Otto Kruger<br>D | TWO GIRLS AND A SAILOR<br>Jimmy Durante<br>Van Johnson<br>C—(428) | FOLLOW THE LEADER<br>East Side Kids<br>D | GAMBLER'S CHOICE<br>Chester Morris<br>Nancy Kelly | GHOST TOWN<br>(Texas Rangers)<br>O—(457) | | SHOW BUSINESS<br>Eddie Cantor<br>Joan Davis<br>George Murphy<br>Constance Moore<br>M—92 mins. | | | | |

[illegible] are issued on [illegible] Release Schedules and are subject to Change. Letters Denote the Following:

First in Film and Radio News Brief, Accurate and Impartial

# MOTION PICTURE DAILY

Alert, Intelligent and Indispensable to the Motion Picture Industry

VOL. 55. NO. 79 NEW YORK, U. S. A., FRIDAY, APRIL 21, 1944 TEN CENTS

CHARGE COPY COMPLIMENTS

## U. A. Situation Seen Clarified Within 10 Days

### *Mary Pickford Holds 'Balance of Power'*

By RED KANN

HOLLYWOOD, April 20.—The United Artists situation is expected to approach, perhaps reach, its climax in the next 10 days when internal bickerings, involving Mary Pickford, Charles Chaplin and David Selznick are seen proceeding toward a definite pattern.

While Miss Pickford and Selznick have been functioning as an unofficial coalition, as earlier reported, the current crux of the situation appears to center around Miss Pickford and how she determines her ownership interest may best be safeguarded.

She is described as being "in the middle" because of open dissension between Selznick and Chaplin. The latter two already are at legal odds, wit-

(*Continued on page 8*)

## M-G-M Anniversary Host to Owners

Luncheons for exhibitor groups in every key city, a studio ceremony honoring all who have served M-G-M for 20 years, and a Coast-to-Coast broadcast featuring all available stars under contract to the company were announced here yesterday by M-G-M as additional special events to be held during its 20th anniversary week starting June 22.

The broadcast, coinciding with the Fifth War Loan drive, will present, in

(*Continued on page 3*)

### *Exhibitors on Board Of Wm. Fox Studio*

**Exhibitors who buy stock in William Fox's proposed producing - distributor company and who will, thereby, be given a territorial product franchise and first choice locally on all product, will also have representation at the company's studio, *Motion Picture Herald* will say today. Exhibitor groups will choose representatives who will join the other stockholders in mapping plans.**

## *Used Tires Only Allowed By OPA for Film Trucks*

WASHINGTON, April 20. — Small film-delivery trucks using passenger-size tires only will be eligible for used-tire replacements now on priorities, but cannot obtain new tires now made available to trucks in essential services under the order issued this week by the Office of Price Administration, it was learned here today.

OPA officials explained that, because of the short supply, new tires will be provided only for trucks moving "necessities of life" and other essentials, while other trucks which heretofore have been ineligible for any tires whatever, will be permitted to acquire used casings for replacement.

There is an ample supply of used tires, it was said, which will enable all trucks to carry on until the tire-production program of the Office of Rubber Director gets well under way and the supply of new tires is increased.

### *Exclusive Runs in Owners' Complaint*

**Formal complaints against exclusive-run exhibition policies will be lodged immediately with sales heads at distributors' home offices by the Independent Theatre Owners Association of New York. The protest was voted yesterday by the ITOA board meeting at the Hotel Astor.**

## Resume Induction of Men 26-38 Here

Col. Arthur V. McDermott, New York City director of Selective Service, instructed local boards yesterday to resume induction of registrants over 26 years of age who are not engaged in "war supporting activities" but said he expected comparatively few inductions between now and July 1.

Inductions in the 26-38 age groups were suspended by McDermott nine days ago pending clarification of new Federal regulations for this group.

**Army-Navy Urge Labor Draft**

WASHINGTON, April 20.—Warning the nation that it faces a manpower crisis, Secretaries Knox and Stimson and Admiral Emory S. Land, in a joint statement, today renewed their demand for labor draft legislation This action followed closely on the recommendation by the House military affairs committee that 4F's refusing war essential jobs be drafted for non-combat duty.

## *Hanson to Distribute British, Soviet Films*

TORONTO, April 20.—Effective May 1, Oscar R. Hanson is acquiring Canadian distribution of the British product of Esquire Films Lt., Toronto, together with Soviet films of the newly formed Artkino Pictures (Canada), Ltd., with both of these franchise companies retaining their identities.

Distribution will be through a chain of six branches across the Dominion but will be separate from other Hanson exchanges. British and Soviet pictures have been physically distributed here through Empire Universal Films for a number of years.

## UIE Seeks Easing Of Smoking Law

Repeal or amendment of the New York law forbidding smoking in theatres having no balconies will be sought by the Unaffiliated Independent Exhibitors of New York, it was learned here yesterday.

The UIE will hold a special meeting next week to present for approval by its members a resolution to introduce a proposal in the City Council to repeal or amend the law. Independent exhibitors, not members of UIE, have indicated they will attend and favor the action, it was also learned.

In recent weeks, squads of the Bureau of Fire Prevention have been inspecting theatres affected by the ordinance and in some instances have issued summonses to patrons breaking the regulation. They now are threatening to issue summonses to exhibitors if the law is not obeyed. Exhibi-

(*Continued on page 3*)

## *Goetz En Route Here On British Problem*

LONDON, April 20.—Ben Goetz, managing director of M-G-M British Studios, Ltd., is en route to New York, where, it is understood, he will consult home office executives on British production problems.

Meanwhile, Sir Alexander Korda is now promising that he will begin on Monday to shoot his first picture here for M-G-M, a production that has been long delayed.

## OPA Refuses Trucks for Film Delivery

### *Service to 1,200 Houses Here Is Jeopardized*

The Office of Price Administration's local rationing board here has turned down the petition of the New York film truckers for necessary priorities to purchase new delivery trucks to replace those which have deteriorated, thereby jeopardizing film deliveries to some 1,200 theatres served in the New York exchange area. The carriers are understood to be contemplating an appeal to the OPA in Washington.

OPA officials here are understood to have taken the position that despite elaborate truck breakdown records supplied to it by the carriers, the truckers had not proven that they could not pool their trucks to handle deliveries. The OPA suggested the hiring of outside trucking facilities. The truckers contend that there is very little overlapping of truck routes between the various companies which would make pooling effective.

Considerable interest is said to be

(*Continued on page 8*)

## *'Hardship Rations' to Oil-Heated Houses*

WASHINGTON, April 20.—Exhibitors heating their theatres with oil and who have run out of fuel are now eligible for "hardship rations" under new regulations issued by the Office of Price Administration.

The extension of this assistance to

(*Continued on page 3*)

### *Little Hope of Tax Relief for Films*

**Film industry tax authorities sees little hope of having the 20 percent tax on theatre tickets included in the current Congressional proposal, sponsored by Rep. Harold Knutson (Rep.-Minn.), to legislate relief for cabarets from the 30 percent levied on them at the same time as the theatre tax was enacted.**

**Industry tax experts hold that there is little likelihood of reopening the tax bill for either field at this time.**

# Coast Flashes

*Hollywood, April 20*

NEIL AGNEW, Vanguard distribution vice-president, will leave for the East today.

•

Steve Broidy, Monogram general sales manager, will leave Monday on a four-week trip to New York and Eastern exchange areas, where he will confer on key-city runs of "Lady, Let's Dance" and "Johnny Doesn't Live Here Anymore."

•

Monogram has bought the late Gus Edwards' song "Sunbonnet Sue" and plans to feature it in a film along with other Edwards' numbers to which the rights are being sought. Scott R. Dunlap will handle the production.

•

Otto Preminger will be associated with Ernst Lubitsch as director of "The Czarina," starring Tallulah Bankhead, 20th-Fox announced today. This is Lubitsch's first since his recent illness.

•

Frank Nugent, who has been on the 20th-Fox story board for the past five years, plans to remain on the Coast and establish a new studio connection when his contract expires soon.

•

Bill Pierce, Jr., formerly with Universal, has been named publicity director for Bing Crosby Productions and will start a campaign Monday on "The Great John L."

•

Robert Bassler has been given a new term contract by 20th-Fox. His next production will be "Thunderhead, Son of Flicka."

•

Arthur Freed's schedule at M-G-M has been augmented by "The Clock," which will co-star Judy Garland and Robert Walker.

## Providence Midway Clearance Award

An arbitration clearance award in favor of Joseph L. Carrolo, operating the Midway, Oakland Beach, R. I., has been entered at the Boston tribunal, the American Arbitration Association reported here yesterday.

C. Keefe Hurley, arbitrator, held that the clearance of 45 days granted by the five decree companies to Providence first run theatres over the Midway is unreasonable, and reduced the clearance to 30 days as requested by the plaintiff.

## Eaton Begins Serving 30-Day Sentence

MEMPHIS, April 20.—John W. Eaton, 61, Memphis theatre operator, today withdrew his motion for a new trial and began serving a sentence of not more than 30 days for involuntary manslaughter growing out of a fatal accident in his theatre when Elroy Curry was killed in an explosion caused last summer by the substitution of another gas for freon in the theatre's cooling system.

## Survey Hollywood Films for Schools

A survey of the postwar application of Hollywood films to the schoolroom will be launched here tomorrow at a meeting of the Commission on Motion Pictures in Education, which plans an analysis of the use of material furnished through Teaching Film Custodians, Inc., affiliate of the Motion Picture Producers and Distributors of America, which makes educational short subjects and excerpts from feature pictures.

It has been pointed out to the CMPE by industry executives who have made a special study of the subject that such entertainment films as "Madame Curie," "Western Union" and others of historical interest can be as valuable in teaching as can specially produced classroom pictures, *Motion Picture Herald* says today.

The commission, formed in January by the American Council on Education, is reportedly supported by a grant of $100,000, from the MPPDA, says the *Herald*. Mark A. May, director of the Institute of Human Relations at Yale, is chairman. Other members are Dr. George F. Zook, ACE president; George S. Counts, director of the division of foundations of education, Teachers College, Columbia University; Edmund E. Day, president of Cornell; Willard E. Givens, executive secretary of the National Education Association, and Monsignor George Johnson, general secretary of the National Catholic Educational Association.

## Cooper Opens Office For 16mm Group

TORONTO, April 20.—Colonel John A. Cooper, former chairman of the Canadian Motion Picture Distributors Association, is opening a new office here as president of the Canadian 16mm Distributors Association and as secretary of the Canadian Musical Protective Association. The latter is concerned with musical copyright developments in behalf of theatres, hotels, fairs and other users of musical compositions controlled by the Canadian and American Performing Rights Societies and Broadcast Music, Inc.

## ShortwavePromotion For 'Going My Way'

The Office of War Information will shortwave a special broadcast by Bing Crosby to war theatres throughout the world next Thursday night, in conjunction with the "fighting front" premiere of Paramount's "Going My Way." Some 134 NBC stations will carry the program here.

Sixty-five 16mm prints of the film have been shipped to the Army's 20 film exchanges overseas. The American premiere of "Going My Way" has been set for May 3 at the Paramount theatre here.

## 'Sneak' M-G-M's 'Sailor'

Theatre "sneak preview" showings of M-G-M's "Two Girls and Sailor" will take place in key cities throughout the country Monday night.

## Personal Mention

JOHN J. FRIEDL, head of Minnesota Amusement Co., is in New York in connection with the forthcoming Fifth War Loan.

•

GEORGE A. SMITH, Paramount Western division manager, and OSCAR MORGAN, short subjects sales head, were in Dallas this week.

•

RUTH WEINBERG NEWMAN of Paramount, has resigned to join her husband, CORP. EUGENE NEWMAN, who is stationed at Camp Crowder, Mo.

•

CLAUDE LEE, Paramount public relations director, has returned from Florida.

•

IRVING RAPPER, Warner director, left New York yesterday for the Coast.

•

A. J. O'KEEFE of Universal is in Chicago on a brief business visit.

•

MAURICE BERGMAN returned from Chicago yesterday.

## Astra-Selznick Suit To Federal Court

Supreme Court Justice Aaron J. Levy yesterday signed an order transferring to Federal court here the $250,000 damage action filed by Astra Pictures against David O. Selznick, Daniel T. O'Shea, Ernest L. Scanlon and Raymond A. Klune.

The complaint claims that the defendants failed to sell, as allegedly agreed, exclusive distribution and exhibition rights to "The Prisoner of Zenda," "The Adventures of Tom Sawyer" and "Garden of Allah"; the 16mm rights for four years and the 35mm rights for three years. Also agreed, the complaint states, was delivery of 102 Technicolor prints of the "Sawyer" film, 29 prints of "Allah," 35 prints of "Sawyer" and one 16mm black and white negative of "Zenda." Astra charged that it had also agreed to purchase 177 used positives for $76,000, payable $25,000 in cash and the balance in notes.

## Sistrom To London For OWI Film Unit

Joseph Sistrom, producer, is scheduled to go to London shortly for the Office of War Information's overseas bureau of the motion picture division, where he will head a unit to produce documentary films for distribution in liberated Europe. Sistrom was appointed by Robert Riskin, chief of the bureau, to supervise the new unit.

## CBS Shows $1,165,347 First Quarter Net

Net income of Columbia Broadcasting for the first 13 weeks of 1944, ending April 1, was $1,165,347, or 68 cents a share, compared to $1,031,671, or 60 cents a share for the same period last year.

In the two periods, Federal income and excess profits taxes were, respectively, $2,280,000 and $1,240,000.

## Briefs Filed Here In Century Suit

Briefs were filed here yesterday by attorneys representing Century Circuit of Brooklyn and Empire State Operators Union, with Judge William E. Wilson in Kings County Supreme Court, as requested by Judge Wilson at the close of the trial several weeks ago of the injunction action brought by Century to prevent the dissolution of Empire as a corporation.

Century secured the injunction several weeks before the Empire merged with IATSE Local 306, last Summer.


NEW YORK THEATRES

RADIO CITY MUSIC HALL
50th Street & 6th Avenue
RITA HAYWORTH • GENE KELLY
"COVER GIRL"
in TECHNICOLOR • A Columbia Picture
Music by Jerome Kern • Lyrics by Ira Gershwin
Gala Stage Show • Symphony Orchestra
1st Mezzanine Seats Reserved. CIrcle 6-4600

EXTRA! THE IRISH QUESTION! LATEST MARCH OF TIME
RELEASED BY 20th CENTURY-FOX

RKO PALACE B'WAY & 47th St.
Anna NEAGLE • Richard GREENE
"YELLOW CANARY"

LOEW'S STATE B'WAY & 45
ON SCREEN
William POWELL
Hedy LAMARR
in M-G-M's
'The HEAVENLY BODY'
IN PERSON
JERRY WAYNE
NAN RAE &
Mrs. WATERFALL

Producers Corporation of America presents
"KNICKERBOCKER HOLIDAY"
Released thru UNITED ARTISTS
VICTORIA B'way at 46th St.

Joel McCrea - Maureen O'Hara - Linda Darnell
"BUFFALO BILL"
IN TECHNICOLOR
Plus on Stage—PAUL WHITEMAN and ch.
VICTOR BORGE - JOAN EDWARDS
BUY MORE BONDS ROXY 7th Ave. & 50th St.

THE SONG OF BERNADETTE
A 20th CENTURY-FOX PICTURE
CONTINUOUS Doors Open 9:30 A.M. B'WAY & 49th ST. RIVOLI


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## M-G-M Anniversary Host to Owners

(*Continued from page* 1)

ddition to the players now making Iollywood films, Capt. Clark Gable, ieut. (j.g.) Robert Taylor, Major ames Stewart, Lieut. Van Heflin and ieut. Comdr. Robert Montgomery, rovided they are in this country at ie time and can get permission from ie armed forces. The program, at- )ded by 4,750 studio employes rep- esenting 170 arts and crafts, will be hortwaved overseas. More than 1,000 M-G-M employes are now in the Armed services.

With Lionel Barrymore or Lewis Stone as master of ceremonies, the roadcast will pay tribute to the late Will Rogers, who presided over the ompany's "merger-day" party in 924, and also to Marie Dressler, Lon Chaney, Jean Harlow and Irving Thalberg. At the same time, the stu- lio gate will be opened to the newest M-G-M star, Margaret O'Brien.

"The White Cliffs" has been desig- nated as the anniversary feature, and pecial emphasis will likewise be laced upon King Vidor's "America" nd the adaptation of Pearl Buck's 'Dragon Seed."

## UIE to Seek Easing of Local Smoking Law

(*Continued from page* 1)

tors say they have used every effort to enforce the law. Grosses at such houses have been affected, particularly when they are near houses having bal- conies in which smoking is permitted, it was said.

Mayor LaGuardia, when signing the bill in 1939, recommended to the City Council an amendment to the proposed law in the form of a further sub- division which would permit smoking in a specified section of the orchestra floor of any theatre having no bal- cony, subject to the approval of the fire commissioner.

## Screen Directors Will Publicize Selves

HOLLYWOOD, April 20.—Feeling that the work of directors is often passed over in national publicity, with pro- ducers, cameramen and stars receiving the most credit, the Screen Directors Guild has appointed a committee to de- vise a publicity program. On it are King Vidor, Raoul Walsh, Victor Fleming, and Mabel Walker Willie- brandt, counsel. J. P. MacGowan, SDG executive secretary, says the plan is for emphasis on directors' contribu- tions to the industry as a group, not as individuals.

## Sylvia Chock Feted

Sylvia Chock, secretary for 10 years to Neil Agnew and who will continue as his secretary in his new post as vice- president of Vanguard Films, was given a luncheon yesterday by Para- mount associates at the Hotel Edison.

## 'Tars' in Philadelphia

PHILADELPHIA, April 20.—Warners' Earle here will present the Eastern premiere of "Tars and Spars," U. S. Coast Guard show, as its regular stage feature next week. Victor Mature heads the cast.

## One Theatre Loses 124 to Military

**A numerical record in the United States for theatre staff losses to the Armed Forces is claimed here for the Roxy Theatre, which to date has 124 of its former workers in various military branches.**

**Pr e s s dispatches from Naples recently told how one Roxy-ite, Staff Sgt. William (Zeke) Miller, former captain of ushers, a tail gunner on a Maurauder engaging a Nazi Focke-Wulf 190, was heard on the Marauder's inter-communication system to repeat the invitation to the Focke-Wulf, "T h i s way, please," as if leading Roxy patrons to their seats. The Nazi followed to within 100 yards and exploded.**

## 'Hardship Rations' to Oil-Heated Houses

(*Continued from page* 1)

non-residential fuel oil users has been made possible by an improved supply situation developing as the winter de- mand eases off.

"Hardship rations" will be issued by local war price and rationing boards and only upon proof that the applicant has taken all precautionary measures to save oil and only after the OPA district director determines that there is sufficient oil in the area to care for the larger demand. OPA officials warned that the supply situation in the Pacific Northwest is particularly tight and it may not be possible to provide additional oil for theatres in that area.

## DeWitt Sues Ripley On 'Voice in Wind'

LOS ANGELES, April 20.—Arthur Ripley of Ripley-Monter Productions, producer of "Voice in the Wind," was sued in Superior Court here today, for an accounting and 10 percent of the profits of the picture, by Jack De Witt, who alleges that he is the author of "Murder Boat," that his story was submitted to Ripley on a 10 percent profit basis and that "Voice in the Wind" was based upon it.

## Plane Named for 'Ladies'

An airplane, recently christened "Ladies Courageous" at the Aeronca Plant, Middletown, O., is now visiting mid-western cities in conjunction with the 70-city simultaneous opening of Universal's "Ladies Courageous." Milton Crandall is in charge of the campaign.

## Fire Destroys Theatre

FORT COBB, Okla., April 20.—Fort Cobb's only theatre, the Rialto, was completely destroyed by fire today. Earl Rains, owner and manager, said the building was valued at $15,000. Origin of the blaze was not known.

## Barnett on Lecture Tour

CHICAGO, April 20.—Jack Barnett, recently honorably discharged from the Army with the award of the Purple Heart, now back with 20th-Fox Movietone News here as cameraman, is delivering lectures in key cities of the Midwest relating highlights of his 26 months on European battlefronts.

## 'Bernadette' Gets a Good $17,000

PITTSBURGH, April 20.—Holdovers ruled here this week, with "The Song of Bernadette" tinkling a $17,000 tune at the Harris at advanced admissions and "The Sullivans" maintaining a healthy above-par $9,500 at the Fulton.

Estimated receipts for the week ending April 18-21:

**"The Sullivans" (20th-Fox)**
FULTON—(1,700) (35c-44c-65c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $9,500. (Average: $8,500).
**"The Song of Bernadette" (20th-Fox)**
HARRIS—(2,200) (80c-$1.10) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $17,000. (Average: $10,100).
**"Lady in the Dark" (Para.)**
PENN—(3,400) (35c-44c-65c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $15,000. (Average: $21,700).
**"Broadway Rhythm" (M-G-M)**
RITZ—(1,100) (35c-44c-65c) 7 days, 3rd week, moveover after one week at Stanley. Gross: $3,000. (Average: $3,000).
**"Beautiful But Broke" (Col.)**
SENATOR—(1,750) (35c-44c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $3,600. (Average: $3,400).
**"Higher and Higher" (RKO)**
STANLEY—(3,800) (44c-68c-85c). On stage: 6 days of vaudeville including Charlie Spivak's band. Gross: $22,000. (Average: $22,000).
**"The Miracle of Morgan's Creek" (Para.)**
WARNER—(2,000) (35c-44c-65c) 7 days, 3rd week, moveover after one week at Penn. Gross: $10,000. (Average: $9,350).

## 'Buffalo Bill' Smashes Opening Day Record

DENVER, April 20.—The world premiere of "Buffalo Bill" scored double duty at the box office of the Denver and Esquire theatres this week netting, respectively, $30,000 and $9,000. All opening day records at the Denver fell on Tuesday.

Estimated receipts for the week ending April 16-19:

**"The Sullivans" (20th-Fox)**
**"The Whistler" (Col.)**
ALADDIN—(1,400) (46c-74c) 7 days, moveover. Gross, $10,080. (Average: $5,600).
**"Rationing" (M-G-M)**
**"Lost Angel" (M-G-M)**
BROADWAY—(1,040) (46c-74c) 7 days, moveover. Gross: $6,240. (Average: $3,900).
**"Lady in the Dark" (Para.)**
DENHAM—(1,750) (40c-70c) 7 days, second week. Gross: $12,000. (Average: $9,000).
**"Buffalo Bill" (20th-Fox)**
DENVER—(2,600) (46c-74c) 7 days. Gross: $30,000. (Average: $15,000).
**"Buffalo Bill" (20th-Fox)**
ESQUIRE—(740) (46c-74c) 7 days. Gross: $9,000. (Average: $4,900).
**"Phantom Lady" (Univ.)**
**"Million Dollar Kid" (Mono.)**
PARAMOUNT—(2,200) (46c-74c) 7 days. Gross: $16,275. (Average: $9,300).
**"In Our Time" (WB)**
**"Two-Man Submarine" (Col.)**
RIALTO—(900) (46c-74c) 7 days, moveover. Gross: $8,000. (Average: $5,000).

## Smith, Owen Conduct Para. Sales Meets

George A. Smith, Paramount Western division manager, and Hugh Owen, Eastern division manager, are holding sales meetings in the field this week. Smith is meeting with Dallas, Oklahome City and Memphis on "The Hour Before the Dawn," "The Uninvited," "You Can't Ration Love," "Lady in the Dark" and "The Story of Dr. Wassell."

Owen held a sales meeting at the Washington, D. C., exchange yesterday.

## Hall Sues on Title

LOS ANGELES, April 20.—Archie W. Hall, writer, producer and actor, "Cousin Archie" of the "What's Buzzin' Cuzzin" radio show, has filed suit for $75,000 damages in Superior Court here against Columbia and Duncan Cassell, Columbia producer, for unauthorized appropriation of the Cousin Archie title and character.

## 'Miracle', Show Lead in Chi. With $54,000

CHICAGO, April 20.—"The Miracle of Morgan's Creek" proved to be the strongest film in the Loop, grossing $54,000 at the Chicago Theatre with Lou Breese and band on the stage. Ideal weather contributed to a heavy post-Easter boom.

Estimated receipts for the week ending April 21:

**"The Song of Bernadette" (20th-Fox)**
APOLLO—(1,200) (80c-$1.20) 7 days, 8th Loop week. Gross: $20,000. (Average: $11,400).
**"The Miracle of Morgan's Creek" (Para.)**
CHICAGO—(3,850) (55c-65c-95c) 7 days. Stage: Lou Breese and band. Gross: $54,000. (Average: $51,500).
**"Cry Havoc" (M-G-M)**
**"Memphis Belle" (WAC-Para.)**
GARRICK—(1,000) (55c-65c-95c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $12,000. (Average: $9,100).
**"Tender Comrade" (RKO)**
**"Hat Check Honey" (Univ.)**
GRAND—(1,250) (50c-60c-85c-95c) 7 days, 5th Loop week. Gross: $13,000. (Average: $9,100).
**"Trocadero" (Rep.)**
ORIENTAL—(3,200) (44c-55c-60c-80c-95c) 7 days. Stage: Harry Howard's Revue. Gross: $30,000. (Average: $24,000).
**"Ali Baba and the Forty Thieves" (Univ.)**
**"Hi, Good Looking" (Univ.)**
PALACE—(2,500) (50c-60c-85c-95c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $32,000. (Average: $24,000).
**"Shine On, Harvest Moon" (WB)**
ROOSEVELT—(1,500) (55c-65c-95c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $30,000. (Average: $24,000).
**"Lady in the Dark" (Para.)**
STATE-LAKE—(2,700) (55c-65c-95c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $33,000. (Average: $29,000).
**"A Guy Named Joe" (M-G-M)**
UNITED ARTISTS—(1,700) (55c-55-65c-95c) 7 days, 3rd week. Gross: $23,000. (Average: $20,200).
**"Voodoo Man" (Mono.)**
**"Ghost That Walks Alone"**
WOODS—(1,200) (55c-65c-95c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $11,000. (Average: $10,000).

## 'Escape to Danger,' Show Get $16,500

MILWAUKEE, April 20.—Business in Milwaukee is about average. "Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs" is drawing large matinee crowds at the Alhambra to gross $14,000. Lawrence Welk with Johnny (Scat) Davis on the stage of the Riverside, coupled with "Escape to Danger" on the screen took top honors at $16,500.

Estimated receipts for week ending April 21:

**"Heavenly Body" (M-G-M)**
**"Timber Queen" (Para.)**
WISCONSIN—(3,200) (40c-60c-80c) 7 days. Gross: $14,300. (Average: $14,500).
**"Miracle of Morgan's Creek" (Para.)**
**"The Navy Way" (Para.)**
PALACE—(2,400) (40c-60c-80c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $10,000. (Average: $10,500).
**"A Guy Named Joe" (M-G-M)**
STRAND—(1,400) (40c-60c-80c) 7 days, 3rd week downtown. Gross: $5,000. (Average: $4,500).
**"Shine On, Harvest Moon" (WB)**
**"Rosie the Riveter" (Rep.)**
WARNER—(2,400) (50c-72c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $16,250. (Average: $15,500).
**"Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs" (RKO-Disney)**
ALHAMBRA—(1,900) (50c-72c) 7 days. Gross: $14,000. (Average: $10,000).
**"Escape to Danger" (RKO)**
RIVERSIDE—(2,700) (65c-85c) 7 days. On stage: Lawrence Welk and his orchestra and Johnny (Scat) Davis. Gross: $16,500. (Average: $15,500).

## Columbia Signs Two

Irving Sherman and Sidney Singerman have been named assistant managers of Columbia exchange operations under the supervision of Hank Kaufman at the home office.

# Buffs

*147 spots tag it the biggest from Th*





**ALL TIME RECORD** set in Denver at the Denver and Esquire! Big cities, small towns solidly consistent in reports of **terrific business.** Through nine states—in every type of situation—it's setting **new highs!** Keep watching it at the **ROXY, NEW YORK,** and other important dates coast to coast!

JOEL McCREA · MAUREEN O'HARA · LINDA DARNELL in "BUFFALO BILL" with Thomas Mitche
Frank Orth · *Directed by* WILLIAM A. WELLMAN · *Produced by* HARRY A. SHERMAN · Photograp

Great shorts will round out a great show! With "Buffalo Bill," play "The Mailman

# lo Bill



## IN TECHNICOLOR

*biggest figure in the industry...*

# 20th CENTURY-FOX

COOPERATE WITH UNCLE SAM.
WAC RECRUITING WEEK
MAY 11th THRU 17th.

jar Buchanan · Anthony Quinn · Moroni Olsen · Frank Fenton · Matt Briggs · George Lessey
TECHNICOLOR · Screen Play by AEneas MacKenzie, Clements Ripley and Cecile Kramer · Based on a Story by Frank Winch

ıke River," a Movietone Adventure, and "My Boy Johnny," a Terrytoon in Technicolor!

# Blondes beware

# Brunettes take care



## THE DEEP-SEA WOLVES HAVE LANDED ! . .

**in RKO RADIO'S rollicking riot of rousing revelry—al set to the hottest and the sweetest music that ever wrapped itself around a comedy plot jammed with gags and laughs and lusty with glamourous dames!**





**8 NAMES THAT MEAN LAUGHS AND SONG AND GLAMOUR...**

**WALLY BROWN ★ ALAN CARNEY**
**MARCY McGUIRE ★ GORDON OLIVER**
**VIRGINIA MAYO ★ AMELITA WARD**
**ELAINE SHEPARD ★ DOOLEY WILSON**

**Produced and Directed by John H. Auer**
Screen Play by Edward Verdier, Irving Phillips & Lawrence Kimble



# SEVEN DAYS ASHORE

**2 SOLID SENDING NAME BANDS...**

**FREDDIE SLACK**
and his Orchestra

**FREDDIE FISHER** (Col. Corn)
and his Band

**7 SONGS... SWEET and HOT**

*including:*

*"Ready, Aim, Kiss"*
*"Hail and Farewell"*
*"Sioux City Sue"*
*"Apple Blossoms in the Rain"*

RKO RADIO PICTURES

# OPA Refuses Trucks for Film Delivery

(*Continued from page* 1)

evidenced in the OPA's decision here since it is seen as possibly affecting contract film carriers in other exchange centers whose trucks are facing breakdowns and menacing film deliveries. Only members of National Film Carriers, who also carry war materials in interstate commerce in addition to films have priorities to replace trucks and tires.

Film carriers have attempted for eight months to obtain priorities to purchase new trucks, aided by a committee headed by Henderson M. Richey as designated by the War Activities Committee to work with the carriers. The WAC committee headed by Richey includes Fred Schwartz, Century Circuit; Irving Dollinger, New Jersey Allied; and Ralph Pielow, representing the New York exchanges.

### Breakdowns Mounting Daily

Since the war started difficulties with breakdowns have been mounting daily with reports prepared by Harry Grayson, attorney representing the carriers here showing that some of the trucks had already run over 400,000 miles, with several thousand miles added weekly. Carriers require about 15 new trucks at this time and will require many more shortly.

# *UA Affairs Seen Clarified Within Next Ten Days*

(*Continued from page* 1)

nessed by the impending Chaplin action against Selznick on the latter's deal with 20th Century-Fox for "Keys of the Kingdom" and "Jane Eyre." Fire has been added to the flame by the Sir Alexander Korda stock purchase over Chaplin's objections.

Miss Pickford is seen in the position of holding the balance of power and, according to inside accounts, is perfectly well aware of it. She is reported reliably to feel wranglings have hurt UA internally and externally and thereby posed a potential, if not an actual, damage to her stock interest.

### Seeks Operational Management

This position is behind her apparent determination to break the unanimous rule procedure now dominating UA policy and operation and to abandon ownership management in favor of operational management which is what Gradwell Sears has been seeking since he entered the company.

It is reported that the "best legal advice" believes the unanimous rule is in violation of the UA charter, the authority for this, in all probability, being George Wharton Pepper, whom Miss Pickford engaged to determine if the unanimous rule could be dislodged through friendly court intervention. In fact, one source here today declared Miss Pickford quietly had filed such an action against Chaplin in the East about 90 days ago.

Chaplin is described as being "violent" in his views toward Selznick. He is declared to be convinced that Selznick has violated his agreement with UA, as witness the latter's 20th-Fox deal, and thereby has imperiled, if not sacrificed, his whole UA position. Eight months ago, it is learned, the Selznick arrangement on his final UA stock ownership was amended to provide that he deliver five pictures and then determine if he intends continuing. If so, he must deliver five more, after which UA stock, held in escrow in his name passes to his ownership. Meanwhile, Selznick is silent. Likewise are Miss Pickford and UA officials. Chaplin is reported "out."

### Depends on Miss Pickford

Chaplin is credited with having remarked he will seek a receiver for UA if circumstances warrant such extreme action. A factor of decisive importance is which way Miss Pickford will throw her weight. Inside opinion maintains this is currently uncertain. Other opinion holds her long friendship and association with Chaplin, covering about 30 years, may establish sufficient sentimental and business values to decide her on Chaplin's side. If this eventuates, the balance of power will outvote Selznick who, presumably, then, could exercise his escape clause after delivering five pictures.

# *Hollywood*

By JACK CARTWRIGHT

*Hollywood, April 20*

SONGWRITERS Johnny Burke and Jimmy Van Heusen will publish their score for "Belle of the Yukon." Gypsy Rose Lee sings their "Ev'ry Girl Is Dif'rent" and "The Ballad of Millicent Devere" in the picture, and Dinah Shore sings "Sleighride in July" and "Like Someone in Love." In addition, the tunesmiths will publish "Going My Way," "The Day After Forever" and "Swinging on a Star," which Bing Crosby sings in "Going My Way," now awaiting release at Paramount.

•

*Success of his "Barber of Seville," "cartune," has prompted Walter Lantz to plan production of three more animated subjects satirizing noted operas. . . . Florence Bates, character actress in "Belle of the Yukon," started in pictures at 50 years of age after having been the first woman lawyer admitted to the bar in Texas. She's now 56 and going strong. Her only stage experience was two years at the Pasadena, Cal., Playhouse. . . . Hunt Stromberg has signed Margaret Hamilton for one of the key character roles in "Guest in the House," which Lewis Milestone directs. . . . Edward Everett Horton has a comedy role as Susanna Foster's father in "San Diego, I Love You," at Universal. He's a life-raft inventor.*



First in Film and Radio News Brief, Accurate and Impartial

# MOTION PICTURE DAILY

Alert, Intelligent and Indispensable to the Motion Picture Industry

VOL. 55. NO. 80 NEW YORK, U. S. A., MONDAY, APRIL 24, 1944 TEN CENTS

## Clark to Hold Decree Talks Here Thursday

### *Exhibitor Proposals May Be Subject of Meet*

WASHINGTON, April 23.—Plans for the resumption of negotiations with distributors looking toward the development of the revised consent decree will be discussed with the companies when Assistant U. S. Attorney General Tom C. Clark goes to New York Thursday to attend the annual regional conference of U. S. Attorneys, which he is to address the next day.

**The companies have had for some time the correlated recommendations of the various exhibitor organizations, but have taken no steps to discuss them with Clark because of the recent resignation of Joseph Hazen from Warner Bros. and Clark is expected to contact the companies while in New York.**

All of the most frequently reiterated recommendations of the exhibitors

(*Continued on page 12*)

## *Meet Here on Appeals Drive*

Plans for the industry's participation in the United Jewish Appeal's 1944 fund campaign to raise $32,000,000 to provide relief and rescue facilities for Jewish victims abroad were discussed at a luncheon-meeting held at the Hotel Astor here at the weekend, called by David Bernstein, vice-president and treasurer of Loew's, who presided at the meeting attended by over 30 industry leaders.

Stressing the industry's quota short-

(*Continued on page 12*)

## *Rose Denies Demand For 'Bell' Price Boost*

LONDON, April 23.—David Rose, Paramount managing director for Great Britain, denies that the company had asked exhibitors to increase their admission prices for "For Whom the Bell Tolls." Exhibitors maintain, nevertheless, that Paramount's salesmen requested such conditions, and they appear determined to observe the Cinematograph Exhibitors' Association resolution, reported in MOTION PICTURE DAILY of April 20, scoring Paramounts' alleged sales policies for "Bell Tolls," which would also require extended playing time.

## Hugh Owen Joining Neil Agnew at Vanguard Pictures

HOLLYWOOD, April 23. — Hugh Owen, Paramount's Eastern divisional sales manager, will join Neil Agnew at Vanguard Pictures, probably as general sales manager of the David Selznick company, it was learned here authoritatively at the weekend. Agnew is vice-president in charge of distribution of Vanguard, which releases through United Artists.



Hugh Owen

Owen's withdrawal from Paramount is expected

(*Continued on page 12*)

## *10 Million More May See 'Snow White'*

Audience Research Institute, George Gallup survey organization, estimates that there are 10,000,000 possibilities over 12 years of age in the United States to see the revival of Walt Disney's "Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs."

Of the estimated 10,000,000, Audience Research says, 7,000,000 have never seen the film while an estimated 3,000,000 possibilities have seen it and will repeat. Audience Research estimates that 27,500,000 over 12 years of age saw "Snow White" when it was first released over five years ago.

## *Claude Rains Flies Ocean in 8½ Hours*

**London, April 23.—Producer Gabriel Pascal for days had been looking for the arrival from Hollywood of actor Claude Rains, in order to start preparations for the filming of George Bernard Shaw's "Caesar and Cleopatra," to star Rains and Vivien Leigh. Rains dropped in on Pascal over the weekend, after flying the Atlantic in 8½ hours, nearly an all-time record.**

## Charles Moskowitz Names Drive Aides

Charles C. Moskowitz of Loew's, Metropolitan New York's exhibitor chairman for the industry's WAC Women's Army Corps recruiting week, May 11-17, reported over the weekend his co-chairmen for this area.

The following will serve under Moskowitz: Gene Meyers, Loew's, Manhattan; Russ Emde, RKO, Bronx and Westchester; Irving Liner, Fabian Theatres, Staten Island; Fred Schwartz, Century Circuit, Queens, and Louis Goldberg, RKO, and Sam Rinzler, Randforce Theatres, Brooklyn.

Edward C. Dowden of Loew's, local publicity chairman for the drive, has called a meeting of his committee for this afternoon at 2:30 in the Paramount board room, Paramount Building. Harry Mandel, publicity chairman for the entire campaign, and Oscar Doob, WAC publicity chairman, will attend.

## *"The Story of Dr. Wassell"*

[*Paramount*]

CECIL B. DeMILLE turns his accomplished production hand herein to an impressive cinematic account of the real-life saga of Commander Corydon Wassell, USN, thereby contributing one of the first, if not the first screen tribute to a Navy doctor of this war. It is a story that moved President Roosevelt to cite Commander Wassell as typical of the service men who are deserving of the nation's pride and confidence. It is a screenplay that has been described by no less an authority than Dr. Wassell himself as "98 percent documentary."

Much may be said in its favor as an exceptional production and a sound investment for the industry, but to this observer, at least, the most that can be said of it adversely is that a 98 percent documentary content leaves too little room for the play and exercise of Hollywood ingenuity. However, it is just possible that Commander Wassell may have been a bit over-enthusiastic in his estimate in this respect.

"The Story of Dr. Wassell" is a superior motion picture of a dramatic

(*Continued on page 4*)

## Approval Seen For Schine Theatre Deal

### *Clark 'Not Opposed' If Court Approves It*

BUFFALO, April 23. — Assistant U. S. Attorney General Tom C. Clark has given his approval of the proposed acquisition of the Liberty Theatre, Cumberland, Md., by the Schine Chain Theatres Inc., according to a brief which was scheduled to be submitted to Judge John Knight in Federal District Court here over the weekend.

The brief, one of four prepared by Schine attorneys in the pre-trial proceedings of the Government's anti-trust suit against the circuit, stressed particularly a letter written by Clark on March 2 to Thomas Burke, owner of the Liberty, in which the Assistant Attorney General is reported to have said he does not object to the acquisition provided it meets with court approval. Also cited is the lack of opposition on the part of other theatre operators in Cumberland.

Reiterating a stand taken on April

(*Continued on page 12*)

## *Ticket Taxes Up $2,800,000*

WASHINGTON, April 23.—Federal admission tax collections in March jumped nearly $2,800,000 over the previous month, totaling $14,893,007 against $12,094,185, the U. S. Internal Revenue Bureau reported here tonight. Collections in the corresponding month last year were $11,874,676.

Bureau records disclosed that for the first quarter, collections of $43,732,128

(*Continued on page 12*)

## *Cantor Tribute by Guilds on May 7*

Nine theatrical guilds and organizations will pay tribute to Eddie Cantor with a testimonial dinner on Sunday, May 7, at the Astor Hotel on the occasion of his 35th anniversary in entertainment.

Sponsoring the affair are: Actors Equity, American Federation of Radio Artists, Screen Actors' Guild, Ascap, Catholic Actors' Guild, Episcopal Actors' Guild, Negro Actors' Guild, Jewish Theatrical Guild and the American Guild of Variety Artists.

# Personal Mention

NEIL AGNEW arrived in New York from the Coast by plane over the weekend. After cleaning up his affairs at Paramount during the next few days, he will move to his new headquarters at Vanguard Films, and plans to return to the Coast in about four weeks.

•

DARRYL F. ZANUCK, vice-president in charge of production for 20th Century-Fox, will arrive in New York today from the Coast to hold a number of conferences on coming productions.

•

EDWIN W. AARON, M-G-M circuit sales manager, has returned from Nashville, N. C., after a three weeks' vacation.

•

J. J. UNGER, United Artists Western division manager, is expected back at the home office today after several weeks' tour of exchanges.

•

RALPH DOYLE, RKO managing director for Australia, is scheduled to arrive in New York within the next two weeks.

•

ARNOLD VAN LEER, Paramount New England district advertising representative, was in New York Friday.

•

NORMAN ELSON, Trans-Lux vice-president, is scheduled to leave for Boston tomorrow.

•

MIKE SIMONS, editor of M-G-M's *The Distributor,* is due back from Oklahoma City today.

•

STEVE EDWARDS, Republic publicity director, is expected back from Washington today.

## Rosenberger Named Para. Cuba Head

Appointment of Americo Rosenberger as Paramount manager in Cuba was announced Friday by John W. Hicks, Jr., vice-president in charge of foreign operations. Rosenberger for the past several years has been a Paramount district manager in Argentina.

Lazarus Constantine, who has been manager in Cuba for almost two years, has returned to Panama to assume temporary managership in Central America during the absence in Venezuela of Henry Gordon. Constantine's new assignment will be announced shortly.

Arthur L. Pratchett, general manager for Paramount in Central America, including Mexico and several of the Northern republics of South America, has left Mexico City for Cuba.

## U. A. Meeting Set

HOLLYWOOD, April 23.—A meeting of United Artists' board of directors will be held here tomorrow. A meeting of company owners is scheduled to be held next Friday.

# Tradewise . . .

By SHERWIN KANE

ASSUMING you all know of that eminent authority on subjects cinematic, one Bernard Sobel, we spare ourselves the task of looking up his credentials and will begin by taking his words, published in *Theatre Arts* for March, at their face value, and will toss a few back his way.

"Everyone who goes to see a motion picture," Mr. Sobel's essay starts off, "leaves part of his intelligence at the box office." Only Mr. Sobel didn't put the quotation marks around that little gem of myopia, despite the fact that, even if it was original with him, which it isn't, there would be no good reason for him to be proud of any such sweeping misstatement.

Then he follows up with this: "For in spite of its extraordinary growth, the cinema is still short on realism, innovation and aesthetic principle." (Can't you just see Mr. Sobel on the hunt for "aesthetic principle" in the lairs of the legitimate theatre this season?) "The basic causes for these weaknesses," he proclaims, "are censorship and the box office. . . ." And Mr. Sobel proceeds to prescribe for the cinema's "ills" his own conception of what is proper plot and story material for the screen.

"Widening the scope of the films to include universal literature, with fidelity to its basic spirit, characters, speech, locale and story, might do much to ease routine censorship and to batter down that organization which is a law unto itself, the League of Decency," Mr. Sobel concludes. (It is assumed that this authority on the motion picture world has reference to the Legion of Decency which, of course, has nothing to do with the production of films but addresses its interest solely to the patronage of completed and released productions and that solely through the voluntary action of its adherents.)

• •

Thus, Mr. Sobel, who bewails what he views as the lack of "realism, innovation and aesthetic principle," in motion pictures, can bring none of those things to his own discussion of the cinema. Is there an iota of realism in the flat statement (without quotation marks) that "everyone who goes to see a motion picture leaves part of his intelligence at the box office"? Is there "innovation" in any part of his particular analysis of "what's wrong with the movies" and his idea of how to set it right? No. It adds up to the same hoary attack that the double-domes have been making on the motion picture for longer than most of us can remember. Is there "aesthetic principle" in Mr. Sobel's damnation of the screen as a victim of "censorship and the box office," or in his remedy—that production devote itself to the literary works beloved by Mr. Sobel rather than to story material which the entire experience of the industry, not excluding production experimentation in the very fields of literature Mr. Sobel enumerates, has proved to be best for it as an international medium for all ages? The answer is no. All Mr. Sobel suggests doing about it is what he decries, we may assume, in the censorship he deplores. He says in effect what the censor says: Stop making what you want, and make what I want instead. If that is aesthetic principle, the screen should be able to do without it.

• •

It would be interesting to know, while on the subject of censorship, whether Mr. Sobel ever has read the Production Code and, if so, just what there is about it that he objects to. Also, whether Mr. Sobel knows how many official censorship boards there are in this country, and if he can name them.

He does touch upon one truism: the relation of the box office and its universal patronage to production. His suggestion for beating that is experimental production, to be undertaken by the industry on a modest scale for limited audiences. Mr. Sobel, like so many of those who perch on the self-elevated barber chairs of the literary clique and drop bricks onto the motion picture from the dizzy heights of their mechanical parnassus, unwittingly reveals in that suggestion that he doesn't get around to seeing motion pictures very often and, therefore, like the others, is something less than well-informed on his subject.

If the industry's own experimentation is insufficient for the likes of Mr. Sobel, just what is there to stop them from opening up this supposedy fertile field, for the development of which they profess to see "millions" waiting?

## WB District Head End Meetings Here

Meetings here of Warner distri managers, which were concluded the weekend, and held under Ben Ka menson, general sales manager, we highlighted by an outline and discu sion of sales and promotion plans f "The Adventures of Mark Twain covering the special premiere and t regular release of the film later in t year.

In addition, Kalmenson determin the handling of four other pictur slated for release within the next fe months. They are: "Between Tw Worlds," "Mask for Dimitrios "Make Your Own Bed" and "Arsen and Old Lace," the latter being s for release this Summer. Nation campaigns and merchandising plans f the films were also discussed Charles Einfeld, advertising-publici director, and Mort Blumenstock, Eas ern advertising-publicity chief.

## Lasky and March In Twain Tribute

Jesse L. Lasky, producer of War ners' "The Adventures of Mar Twain"; Fredric March, star of th film, and Newbold Morris, presider of the New York City Council, wer guest speakers Friday at ceremonie commemorating the 34th anniversar of the death of Mark Twain, held i the Hall of Fame, New York Uni versity.

Lasky paid tribute to the autho mentioning several films which he ha made from Twain's works. He als recounted his meeting with the au thor in the Players Club here man years ago.

## Film Classics Buys 50% Of Circle Film

Film Classics, Inc., has purchase 50 per cent of the stock of Circl Film Laboratories, 33 West 60t Street.

New president of Circle, which re cently expanded to almost double it former size, is Film Classics' George Hirliman. Eric Schoder has beer named general manager.

Balance of the stock is owned by Stillman and Stillman, attorneys, and Tremont Products Corp.

## Walter Mendenhall, Para. Partner, Dies

Walter Mendenhall, Paramount theatre operating partner in Boise, Ida., died suddenly late last week, according to word received at the Paramount home office at the weekend.

## Rialto Case Pending

Decision on the New York Rialto Theatre Ticket Service's suit against city license commissioner Paul Moss is pending following a hearing before Judge Isidor Wasservogel at the weekend. Moss revoked Rialto's brokerage license March 20 when the organization was convicted of charging higher than the lawful 75-cent ticket fee.

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# V OPEN LETTER TO THE MOTION PICTURE INDUSTRY

*National Theatres Amusement Co., Inc.*
*1609 West Washington Boulevard*
*Los Angeles, California*

*Office of the President*
*Charles P. Skouras*

April 24, 1944.

Within a very short time the names of the winners of the "Honored Hundred Contest" of the Fourth War Loan will be announced. Thereafter, these Honored Hundred will be presented, in person, to the Honourable Henry Morgenthau, Jr., Secretary of the Treasury, and Mr. Ted R. Gamble, National Director of the War Finance Division, in Washington. With this function, the work of the National Committee of the Fourth War Loan of the Motion Picture Industry will have been concluded.

We extend our profound appreciation to everyone in our great Industry for the cooperation which has been given us. To every member of the War Activities Committee, to the 195,000 volunteer workers of the Industry who participated in the campaign, to the Hollywood Victory Committee, to the Trade Press, to the Producers, Distributors and Exhibitors whose magnificent support helped us to exceed our goal - "A Bond for Every Seat" - we say, "Thank you!"

In June, the Industry will embark upon the Fifth War Loan Campaign under the leadership of Mr. Robert J. O'Donnell, of Dallas, Texas. No more able or popular leader could have been selected. The War Activities Committee is to be congratulated upon its choice of Chairman.

As the great task in which we were privileged to serve comes to a close, we salute the new Chairman, wish him every success in the job which is ahead and pledge him our fullest support.

Sincerely,

National Committee
Fourth War Loan Campaign,

Charles P. Skouras

CHARLES P. SKOURAS
Chairman.

# Coast Flashes

*Hollywood, April 23*

WALTER ABEL and Kay Francis will appear in Ottawa tomorrow for the official opening of the Sixth Canadian Victory Loan, after which they will tour the provinces. Others aiding the drive include: Katherine Hepburn, Montreal, May 3-4; Joan Fontaine, Toronto, May 10-11, and Gail Patrick, who will tour the Western provinces. Adolphe Menjou and Charles Boyer recently broadcast advance appeals over Canadian networks.

•

M-G-M has announced "The Kissing Bandit," produced by Joe Pasternak from an original musical saga of old California.

•

Jules Levey left Friday on the Superchief to set distribution and advertising with United Artists for "The Hairy Ape."

•

Bruce Manning will leave Universal at the end of the month upon completion of his seven-year writer contract.

•

Shirley Temple will be 16 today. Miss Temple, under contract to David O. Selznick, will be feted by the studio.

•

Warners has assigned "Happiness" to co-producers Julius and Philip Epstein.

## State Theatre Settles Legal Fees Case

BUFFALO, April 23.—After a Supreme Court jury before Justice Frank A. James began hearing testimony in a civil action begun by Attorney Elijah W. Holt to collect legal fees of $3,550 from the State Theatre of Dunkirk, Inc., and six individual defendants, it was announced late this afternoon that the case has been settled out of court with Holt accepting $1,500.

Holt represented the defendants from 1939 to 1941 in litigation by Mrs. Grace M. Lally involving stock of the theatre corporation. He went to great length before the jury in describing the legal work he did which entitled him to the $3,550 fee.

In the aforementioned litigation, the defendants lost the suit and an out-of-court settlement later was reached. The State Theatre, Dunkirk Inc., contended it was not liable and that Holt's payments of about $950 were adequate compensation.

Two of the six defendants filed a counter claim seeking $30,000 from Attorney Holt, alleging he handled the litigation in an incompetent manner. Holt denied this.

## Industrials for Army

Production of films for the Army industrial film service at the Astoria Studios under the supervision of Lt Col. Emanuel Cohen and Capt. Kenneth McKenna is proceeding at the rate of one film communique and one other subject a month. Distribution to war plants is headed by Arthur L. Mayer, industrial film adviser to the War Department.

# "The Story of Dr. Wassell"

(Continued from page 1)

war episode, to which Gary Cooper, as Dr. Wassell, has contributed one of his finest performances, and on which DeMille, who both produced and directed, has expended much of the know-how that endows his cinema with distinction and showmanship. With its setting in the tropical background of Java and the South Pacific, luxuriant, picturesque locales have been chosen which, beautifully photographed in Technicolor, rank high among the production's assets.

THE Allen LeMay and Charles Bennett screen play is based upon the story related to them by Dr. Wassell and 15 of the wounded American sailors who shared the experience with him. It is the story of the Navy doctor's successful efforts, despite great odds, in bringing a group of wounded from two American warships, which engaged the Japs shortly after Pearl Harbor, to safety in Australia from hospitals in Java after the fall of Singapore and the invasion of the Dutch East Indies by the Japs. It is a saga of courage, hardship, suffering and devotion.

Intermingled with the realistic, almost straight narrative account, are touches of humor evolved from individual characterizations and romantic skeins, little more than a by-product of the main adventure story. One of the romances involves Dr. Wassell and an American nurse, played by Laraine Day. Another revolves about an American sailor, loved by a native girl, in love himself with a Dutch nurse, and she, in turn, affianced to a Dutch naval officer.

Warfare sequences, while by no means comprising any major part of the production, are impressively staged, and are, perhaps, among the most realistic outside of an actual war documentary. This is particularly true of sequences depicting Jap bombings of the Java hospital in which the American wounded are being treated. In addition, there are bombing sequences as the badly wounded Americans are being evacuated across Java with a British mechanized unit, a skirmish with a Jap patrol and strafing of the ship on which the evacuees are removed from Java to Australia.

SIGNE HASSO, as a Dutch nurse; Carol Thurston, as a Javanese nurse, and Dennis O'Keefe, as a wounded sailor, are principals in the secondary romantic triangle. The story is leavened by comic by-play and human interest incident in the characterizations of individual sailors depicted by Oliver Thorndyke, Paul Kelly, Elliott Reid, Renny McEvoy and others.

Backed by the thorough promotional campaign being accorded the production by Paramount, "Dr. Wassell" should rank as a top-grosser.

Running time, 140 minutes. "G."* Release, early in July.

SHERWIN KANE

*"G" denotes general classification.

## Powell, Pressburger Due Here in May

LONDON, April 23.—Michael Powell and Emeric Pressburger, makers of "The Life and Death of Col. Blimp," will leave here for New York early in May with a print of their newly-completed "Canterbury Tales." They are planning to be present at the American premieres of both films and will also negotiate, with J. Arthur Rank's "blessing," for American players for Powell's next production here.

Both "Blimp" and "Canterbury" will be released by Eagle-Lion, Rank's American distribution setup, which Arthur Kelly heads in New York.

## Miller, Kilgore Are Promoted by Para.

Sebe Miller, office manager at the Paramount exchange in Memphis, has been promoted to booking manager at the Dallas exchange, the home office has announced. He formerly was in Dallas.

Succeeding Miller in Memphis is Robert Kilgore, who moves up from booker in Dallas. Kilgore was recently transferred to Dallas from Memphis. R. M. Hammond, salesman attached to the Memphis exchange, has been inducted into the Army.

## Sues to Prevent Run Of 'Negro Soldier'

Negro Marches On, Inc., an organization which stated it had been engaged for the past year in production and exploitation of a film entitled "We've Come a Long, Long Way," filed suit in Federal Court here Friday to restrain the War Department and the industry's War Activities Committee from distributing the film "The Negro Soldier."

The action was brought by Jack Goldberg, president of the plaintiff company, and alleged that distribution of the film would put the Government into unfair competition with private enterprise.

The complaint also alleged that some footage belonging to the plaintiff company had been used in the Government sponsored film.

## Coleman's Son Missing

Lester Coleman, traveling exchange auditor for Paramount, has been notified by the War Department that his son, Lieut. Edward Coleman, bomber pilot operating out of England, has been reported missing in action.

## Two Drive-Ins Open

DETROIT, April 23.—The Eastside and the Westside, drive-in theatres located in the suburbs, opened their seventh season recently.

## 776 Theatres Pledge M-G-M Support

**Ten circuits, representing 776 theatres, have sent pledges to M-G-M to show at least one subject with Leo the Lion during the company's 20-year birthday observance week, June 22-28, the company reported Saturday. In some instances, it was stated, the occasion will be the first that the theatres have shown the M-G-M trade mark.**

**Pledges came from Schine Circuit, Wilby-Kincey, Evergreen Theatres, Griffith Theatres, Associated Playhouses, Mullin & Pinanski, Commonwealth Amusement Corp., Warner Cleveland zone, Crescent Amusement Co. and Essaness Theatres.**

## Sees Television As An Industrial Aid

DETROIT, April 23.—Potentialities of television as an aid to industry in the postwar were outlined by Ralph R. Beal, executive of RCA Laboratories, in an address here Friday night before the Detroit Engineering Society. He envisaged television as the coming "eyes" of factories, the "means of coordinating activities in giant manufacturing plants and of peering into places and situations inaccessible or hazardous to man."

Beal further said that television cameras may be used in connection with chemical reaction chambers, enabling an operator to observe the chain of events occurring in complicated chemical production units. In addition, he declared, television equipment might facilitate port movements of ships as well as traffic control in metropolitan areas and along congested motor lanes. He also disclosed that many years of research have already been devoted to color television and it is believed to be a definite prospect.

## $18,300 More from RKO to Red Cross

RKO Radio will send a check for $18,300 to the American Red Cross, representing the profit the company derived from the distribution last season of three one-reel "Victory" short subjects concerned with the war effort. The three one-reelers, produced on a non-profit basis by RKO under supervision of the War Activities Committee, were "Conquer by the Clock," "City of Courage," and "North African Album."

In announcing the contribution, RKO's Ned Depinet revealed that RKO and its subsidiaries had previously contributed $37,500.

## Cleveland Unionized

CLEVELAND, April 23.—The completion of negotiations with the Universal exchange here marks the over-all unionization of major companies along local film row, Dan Cowhig, local F-5 business manager reports. Cowhig stated that the union will next attempt to organize independent exchanges here.

# JOY TONIGHT!

"m-m-m GEE! m-m-m"



"TWO GIRLS AND A SAILOR" with Van Johnson, June Allyson, Gloria DeHaven, Jose Iturbi, Jimmy Durante, Gracie Allen, Lena Horne • Harry James and His Music Makers with Helen Forrest • Xavier Cugat and His Orchestra with Lina Romay • Tom Drake, Henry Stephenson, Frank Sully, Albert O'Neill, Ben Blue, Carlos Ramirez, Virginia O'Brien, Coates, Donald Meek, Amparo Novarro, Richard Connell Wilde Twins • Original Screen Play by Richard Thorpe and Gladys Lehman • Directed by Richard Thorpe Produced by Joe Pasternak

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The glories of its pace, its fun, its romance.
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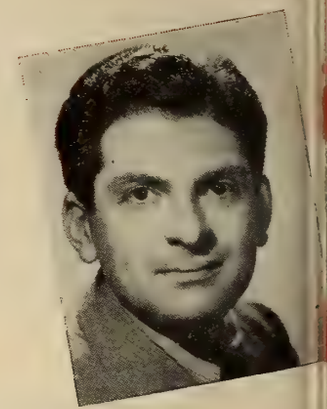
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**Sara Hamilton**—whose lighthearted pen starts the great box-office trek of Photoplay's million with her perceptive reviews.



**Pauline Swanson**—whose personality-and-news stories for Photoplay are "eye-witness" experiences to the above-a-million readers of Photoplay.



**Ruth Waterbury**—Photoplay' gifted reporter of Hollywood new before it happens, and of stars be fore they happen.




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*1,046,896 Publisher's statement of average net paid for 1st 3 mos., 1944 (under U. S. Gov't paper rationing)

AMERICA'S **FIRST** • AMERICA'S **OLDEST** • AMERICA'S **BEST**

# Production Is Slightly Off; 45 in Work

HOLLYWOOD, April 23.—Ten pictures finished shooting, seven new ones were placed before the cameras to bring the total in work to 45 during the past week. The previous week saw nine finished, 14 started, with 48 shooting. The production scene:

**Columbia**

*Started*: "The Crime Doctor's Rendezvous," with Warner Baxter, Nina Foch, Jeanne Bates, Lester Matthews.
*Shooting*: "The Impatient Years," untitled Kay Kyser.
*Finished*: "U-Boat Prisoner," "Rough Ridin' Justice."

**M-G-M**

*Shooting*: "Lost in a Harem," "Maisie Goes to Reno," "Mrs. Parkington," "The Picture of Dorian Gray," "Thirty Seconds Over Tokyo," "Secrets in the Dark," "National Velvet."
*Finished*: "Marriage Is a Private Affair."

**Monogram**

*Started*: "One Man Law," with Johnny Mack Brown, Raymond Hatton, Christine McIntyre.
*Shooting*: "Are These Your Parents?", "A Wac, a Wave, and a Marine," "Alaska," "Three of a Kind," "The Girl Next Door."

**Paramount**

*Started*: "Dark Mountain" (Pine-Thomas), with Robert Lowery, Ellen Drew, Regis Toomey, Eddie Quillan, Elisha Cook, Jr., Virginia Sale.
*Finished*: "Practically Yours."

**P. R. C.**

*Finished*: "Mexican Fiesta," "Brand of the Devil," formerly "The Devil's Brand."

**RKO-Radio**

*Started*: "Tall in the Saddle," with John Wayne, Ella Raines, Ward Bond, Audrey Long, George (Gabby) Hayes, Russell Wade, Clem Bevans, Raymond Hatton, Don Douglas, Elisabeth Risdon.
*Shooting*: "That Hunter Girl," "Mademoiselle Fifi," "Cocktails for Two," "None But the Lonely Heart," "Heavenly Days," "Belle of the Yukon" (International); "Once Off Guard" (International); "Sylvester the Great" (Goldwyn).
*Finished*: "Manhattan Serenade."

**Republic**

*Shooting*: "Port of 40 Thieves," "Haunted Harbor," "Sing, Neighbor, Sing."
*Finished*: "Marshal of Monterey."

**20th Century-Fox**

*Started*: "Something for the Boys," with Carmen Miranda, Perry Como, Michael O'Shea, Sheila Ryan, Vivian Blaine.
*Shooting*: "Irish Eyes Are Smiling," "Keys of the Kingdom," "Queen of the Flat Tops," formerly "Wing and a Prayer."
*Finished*: "The Big Noise."

**United Artists**

*Shooting*: "Story of G. I. Joe" (Lester Cowan); "Abroad With Two Yanks" (Edward Small); "Double Furlough" (Vanguard).

**Universal**

*Started*: "Boss of Boomtown," with Rod Cameron, Vivian Austin, Fuzzy Knight, Tom Tyler. "See My Lawyer," with Olsen and Johnson, Grace MacDonald, Noah Beery, Jr., Alan Curtis, Carmen Amaya and troupe.
*Shooting*: "Pearl of Death," "Make Way for Love," "The Devil's Brood."
*Finished*: "The Singing Sheriff."

**Warners**

*Shooting*: "The Very Thought of You," "To Have and Have Not," "The Doughgirls," "Give Me This Woman."

# Review

## "Double Indemnity"

(*Paramount*)

PARAMOUNT'S "Double Indemnity" rings the bell as a top-notch splendidly acted and brilliantly directed hard-bitten melodrama which packs unusual moments of gripping suspense. It is grade A film fare for the devotees of murder melodrama, with exhibitors provided with the box-office draw of Fred MacMurray, Barbara Stanwyck and Edward G. Robinson in selling it to other customers. Without question it is one of the best films of this class, and full credit for making it so goes to director Billy Wilder.

The tempo which Wilder has set for the grim action of the unsavory story of premeditated murder-for-profit maintains throughout even though it is told by flashbacks with MacMurray fusing the scenes together as narrator. The starting point in Joseph M. Cain's novel as adapted by Wilder and Raymond Chandler, is MacMurray's confession after his perfect crime has been uncovered by the relentless investigations of Robinson, wily claim adjustor of the insurance company for whom MacMurray sells insurance. How MacMurray was enmeshed in Miss Stanwyck's plan to murder her husband, whom she despised, and collect the proceeds of a substantial insurance policy, arranged for by MacMurray, provides the basic action. The "perfect" crime conceived by MacMurray to do away with Miss Stanwyck's husband defies official detection, but Robinson, though fooled in the beginning, soon brings all his experience in crime detection into play. Before MacMurray and Miss Stanwyck can cash in on the proceeds of their nefarious crime, he cracks down upon Miss Stanwyck. In an effort to break away from the hold she has upon him, MacMurray finally kills his partner in crime after she shoots him with the same idea in mind. The confession is indicated to prevent the innocent fiance of Miss Stanwyck's step-daughter from being accused as Miss Stanwyck's suspected partner.

MacMurray and Miss Stanwyck are tops in their dramatic but unsympathetic roles. Robinson's realistic performance as the claim adjustor of the insurance company can be taken as an indication that crime-for-profit when an insurance company is involved is exceedingly risky. Jean Heather and Byron Barr hold up a slim romantic thread as the step-daughter and fiance, respectively. Tom Powers is the murdered husband. Porter Hall, Richard Gaines, Fortunio Bonanova and John Philliber are also in the cast. Joseph Sistrom produced. Miklos Rozsa has provided a neat musical background and John Seitz's camera work is excellent.

Running time 106 minutes. "G."* Released in Block No. 5.

MILTON LIVINGSTON

*"G" denotes general classification.

## Artkino Pictures, Ltd. Formed in Canada

TORONTO, April 23.—The franchise for distributing Russian motion pictures in Canada, held until recently by Cosmopolitan Films, has been taken over by a new company, Artkino Pictures (Canada), Ltd. Permission to use the name "Artkino" was granted by Artkino Pictures, Inc., New York, whose trademark appears on all Russian pictures distributed in North America.

## Werfel Aids 'Song'

Franz Werfel, author of "The Song of Bernadette," will speak by telephone from Hollywood Wednesday to gatherings of motion picture editors, columnists and book reviewers in New York and Boston, in connection with the promotion of 20th-Fox's "The Song of Bernadette." Leonard Gaynor is in charge of arrangements.

## Two Quebec Operator Groups Talk Merger

MONTREAL, April 23. — Proposed merger of the two Quebec projectionist organizations, the IATSE and the Quebec M. P. Projectionists Association, are being discussed by officials of both groups.

The QMPPA has 60 members and the IATSE has three locals, largest of which is the one here with 100 members. The QMPPA has no labor charter but has a permit from the Provincial Government. It has been in existence for 12 years.

## 'Bernadette' Opening

CLEVELAND, April 23. — "Song of Bernadette," 20th-Fox production, will open here April 27 in road show engagements at three first-run theatres: Warners' Hippodrome, Variety and Keith's East 105th St. Prices have been fixed at 75 cents and $1.10. The openings mark the first day-and-date engagements of a road show in this area.

## Will Release 'Naples'

The British Ministry of Information here reports that "Naples Is a Battlefield" will soon be available for release in this country.

Subject matter concerns the Allies' capture of Naples and its reconversion to semi-normalcy following the defeat of the Axis there.

# Hollywood

By JACK CARTWRIGHT

*Hollywood, April 23*

ONE of the most unusual animated cartoon training films in Hollywood is now shooting at Walt Lantz's studio. It is "Enemy Bacteria," combining live action and animated film for the Naval Medical Corps. It is being filmed in the new Technicolor Monopack. Lantz has given the germs, found in a wound infected through carelessness, the roles of cartoon "heavies." He says it will take about six months to complete the animation which runs about three times the average in footage.

•

*Producer Sam Marx has assigned Jimmy Gleason and Tom Drake to top roles in "Airship Squadron Four," on which William Wellman will start direction May 10 at M-G-M. Wallace Beery is starred. . . . Lloyd Bacon will direct "Sunday Dinner for a Soldier" at 20th Century-Fox. . . . Paramount has signed Richard Lyon, nine-year-old son of Ben Lyon and Bebe Daniels. His first role will be in "Fear" with Joel McCrea and Gail Russell.*

•

**Carmel Meyers, lead of the silent screen, will return to pictures after 10 years, in "Give Me This Woman," Hedy Lamarr-Paul Henreid starrer at Warners. . . . "Chili" Williams, polka-dot scanty girl of *Life* magazine fame, has been signed by RKO, where she has been labeled the "gam-orous girl" and given a role in "Having Wonderful Crime," with Pat O'Brien and Carole Landis. . . . Jack Skirball has signed Alma Reville (Mrs. Alfred Hitchcock) to work on the screenplay of his "Fickle Fortune." It will star Fred Allen for UA release.**

•

Allan Lane has begun a second series of Westerns for Republic with Les Selander directing for associate producer Stephen Auer. Peggy Stewart, wife of Don (Red) Barry, will play the feminine lead. . . . Irving Briskin, back from New York, has started preparation on three new productions and at the same time is supervising three in work at Columbia. . . . Nunnally Johnson has put "Once Off Guard," starring Edward G. Robinson and Joan Bennett, before the cameras for International.

•

*Norman Taurog is directing M-G-M's "Seattle," colorful story of the "Queen City" of the Pacific Northwest for producer John W. Considine, Jr. It deals with the effect of the Alaskan gold-rush. . . . Universal has renewed contracts of Robert Paige, producer-director Roy William Neill, and associate producer-director Ray Taylor. . . . Martin Eisenberg has been named executive assistant to producer Frank Melford on "What's the Rush," new Lum 'n' Abner at RKO.*

## Gets Posthumous Award

SCRANTON, Pa., April 23. — The Silver Star for gallantry was posthumously awarded Pvt. Frank J. McLoughlin, formerly of the Strand here and a brother-in-law of George Beattie, Paramount exchange manager in Philadelphia. Pvt. McLoughlin died while rescuing a wounded comrade in the Sicilian invasion.

## Wac Trailer Available For Theatre Drive

**"To the Ladies," special trailer for the Wac's recruiting week in theatres, has been produced by Frank Whitbeck of the M-G-M studio from a script by Edward Schreiber, publicity director of the War Activities Committee here.**

**The trailer, which features Lionel Barrymore, runs 250 feet and will be made available free by National Screen Service to participating theatres in time for the campaign, set for May 11-17.**

## Films Stamping Out Illiteracy: Deer

CHICAGO, April 23.—How films are alleviating illiteracy throughout the world was explained by Irvin E. Deer of the Motion Picture Producers and Distributors of America, and how the Balaban and Katz circuit of 126 theatres grew from the humble beginning of a small store show in 1908 was reviewed by John Balaban in principal addresses at a weekend meeting of the Better Films Council of Chicagoland, commemorating the golden anniversary of motion pictures.

Honored guests included Miss Elizabeth Wetter, secretary to district manager Edward Heiber of Universal, who has been with that company for 38 years, William K. Hollander, BK publicity director, and William Green, M-G-M publicist.

## 85 Matinees Staged For Hospital

OMAHA, April 23.—Eighty-five matinees, sponsored by the local Variety club, were held in Western Iowa and Nebraska recently for the benefit of Children's Memorial Hospital. Drive chairman M. G. Rogers announced that Variety will again provide free film and tickets to exhibitors unable to participate in the campaign.

A screening of "Lifeboat" was held in the 20th-Fox projection room last week. Admission was by purchase of a $100 membership in the Children's Memorial Hospital fund. Tri-States Theatres, under direction of district manager William Miskell and Ted Emerson, will also stage a premiere at the Orpheum.

## B'nai B'rith in Boston

BOSTON, April 23.—Plans are under way here for the organization of a branch of B'nai B'rith for local motion picture, radio, stage and newspaper fields. Maurice Wolf, New England district manager for Loew's, is in charge of arrangements.

## Void 10% Tax on Gross

MEXICO CITY, April 23.—The Federal Supreme Court here has granted an injunction to film and stage theatremen of Nuevo Leon state against a 10 percent levy on gross theatre receipts. The state law was enacted last year.

## Classics Seeks 'Captain'

Film Classics is reported negotiating for world-wide distribution rights of "The Captain of Koepenich," produced by John Hall several years ago. Film has never been released.

# Review

## "Henry Aldrich Plays Cupid"

*(Paramount)*

THE adolescent agonizing of the Henry Aldrich character, played to perfection by Jimmy Lydon, is again the subject of "Henry Aldrich Plays Cupid," latest in the Paramount series, Lydon portraying the irrepressible dreamer, and Charles Smith, his more realistic chum, are principally responsible for an utterly delightful little picture that ideally accomplishes what it set out to do: entertain the entire family.

Perilously close to suspension from school because of the demerits which Vaughn Glaser, a teacher, has generously handed him out of a spirit of sheer meanness, Jimmy stands to lose his chance of going to Princeton. If this happens, he also loses some money left to him by his uncle. He sets out to soften Glaser by getting him married off, using as bait a picture of Paul Harvey, a politician engaged in a bitter fight with his father, John Litel. His ingenious schemes almost bring disaster to his father and himself, but eventually things are straightened out to everybody's satisfaction.

Much credit for the pleasant results should also go to Muriel Roy Bolton and Val Burton, who wrote the screenplay from Aleen Leslie's story. They have provided some human situations and amusing lines which director Hugh Bennett has set off to good advantage. Michel Kraike was associate producer. Glaser, as the teacher, has many tart lines which keep him close behind Lydon for top acting honors. Olive Blakeney is the understanding mother, while Vera Vague lends her bubbling charm and comedy talents to the proceedings.

Running time, 65 minutes. "G." Released in Block No. 5.

CHARLES RYWECK

**"G" denotes general classification.*

## 'One Inch' Opens at Stanley April 26

"One Inch from Victory!" (Hitler's Russian Surprise), a documentary assembled from captured German films, will open at the Stanley Theatre on Wednesday, April 26, following "Ukraine in Flames."

The Nazi newsreels will be exhibited for the first time in any United Nations theatre, although Axis countries have seen them. Quentin Reynolds, *Collier's* war correspondent, wrote the commentary and delivered the narration. Robert Velaise is presenting "One Inch," which was made at Pathe for distribution by Scoop Productions. Noel Meadow was in charge of production, assisted by Maurice Levy.

## Ross Promotes Fick, Ressler, Fitzpatrick

Ross Federal Service last week reported the appointments of three new branch managers for Omaha, Seattle and Washington.

H. V. Fick, who joined Ross in 1936 and has served in Minneapolis, Cincinnati and Omaha, has been named manager at Seattle. Succeeding him in Omaha is L. L. Ressler, who was national service supervisor. E. A. Fitzpatrick has succeeded Paul La Roche, resigned, in the Washington branch.

## Associated Gets Altec

A. MacIntyre of Altec's Southeast district, has closed with W. A. Prewitt of Associated Theatres, for Altec's service and maintenance for theatres in Meridian, Greenwood and Gulfport, Miss.

## Malco and Altec in Deal

H. B. Moog, Altec Service district manager for the Southeast, reports the signing of contracts for continuing service and supplying of parts for the 70 theatres of the Malco Circuit. D. S. Edenfield negotiated for Altec.

## Wellston Theatre Burns

ST. LOUIS, April 23.—The Wellston Theatre here was recently destroyed by a fire, believed to have started in the projection booth. Damage is estimated at $115,000 by John Caporal, president of Wellston Amusement Co.



# Reviews

## "Seven Days Ashore"

*(RKO-Radio)*

THE romantic cavorting of three Merchant Marine seamen of a battle-scarred freighter during a week's shore leave in San Francisco is the basic theme of RKO's "Seven Days Ashore," served in an attractive, modestly-budgeted production with snappy musical and dancing accompaniments. Produced and directed by John H. Auer, the production should provide the customers with a mildly amusing 74 minutes of light entertainment. Gordon Oliver, Wally Brown and Alan Carney are the three seamen, and Amelita Ward, Elaine Shepard and Virginia Mayo are the girls. Marcy McGuire appealingly delivers the major portion of the vocals and dancing to the strains of Freddie Slack's band, and Dooley Wilson has a go at a sentimental little tune.

The screen play, by Edward Verdier, Irving Phillips and Lawrence Kimble from an original by Jacques Deval, serves conveniently to sober Oliver, scion of a wealthy family, who is engaged to Miss Shepard but who becomes involved with Miss Ward and Miss Mayo, two girl violinists in an all-girl orchestra. Finding the going rather difficult with all three on the scene, Oliver is happy to relinquish Miss Ward and Miss Mayo to Brown and Carney. After the usual complications there are three weddings.

Auer has done a fairly good job with the material at hand and his direction is keyed for laughs. Others in the cast are Alan Dinehart, Marjorie Gateson and Margaret Dumont. Mort Greene and Lou Pollock have provided most of the tunes with Freddie Fisher supplying two numbers and a specialty with his novelty band.

Running time, 74 minutes. "G" * Released in block No. 5.

MILTON LIVINGSTON

## "Bermuda Mystery"

*(20th Century-Fox)*

TWENTIETH Century-Fox has gone in for mass murder in "Bermuda Mystery," with a goodly proportion of the cast in a prone position at the end. Ann Rutherford, with an ingratiating performance as the beleaguered girl; Preston Foster, whose persistent attempts to achieve a marital status are thwarted, and Charles Butterworth, delivering an effective straight performance, materially enhance the film. Mixing suspenseful moments with some amusing lines, director Benjamin Stoloff manages to strike a balance between mystery and comedy that satisfies the formula.

Motivation for the action is a pact which six friends signed to contribute $10,000 each to a fund which the survivors are to share at the close of a decade. When Miss Rutherford's robust uncle, Kane Richmond, dies in Bermuda of an alleged heart attack, her suspicions are aroused. Attending the next meeting of the survivors, she discovers another member of the band has died. She enlists Preston Foster, a private detective, in her quest for what she is sure is a murderer. The chase becomes a double one, when the police pick up their trail, too. After five of the original group have been 'picked off,' the mystery is unraveled, the murderer proving to be Butterworth's money-hungry wife, Jean Howard. Miss Rutherford makes a big haul, simultaneously getting the murderer, and also Foster.

Producer William Girard has assembled such well-known character actors as Richard Lane, Roland Drew, John Eldredge, Theodore Von Eltz, and many others in bit parts, for the proceedings.

Running time, 65 mins. "G"* Release in May, block No. 10.

CHARLES RYWECK

**"G" denotes general classification.*

## WLB Upholds Operators

BOSTON, April 23.—Operators at the Majestic Theatre here were upheld in a decision of the National War Labor Board confirming the findings of a regional board which found Allied Amusements, Inc., had reduced the salary of the operators from $83 to $55 per week. The board specified that they shall receive the original weekly remuneration.

## Columbia Films Abroad

Four new Columbia films have been delivered to the Army Overseas Motion Picture Service. The pictures, on 16 mm prints, are: "Cover Girl," "Once Upon a Time," "Jam Session" and "Nine Girls."

## Mulvey Sets 'Arms'

CHICAGO, April 23.—James Mulvey, general manager for Samuel Goldwyn, and L. E. Goldhammer, Chicago district manager for RKO Radio, have today completed negotiations with Emil Stern, vice-president of Essaness Theatres, for the Midwest premiere of "Up in Arms" at the Essaness Woods theatre late in April or early in May.

## M-G-M Wins Award

M-G-M has won the annual Reyer Memorial Award, presented by the film safety awards committee of the National Safety Council, for the Pete Smith short, "Seventh Column." This marks the third time an M-G-M short has won the award.

# Short Subject Reviews

## "The Frog and the Princess"

*(20th-Fox)*

Paul Terry has taken a fairy tale, beloved by generations of children, and deftly animated the story, giving it the best in color and music, for release in the Terrytoon series. It is the story of an enchanted prince, bewitched into a frog, who goes to live in the Princess' castle. He falls in love with her but she ignores the little frog until the enchantment is broken. The prince emerges in shining white armor. The princess falls in love with him and they live "happily ever after." Running time, 7 mins.

## "Champion of Justice"

*(20th-Fox)*

Mighty Mouse undertakes to save a family of little mice from being evicted from their home. Especially for the children, this is a delightful fairy story with appropriate musical background. Mighty Mouse is fashioned after the character of a "Superman" adapted to the mouse world. The kids will love this one. Running time, 7 mins.

## "Mighty Mouse Meets Jekyl Hyde Cat"

*(20th-Fox)*

"Superman" Mouse is on the loose again. His little friends, the field mice, are seen playing in a deserted mansion, which once belonged to Dr. Jekyl. The doctor's cat attacks the mice and "gasses" them with a concoction made by his former master. But Mighty Mouse swoops down from the skies and saves the day spectacularly. The Mighty Mouse series has much appeal for children. Running time 7 mins.

## "How to Play Golf"

*(RKO)*

Goofy, one of Disney's most amusing creations, holds forth on a golf course in this short. The Goof becomes involved in some highly amusing situations and nearly strangles himself in a drive which sends him *and* the ball sailing down the fairway. This is hilarious from beginning to end. It's a real treat. Running time 8 mins.

## "The Zoot Cat"

*(M-G-M)*

Tom and Jerry cartoons continue to rate among the best in entertainment value. In this one Tom Cat is relentlessly wooing Miss Jerry Mouse who doesn't seem to care at all until Tom bedecks himself in a Zoot suit, made from Miss Mouse's hammock cover. Some real fun follows with some wild jive sequences thrown in for more good laughs. Running time 8 mins.

## "Butcher of Seville"

*(20th-Fox)*

The timely story of the butcher who has no meat is told here in operatic arias, resembling nothing like Verdi, Puccini or Massenet could have dreamed of even in their highest moments. The cast is backed by a loud chorus. It's hilarious pandemonium. Running time, 7 mins.

## *Postwar Television Web Set for Canada*

**Toronto, April 23.—Canada will have television networks in operation two years after the war ends, Dr. Augustin Frigon, acting general manager of the Canadian Broadcasting Corp., discloses here.**

**Network plans, according to Dr. Frigon, have already been drawn and await only the end of the war to be set into action.**

## *May 25 Release for Nurse Corps Film*

"Reward Unlimited," one-reeler featuring the U. S. Cadet Nurse Corps, will be released May 25 for distribution through the War Activities Committee, according to Dr. Thomas Parran, surgeon general of the U. S. Public Health Service. The picture was produced on a non-profit basis, at the request of the Office of War Information, by David O. Selznick. Dorothy McGuire and James Brown head the cast.

Meanwhile, WAC headquarters here has announced May 11 for release of "Skirmish on the Home Front," war information film dealing with the importance of conservative buying. It was produced by Paramount and stars Alan Ladd, Betty Hutton, Susan Hayward and William Bendix.

The forthcoming WAC film bulletins have also been set for release: May 4, "Conserve Paper" (No. 16); and May 18, "Victory Garden" (No 17).

## *Watson Heads Regina Exhibitors' Group*

REGINA, Sask., April 23.—J. D. Watson of the Rex Theatre has been elected chairman of the new Regina M. P. Exhibitors' Association. Charles Horning, assistant-manager of the Roxy Theatre, is in charge of public welfare, and Charles Bahrynowski, manager of the Metropolitan, handle publicity.

Other members include: F. L. Willis, and Lenore Williams, Capitol; Christine Graham and Len Joyce, Grand; H. Bercovitch and M. Bloom, Broadway.

## *Krellberg Acquires 6 Original 'Cassidys'*

S. S. Krellberg, independent distributor, has acquired worldwide reissue rights, both 35 and 16 mm, to the original "Hopalong Cassidy" series of six from Paramount. Produced by Harry Sherman and released during 1935-6 season, they are: "Hopalong Cassidy," "The Eagle's Brood," "Bar 20 Rides Again," "Call of the Prairie," "Three on the Trail" and "Heart of the West."

## *Grierson Paid $10,000*

TORONTO, April 23.—John Grierson, chairman of the National Film Board, was paid $10,000 for the year for his services, in addition to receiving $2,515 in traveling expenses for the Wartime Information Board and $517 for a similiar item for the National Film Board, it was disclosed by Secretary of State McLarty in the House of Commons here.

# *Reviews*

## *"And the Angels Sing"*

*(Paramount)*

*Hollywood, April 23*

"AND THE ANGELS SING" furrows the well-worn ground of its many predecessors. It is one more oldie about a "hot" orchestra leader struggling toward the big time, only on this occasion four girls are tied into the plot and its romantic overtones in place of the usual one.

The Angels of Glenby Falls are Dorothy Lamour, Betty Hutton, Diana Lynn and Mimi Chandler. The orchestra man is Fred MacMurray, a good guy underneath but an unscrupulous one on the outside until unalloyed and true love comes his way. When it does, he plays straight and wins Miss Lamour.

The story line, which is musical-comedy and farce and as inane as both usually are, has him borrowing $190 from Miss Hutton so that he and his crew can get a night club date in Brooklyn. To get the money, he makes love to Betty when it is Dorothy he actually cares about. There are mixups which are fantastic, overplayed and a mixture of the funny and not so funny. Eventually, the girls abandon their ideas about collecting the $190 and about pursuing their individual careers for the thing they can do best, which is crooning. The measure of their success is marked by a cafe set about as cozy as Grand Central Station.

If it's credulity they want, they won't find it in "And the Angels Sing". If it's gags, smatterings of funny lines and business, plus Miss Hutton at her atom-destroying best, and Miss Lamour at her usual crooning level, they will get it.

The film's excessive in length. It is drawn from a story by Claude Binyon and a script by Melvin Frank and Norman Panama. George Marshall directed under producer guidance of E. D. Leshin.

Running time, 100 minutes. "G."* Released in Block No. 5.

RED KANN

## *"The Negro Soldier"*

*(War Activities Committee)*

AUDIENCE reaction to the first showing of "The Negro Soldier," gives indication of a fittingly successful climax to the War Department's commendable endeavor to show the American public the Negro at war. Widely heralded by civic and Government agencies, the film is a fine graphic presentation. Exhibitors will find many means of exploitation, using names of contemporary artists, scientists and athletes, like the late George Washington Carver, Marian Anderson, Joe Louis and Jesse Owen, who appear in flashback sequences, along with other well-known Negro personalities.

The story, as it is told by a colored minister to his congregation, traces the role of the Negro in war from the time of the Revolution. Narrated easily and simply, accompanied by flashbacks, are tales of courage in battle, born of the colored man's love of freedom which "has taken root deep in American soil." Choral numbers, reflecting the hope and spirit of the people, are beautifully executed. Col. Frank Capra's direction is excellent. Photographic effects represent one of the Army Signal Corp's outstanding achievements. "The Negro Soldier" is a fine documentary film.

Running time, 41 mins. Release date, April 10. "G."*

HELEN MCNAMARA

**"G" denotes general classification.*

## *Building in Dallas*

DALLAS, April 23.—Construction is under way on a new $75,000 film theatre for Oak Cliff, Dallas suburb, according to an announcement by J. R. Euler, Dallas manager of Tri-State Theatres. The War Production Board approved the project after recommending additional theatre facilities in Oak Cliff to serve both the temporary war housing as well as contemplated private housing.

## *Finishes Mexican Film*

MEXICO CITY, April 23.—June Marlowe, second Hollywood player to appear in a Mexican film, has completed work in "El Corsairo Negro," ("The Black Corsair"). Sally Blane, wife of Norman Foster, now directing here, has also appeared in Mexican pictures.

## *Variety Expects $11,000*

CHICAGO, April 23.—An estimated $11,000 is anticipated in proceeds from the stage show it be given under the auspices of the Variety Club of Illinois at the Civic Opera house here Sunday afternoon, April 30, for the benefit of the La Rabida-Jackson Park Sanitarium. The committee in charge includes Edwin Silverman, chairman; James Coston, Jack Kirsch, W. E. Banford, Arthur Schoenstadt, Johnny Jones, Nate Platt, Tom Flanner, Irving Mack and Hal Halperin.

## *20th's Woman Exploiteer*

Virginia Seguin of 20th Century-Fox's Chicago office has been promoted to exploiteer by Rodney Bush, home office exploitation manager. Miss Seguin, 20th's first woman field exploiteer, replaces Mike Weiss, recently transferred to the company's Philadelphia exchange.

# Showmanship Flashes . . .

### Ship's Interior Features 'Toyko' Boston Display

BOSTON, April 23.—Paul A. Levi, M. & P. Metropolitan Theatre publicist, succeeded in having Bethlehem Steel's Hingham-Fore River Shipyards fix up a layout costing $1,000 for the window of the War Manpower Building here to promote Warners' "Destination Tokyo." Display featured life-size standee cuts of Cary Grant and John Garfield, plus reproduction of the interior of fighting ships built at the yards, with the title, "Destination Tokyo" featured. R. H. White's department store displayed 20 stills, a lithographic display of United Nations flags and an official cross-section of a submarine, all against a background map of Tokyo as the target.

### 'Fighting Seabees' Tie-up With Allis-Chalmers Co.

Republic arranged a national tie-up with Allis-Chalmers, producers of tractors with bulldozer attachment, shown in action in "The Fighting Seabees." Details of the initial promotion at the Riverside Theatre, Milwaukee, were passed on to Monogram branch managers, who were requested to cooperate with exhibitors in arranging similar promotions. Mats of the four-column advertisements which appeared in the Milwaukee *Sentinel* and *Journal* were also sent with photographs of the tractor-bulldozer display.

### Window Displays Aid 'Bridge of San Luis Rey'

NASHVILLE, April 23.—Tom Delbridge, manager of Loew's Vendome here, secured several window displays for the opening of United Artists "The Bridge of San Luis Rey." Radio promotions by stations WSM, WLAC and WSIX also aided the film. Feature stories on the players with art were used in all local newspapers as well as college publications.

### False Front at Shea's For 'The Desert Song'

TORONTO, April 23.—Fred Trebilcock, manager of Shea's Theatre here, revealed that his house, for the first time in its history, constructed a false front to promote Warners' "The Desert Song." A silk banner, 100 x 15, masked the marquee and box office, and two giant cutouts of Dennis Morgan and Irene Manning served as columns.

### 'Women in Bondage' Tied In with 4th War Loan

CLEVELAND, April 23.—Gertrude Tracy, Loew's Ohio Theatre here, tied up Monogram's "Women in Bondage" with the War Loan drive. She had a man garbed as a Nazi soldier in the lobby and every bond purchaser was permitted to break a display board over his head.

## *No Louisville Curfew*

LOUISVILLE, April 23.—The city council here has decreed that no curfew will be ordered despite requests of several civic organizations. A council spokesman declared that a curfew, though it would take children off the streets earlier, would not solve the delinquency problem because they would seek unwholesome recreation in places unfit for them rather than return to their homes at curfew hour.

# Clark to Hold Decree Talks Here Thursday

(Continued from page 1)

were included in the summary which was prepared by Robert L. Wright, Assistant to the Attorney General in charge of the motion picture unit, including the demand for a flat 20 percent cancellation, the freezing of circuits at their present strength, liberalization of arbitration provisions, etc. Several other suggestions also were forwarded because they appeared to carry some interest, including one for the appointment of a lawyer by the Arbitration Association to represent exhibitors bringing arbitration cases, his salary to be paid out of the funds assigned to motion picture arbitration.

So far, it was learned, Clark has made no demands whatever upon the distributors on behalf of the Department, and is not expected to offer any suggestions for changes in decree provisions until some agreement has been reached as to the treatment to be accorded the exhibitors' demands.

# Approval Seen for Schine Purchase

(Continued from page 1)

10 by Clarence N. Goodman, Schine counsel, the brief dwells upon the alleged unfairness of the consent decree, which, it has been charged, "permits the big five to acquire theatres anywhere in the world without going into court to ask permission," while Schine must "come in and show that the acquisitions we wish to make are not contrary to the public good." The current brief again mentions Paramount as benefitting under this arrangement and adds, "The inequity of the situation is shocking."

**Court Order in 1942**

The present proceedings are the outgrowth of a temporary court order issued on May 19, 1942, in which Schine was required to dispose of 10 houses within two years. Goodman seeks a modification whereby some or all of these theatres could be retained and also seeks sanction for the Liberty purchase.

The hearing was adjourned on April 12 to allow time for the preparation of briefs and is scheduled to be resumed tomorrow. Early testimony in the case was given by Mrs. Grace M. Fisher, owner of the Maryland and Embassy in Cumberland, who said she had planned to buy the Liberty to keep Warner Brothers from getting it but had withdrawn her offer when she learned Schine was the bidder.

## *Omaha Office Changes*

OMAHA, April 23.—Staff changes along local film row include the promotion of Esther Granville, former Monogram cashier, to booker for that company; appointment of Marie Baert to replace Dill Boyden as RKO assistant booker, and the additions of Ralph Morgan and Nova Galbreath to the RKO and Republic sales staffs, respectively.

# *Review*

## *"Cobra Woman"*

*(Universal)*

*Hollywood, April 23*

THIS item in Universal's collection of fantasies in Technicolor, starring Maria Montez, Jon Hall and Sabu, is beneficiary of expertness in the writing department which combines with the always opulent production and proficient direction to lift the number above the average of its predecessors. The story is no less a fantasy but, by reason of better telling, a deal more entertaining.

The script by Gene Lewis and Richard Brooks, from a story by W. Scott Darling, opens on an undefined tropical island and moves forthwith to another called Cobra Island, where live gorgeously garbed people who worship the cobra and a volcano. Miss Montez plays twin sisters, a good girl engaged to Jon Hall, and a bad girl who governs the cobra people malevolently until Hall, Sabu, a kindly queen and many circumstances place the good girl in charge of the place. There are bathing-pool, snake dance, romantic and battle sequences.

George Waggner, who produced "Phantom of the Opera," produced this number in the Montez-Hall-Sabu series, with Robert Siodmak, responsible for films as widely varied as "My Heart Belongs to Daddy" and "Son of Dracula," directing.

Edgar Barrier, Mary Nash, Lois Collier, Lon Chaney, Samuel S. Hinds and Moroni Olsen top a supporting cast numbering hundreds.

Running time, 70 minutes. Release date, May 12. "G."*

WILLIAM R. WEAVER

*"G" denotes general classification.

## *Defer Arguments in Jackson Park Case*

CHICAGO, April 23.—Federal Judge Michael Igoe postponed from Friday to May 19 the hearing of arguments for a new trial in the Jackson Park Theatre anti-trust case, which, if granted, would set aside a pending judgment of $360,000 as damages awarded recently to the plaintiff by a jury verdict which also cited the defendants, Balaban and Katz and the major distributors, as guilty of price fixing in violation of the Sherman Act.

If Judge Igoe denies a new trial, defense lawyers plan to appeal to a higher court. Thomas C. McConnell, counsel for the plaintiffs, will file new trial objections on April 29.

## *Wife of Manager in Buffalo Assaulted*

BUFFALO, April 23.—Mrs. D. Purdy Monroe, wife of the manager of a Dunkirk theatre and a stockholder in the motion picture house, was assaulted in her home there by an intruder late last week.

Mrs. Monroe's screams attracted the attention of her mother, Mrs. H. P. Lally, who resides in the upper apartment at the same address. Apparently frightened by the appearance of Mrs. Lally, the attacker fled as she entered the room. Mrs. Monroe told police that during the entire episode, the man failed to utter a word.

## *Ferguson to Atlanta*

MEMPHIS, April 23.—Todd Ferguson, M-G-M exploiteer here and chairman of public relations for the Memphis WAC, has been transferred to Atlanta, as of last Tuesday. He has replaced Emory Austin, who will report for duty with the Army. Ken Prickett, manager of the M-G-M "movie builder unit," working out of New York, will replace Ferguson here.

## *U. S. Ticket Taxes Are Up $2,800,000*

(Continued from page 1)

showed an increase of nearly $9,000,000 over the $34,920,266 secured in the corresponding period of 1943, while for the nine months of the Government's fiscal year, ticket tax receipts were $135,523,833, against $115,432,516 a year ago.

Over $1,000,000 of the March increase was recorded in the third New York (Broadway) district where the revenue more than doubled over February but, for the fifth out of the past seven months, remained under that of the corresponding period a year ago. The third district collections were $2,283,512 against $1,113,539 in February and $2,368,546 in March, 1943.

The bulk of the increase in New York was recorded in box office collections, which jumped from $906,493 in February to $2,074,806 last month.

## *Odeon Increases to 27*

TORONTO, April 23.—Odeon Theatres of Canada now operates 27 houses in the province of British Columbia with the new acquisition of the Abbottsford at Abbottsford and the Gem at Haney, it was revealed by Haskell Masters, general manager for Odeon, here.

## *Jenkins Builds First-Run*

MEXICO CITY, April 23.—William Oscar Jenkins, the American who amassed a fortune in the Mexican sugar industry, has built a new first-run, the Reforma, at Tampico. Jenkins is active as an exhibitor here and in the provinces.

## *Orr Is WAC Chairman*

CLEVELAND, April 23. — Morrison Orr, United Artists branch manager here, has been named co-chairman, with William N. Skirball, of the War Activities Committee in this territory. He succeeds I. J. Schmertz, 20th-Fox branch manager.

# *Meet Here on Appeals Drive*

(Continued from page 1)

age in last year's drive, when $140,000 was raised by the film industry in New York, Monroe Goldwater, attorney and chairman of the UJA's campaign here to raise $12,000,000, called upon industry leaders to seek new methods of supporting this year's drive. He suggested a "special gifts" luncheon or dinner with the industry getting pledges in advance, and urged that an intensive effort be made within the industry to support the campaign.

**Urge Direct Approach**

Answering Goldwater's plea, Harry Brandt, Joseph H. Seidelman and Sam Rinzler urged the direct approach in fund-raising suggested by Goldwater. A committee was finally appointed to study details of the industry's direct participation in the campaign. The committee, which will meet at a Hotel Astor luncheon on Thursday, consists of Barney Balaban, Bernstein, Jack Cohn, Albert Warner, George Schaefer, Louis Nizer, Seidelman, Rinzler and Brandt.

This year's campaign goal of $32,000,000 compares with last year's goal of $18,000,000, which was attained and was almost equal to the needs of the three organizations supported by UJA, the Joint Distribution Committee, the United Palestine Appeal and the National Refugee Service.

**Others Present**

Present at the luncheon in addition to those already mentioned were Malcolm Kingsberg, Samuel Schneider, Harold Rodner, Harry Mandel, Leo Brecher, Arthur Israel, Irving Caesar, Samuel Cohn, Emil Friedlander, Leopold Friedman, Emanuel and Louis Frisch, Irving Greenfield, Samuel Machnovitch, John Mannheimer, Harry Nadel, Abe Olman, Hyman Rachmil, Harold Rinzler, Samuel Rosen, Rudolph Sanders, Max Seligman, Sam Shain and Max Wolff as representatives of the amusement division of the campaign.

## *Hugh Owen Joining Agnew at Vanguard*

(Continued from page 1)

to take place within the next month, it was learned in New York. Owen was not available for comment on his plans but it was reported that he has volunteered to continue in his post until Charles M. Reagan, newly named Paramount vice-president and distribution chief, completes his plans, which are now in work, for filling the several executive vacancies which result from his own advancement from general sales manager and from Owen's withdrawal.

The association of Owen with Neil Agnew at Vanguard is interpreted in the trade as strengthening the general belief here that Agnew's plans call for specialized sales attention to key circuit deals in a limited number of the most important exchange centers, as reported in MOTION PICTURE DAILY on April 5.

Prior to being named Eastern division manager for Paramount in 1942, Owen was district manager for the company at Dallas.

First in Film and Radio News Brief, Accurate and Impartial

# MOTION PICTURE DAILY

Alert, Intelligent and Indispensable to the Motion Picture Industry

VOL. 55. NO. 81 NEW YORK, U. S. A., TUESDAY, APRIL 25, 1944 TEN CENTS

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## UA Majority Hits Control By Partners

### *Six Resolutions Passed At Board Meeting*

By RED KANN

HOLLYWOOD, April 24.—A majority of the United Artists directorate today struck for management of the company as against management controlled operationally by partners via a series of six resolutions which the stockholders will be asked to approve at their annual meeting called for Wilmington, Del., on May 5. U.A. is a Delaware company.

The resolutions, passed by Edward C. Raftery, Gradwell L. Sears, and George L. Bagnall, represent the majority opinion of the directorate which is composed of four men. Only Arthur W. Kelly, representing Charles Chaplin, is missing.

**Interestingly enough and despite their vote for the recent**

(*Continued on page 6*)

## British Technicians Fear Rank's Power

British film studio technicians at their annual meeting in London over the weekend are reported in press dispatches reaching New York from the British capital as having expressed alarm at the industry power of J. Arthur Rank.

Some speakers at the session declared Rank could close down all studios in the country for six months or more in order to get his way on any disputed point. American pictures

(*Continued on page 7*)

## *AMPA Holds Annual Election Thursday*

Associated Motion Picture Advertisers will hold its annual meeting Thursday at the Piccadilly Hotel, for the election of officers, directors and a trustee for the next administrative year, it was reported here yesterday by Vincent Trotta, president.

Nominations are as follows: for president, Martin Starr; vice-president, James Zabin; secretary, David Bader; treasurer, Jacques Kopfstein; additions to the board of directors: Blanche Livingston, Hal Horne, William Ferguson, David O'Malley and Vincent Trotta; trustee for three years, Rutgers Neilson.

## Schine Claims Suit Cannot Proceed With 'Big 5' Out

BUFFALO, April 24.—Final briefs filed in Federal District Court here today by counsel for Schine Chain Theatres, Inc., ask dismissal of the Government's anti-trust suit against the circuit because of the lack of necessary and indispensable parties (claimed to be distributors, earlier divorced from the action), or that the court enter an order that Schine "be not required to proceed further in attempting to dispose of more of its theatre interests."

The brief charges that there is a "travesty on justice" in "the elimination of the 'Big 5,' who are, accord-

(*Continued on page 7*)

## *Ex-Union Officials Under Fire on Tax*

CHICAGO, April 24.—Summonses are understood to have been issued to 400 members of motion picture projectionists' Local 110 for questioning by the intelligence unit of the Bureau of Internal Revenue to determine whether former officials of the union paid income taxes on thousands of dollars allegedly collected as tribute or loans from projectionists, it has been revealed here. The members have been questioned at the rate of three daily.

## *Nine More Pleas for 'Locally Needed'*

**War Activities Committee chairmen in nine cities have filed applications with regional War Manpower Commissions for "'locally needed" designations for exchange personnel in those cities, according to Leon Bamberger, assistant to WAC distributor chairman, Ned E. Depinet.**

**The nine cities are Albany, Charlotte, Dallas, Milwaukee, New Orleans, Omaha, Oklahoma City, San Francisco and Seattle.**

## 'Cover Girl' Will Hit $112,000 in 4th at Music Hall

Business at downtown New York first-runs continues well on the profit side this week with rain failing to have any appreciable effect on most grosses.

The near-record pace set by "Cover Girl" and a stage show continued, with $72,000 recorded on the first four days of the fourth week and $112,000 expected for the full week; the combined show will hold for a fifth.

Combination of "Buffalo Bill" and a

(*Continued on page 7*)

## *Industry Lacks Washington Representation: Cantor*

By CHARLES RYWECK

The motion picture industry, alone of major American industries, lacks adequate representation in Washington, Eddie Cantor, film and radio comedian and producer, said here yesterday in an interview at the Waldorf - Astoria. He deplored the fact that there "was no one powerful enough to command the respect of the people down there. The industry has no one big public-relations man in Washington like the late Ivy Lee," Cantor said,



Eddie Cantor

(*Continued on page 6*)

## Unions to Aid Wac Recruiting Drive

Support of theatrical labor organizations in Greater New York to aid Women's Army Corps recruiting week, May 11-17, has been pledged by William Feinberg of Local 802, American Federation of Musicians; Sol Pernick and Vincent Jacobi of IATSE, Local 1; Thomas Murtha, of IATSE Local 4, and Morris Kravitz of Projectionists' Local 306. These representatives, at a meeting with Major L. E. Thompson and Charles B. McDonald, promised cooperation in all rallies, showings of trailers and other activities during the drive.

Charles Smakwitz, Albany; Charles Taylor, Buffalo; E. J. Fisher, Cleve-

(*Continued on page 6*)

## Zanuck Sees 20 Features From 20th-Fox

### *Warns Against Advanced Admission Policy*

By SHERWIN KANE

Twentieth Century-Fox will release about 20 features, exclusive of specials, in the next year, Darryl F. Zanuck said yesterday following his arrival from the Coast.



Darryl F. Zanuck

Zanuck said the company has "completely dismantled" its "B" picture production organization, which at one time was turning out 26 features per season. The company will make no more "B's", he said, adding that he "can see no sense" in con-

(*Continued on page 7*)

## Argentinians Want Quota Enacted

BUENOS AIRES, April 24.—Forced competition to Hollywood and other film imports by Argentine threatens as a result of a petition by Argentine producers to the Government to impose quota requirements on theatres in this country.

The Argentine Cinematographic De-

(*Continued on page 6*)

## *Spingold, Robbins On UJA Committee*

Nate Spingold of Columbia and Herman Robbins, president of National Screen Service have been added to the film commitee for the participation of the industry in the United Jewish Appeal's 1944 fund campaign to raise $32,000,000 to provide relief and rescue facilities for the Jewish victims abroad. The committee will meet at the Hotel Astor here on Thursday.

Other members of the committee are: Barney Balaban, David Bernstein, Jack Cohn, Albert Warner, George Schaefer, Joseph Seidelman, Sam Rinzler, Louis Nizer and Harry Brandt.

## 414 More Houses To Support MGM

Twelve more circuits, totaling approximately 414 theatres, have sent pledges to M-G-M sales executives of support for the company on its 20-year birthday celebration during the week of June 22-28. With circuits representing 776 houses previously responding, the total of theatres now lined up to show Leo-the-Lion on their screens that week is now 1,190.

Among additional circuit executives responding are: E. C. Beatty, W. S. Butterfield Theatres, with 114 theatres in Michigan; M. A. Lightman, Malco Theatres, with 79 houses in Arkansas, Kentucky, Mississippi and Tennessee; Hugh G. Martin, Martin Theatres, operating 65 theatres in Georgia, Alabama and Florida, and John J. Payette, zone manager for Warner Bros., with 19 outlets in the District of Columbia.

Also: Max A. Cohen, Cinema Circuit, with 13 theatres in New York; Lewen Pizor, 16 theatres in Pennsylvania; Benjamin T. Pitts, 23 theatres in Virginia and West Virginia; Phil Chakeres, 23 houses in Ohio; Frank H. Durkee, 24 theatres in Maryland; O. C. Lem, 16 theatres in Georgia and Alabama; William E. Benton, eight houses in New York state and Irving Dollinger, president of Associated Theatres, New Jersey, booking 14 theatres.

## *Cowdin's '43 Earnings At 'U' Were $239,226*

PHILADELPHIA, April 24.—J. Cheever Cowdin, chairman of the board of Universal Pictures, was paid a salary of $112,672 and $126,554 as a share in earnings during the past fiscal year, it was revealed here today in a company report to the Securities and Exchange Commission.

The income is subject to the 88 per cent Federal tax on incomes above $200,000, indicating a normal and surtax in excess of $100,000 after allowing for ordinary deductions.

The report also showed that $52,000 was paid during the past fiscal year to Charles R. Rodgers, one-time production head of the company.

## *Funeral Services for Charles J. Sonin*

Funeral services for Charles J. Sonin, 55, veteran Loew's Theatres purchasing agent who died at the weekend after an operation, were held yesterday at Park West Chapel. Interment was in Mt. Carmel cemetery, Queens.

Sonin was associated with Loew's for 27 years.

He is survived by his widow, two daughters and one grandchild.

## *Truckers Meet May 15-16*

National Film Carriers will delve heavily into war and transportation problems at its annual convention here on May 15 and 16 at the Hotel Astor. The organization, with headquarters in Philadelphia, represents a majority of film truckers.

# *Personal Mention*

TOM J. CONNORS, 20th Century-Fox vice-president in charge of distribution, and L. J. SCHLAIFER, Central sales manager, returned yesterday after a tour of Midwest exchanges.

•

LOUIS FRISCH, treasurer of the Randforce Amusement Corp., became a grandfather for a fourth time, when his daughter, SYLVIA BARNETT, wife of CAPT. THEODORE BARNETT, gave birth to a baby girl.

•

JOE CULLINA of Warner Theatres accounting department, is a father for the seventh time. The newcomer has been named JOSEPH, JR.

•

EDWARD KERR of the William Goldman Circuit, Philadelphia, became the father of a daughter, PATRICIA ELLEN, born last week.

•

PHIL WILLIAMS, March of Time advertising and publicity director, has returned to New York after visiting Cleveland and Columbus.

•

CARL LESERMAN, United Artists general sales manager, is expected back from the Coast on Friday.

•

IRVIN SHAPIRO, Film Classics sales manager, will return to his desk today after a 10-day illness.

•

JULES LEVY, United Artists producer, is due here today from the Coast.

A. A. WARD, Altec Lansing Corp. vice-president and general manager, has returned to the Coast after two weeks in New York.

•

J. M. FRANKLIN, president of the Franklin and Herschorn Theatres, St. John, N. B., is convalescing from a major operation in Miami, and plans to return to his headquarters about June 1.

•

LT. HARRY BRAUN, formerly sound engineer at the Radio City Music Hall, and now stationed at the Bureau of Aeronautics, Navy Dept., Washington, is in New York for a few days.

•

MORT MARGOLIUS, Famous Players booker in the Toronto home office, is the father of a baby boy, born to MRS. MARGOLIUS at the Mt. Sinai Hospital, Toronto.

•

JAMES E. COSTON, Chicago zone general manager of Warner Brothers Theatres, arrived here yesterday for several days of home office conferences.

•

CHARLES SCHLAIFER, 20th Century-Fox advertising manager, and LOUIS SHANFIELD, art director, arrived from the Coast yesterday.

•

E. L. WALTON, Republic Midwestern district manager, visited Milwaukee last week.

## *Republic to Expand Next Year's Program*

"Announcement of what is reported to be the company's most ambitious production schedule in its history, as well as of its largest appropriation for advertising and publicity," said Republic here yesterday, will be made during the two-day sales conference opening today at the company's North Hollywood studio. J. R. Grainger, president, went West for the meeting, and Western district sales manager Francis Bateman will head a group from that area.

Herbert J. Yates will address the conferences, at which there will also be discussions of forthcoming releases and details of campaigns which will back top-budget productions.

## *Boston Industry in O'Connell Tribute*

BOSTON, April 24.—Led by Sam Pinanski, head of Mullin and Pinanski, New England circuit, the film industry here this week is paying tribute to the late William Cardinal O'Connell, dean of American Catholic Hierarchy, whose state funeral will be held Friday.

Cardinal O'Connell was considered a friend of better pictures and often publicly approved those pictures which he considered uplifting or fit for all to view, just as he often condemned emphatically pictures which he believed unclean or suggestive. "In Cardinal O'Connell, many of us had a warm personal friend," said Pinanski.

## *Linet of Universal On Tour for 'Boys'*

Hank Linet, executive assistant to Maurice Bergman, Universal's Eastern advertising-publicity director, left yesterday on a tour in connection with openings of Charles K. Feldman's "Follow the Boys."

Linet heads a special field force organized for the purpose. In New England they will visit New Haven, Bridgeport and Boston; in Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, Pittsburgh, Harrisburg and Reading and in Ohio, Cleveland, Cincinnati and Columbus.

Total advertising budget for "Boys" is $250,000. For the first 20 engagements, Universal budgeted $100,000 for full page ads, in addition to billboards and radio.

## *Managers Lose to Brandt Circuit*

Harry Brandt circuit headquarters here said yesterday that the New York State Labor Board has dismissed the petition of the Motion Picture Theatre Managers and Employes Guild to have the board investigate the Brandt circuit, the petition and its resultant dismissal growing out of an attempt to force the Brandt group to employ members of the guild only.

## *L. A. Fiegehen Dies*

TORONTO, April 24.—Louis A. Fiegehen, owner of the Eclipse Theatre here for the past 25 years, died at his home. Surviving are his widow and two daughters.

## FPC Tries to Stop Sale of Theatres

TORONTO, April 24.—Mr. Justice Hogg today reserved judgment at Osgoode Hall on the application of Famous Players Canadian Corp. for an injunction restraining Hamilton United Theatres, Ltd., from selling its physical assets to Theatre Properties (Hamilton), Ltd., which is Paul Nathanson's company.

Shareholders of Hamilton United recently voted to accept Nathanson's offer of purchase of the Capitol and Palace theatres in Hamilton in preference to a bid by Famous Players for these houses, which are under lease to Odeon Theatres of Canada, Ltd. The price for the theatre buildings offered by Famous Players was higher than Nathanson's, but the latter had already been accepted.

## *Fred Flom Dies at 77*

MADISON, Wis., April 24.—Fred Flom, 77, veteran showman, died recently. He built and operated the Flom Theatre here.


NEW YORK THEATRES

RADIO CITY MUSIC HALL
50th Street & 6th Avenue
RITA HAYWORTH • GENE KELLY
"COVER GIRL"
in TECHNICOLOR • A Columbia Picture
Music by Jerome Kern • Lyrics by Ira Gershwin
Gala Stage Show • Symphony Orchestra
1st Mezzanine Seats Reserved. CIrcle 6-4600

EXTRA! THE IRISH QUESTION! LATEST MARCH OF TIME RELEASED BY 20th CENTURY-FOX
RADIO CITY MUSIC HALL

RKO PALACE B'WAY & 47th St.
"7 DAYS ASHORE"
Wally Brown - Alan Carney
Marcy McGuire-Dooley Wilson

PARAMOUNT'S
"LADY IN THE DARK"
In Technicolor
IN PERSON
XAVIER CUGAT And BAND
DEAN MURPHY
PARAMOUNT TIMES SQUARE

LOEW'S STATE B'WAY & 45
ON SCREEN
William POWELL
Hedy LAMARR
in M-G-M's
'The HEAVENLY BODY'
IN PERSON
JERRY WAYNE
NAN RAE
and Mrs.
WATERFALL


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REPUBLIC
brings you a
Box Office
CHILLER!
"The Lady and the Monster"

# Coast Flashes

*Hollywood, April 24*

LOUIS WEINBERG, Columbia sales executive, will leave here tomorrow for the East on the Super-chief with his wife and daughter.

•

Jose Iturbi is here for tests for a role in M-G-M's forthcoming musical, "Music for Millions," which Joseph Pasternak will produce and Henry Koster direct. Margaret O'Brien and Jimmy Durante are to be featured in the film.

•

RKO has purchased "Well, Forget It," a William Porter short story.

•

Samuel Goldwyn has bought "Simone," a novel by Lion Feuchtwanger. Teresa Wright will be starred following "Casanova Brown" which is now finishing at International.

## Examine Keough in Para.-Cooper Suit

Austin C. Keough, vice-president of Paramount Pictures, will be examined tomorrow in the offices of O'Brien, Driscoll and Raftery, in connection with Paramount's suit for an adjudication of its rights to stock of the J. H. Cooper Enterprises of Colorado; Rialto, Inc. and Interstate Theatres, according to papers filed in Federal court here yesterday. The examination is pursuant to an order issued by Federal Judge Murray Hulbert on Oct. 14 last.

In the suit, which names Joseph H. Cooper and the corporations as defendants, Paramount seeks to have its rights determined with respect to the 'B' stock of Cooper Enterprises and Rialto, and to half the 'A' stock of Interstate, and to compel Cooper to transfer Paramount certificates indicating Paramount's ownership. The action is based upon an alleged agreement under which Cooper acquired certain theatre properties in his own name, although actual ownership was to be one-half Cooper's and one-half Paramount's.

Cooper's attorney recently completed the examination of Y. Frank Freeman, Paramount vice-president in charge of studios.

## Microfilm Company Formed by Hanson

TORONTO, April 24.—Oscar R. Hanson has announced the further expansion of his business activities in the formation of a company for handling Canadian rights of film recording enterprises. It will be known as Microfilm-Microstat, Ltd.

George Oullahan has been appointed Canadian manager of the new company, formation of which follows Hanson's recent acquisition of Esquire Films, Ltd., handling Canadian distribution of British and Soviet pictures previously distributed through Empire-Universal Films. It has also been announced that the Canadian head office of Hanson 16mm Movies, Ltd., will be established in the same office under the management of H. T. Long, previously general manager of Associated Theatres, Ltd.

# Review

## "Two Girls and a Sailor"

*(M-G-M)*

*Hollywood, April 24*

"TWO GIRLS AND A SAILOR" is a crackerjack of a musical. It is loaded with talent, ingratiating pleasantries and comedy and the remainder of the necessary ingredients to make it resound with loud and emphatic smacks at the box-office. This one is in.

Stripping this to its essentials, "Two Girls and a Sailor" is nothing more or less than a parade of personalities, each one of them doing his allotted and accepted entertainment chore. It has the usual Cinderella-type story, no different and no better than the story trappings in which musicals are almost invariably encased. But, this time, there are pleasant twists, nicely grafted, which lift the results considerably beyond the routine. While the story side is not made any more believable as a result, it is made vastly more entertaining and much easier on the digestion.

The dramatic principals are June Allyson and Gloria De Haven, born to the theatre and well-nigh in the dressing room. They progress until they reach the tops in night clubs and run into cross-fire romance. The romantic wave is provided by Van Johnson for Miss Allyson, via Miss De Haven, by that meaning Miss Allyson gets him in the end while Miss De Haven terminates happily enough with Tom Drake.

The springboard for various performers and performances is (1) the nightclub, and (2) a theatrical warehouse converted magically into a canteen by Johnson, who is heir to a mere $60,000,000 and who does all of this for the girl of his heart. However, it's done on the quiet until the proper time for the telling is concerned. And it's done on the quiet because Johnson wants to win her heart for what he is, not for what he has in stocks and bonds.

Jimmy Durante, the likes of whom is not duplicated, is the comedy source. He digs back into his stage days for songs and gags and registers strongly. So, too, do the feminine leads on all counts. So, too, with the refreshing Johnson. In fact, the whole treatment beyond the canteen angle of the wisp-like story is cleverly developed and progressively maintained. Between that and the night club, there is full opportunity to hear Harry James and his orchestra, Xavier Cugat and his, and Lena Horne doing a specialty and doing it in her accustomed, fine style.

Jose Iturbi, noted pianist-conductor, contributes a splendid De Falla piece for those who want their good music straight. One of the easy highlights is Gracie Allen performing her "Concerto for Index Finger" with the aid of the noted conductor, Albert Coates, and a small-sized symphony orchestra, which shuttles back and forth between readaptations of standard music and the jive kind. Helen Forrest does a vocal number and Lina Romay does several with Cugat. One of the many other easy highlights is "Take It Easy," a comedy-musical number performed in her inimitable style by Virginia O'Brien. Carlos Ramirez is superb in his rendition of "Granada," abetted by the irresistible Cugat music.

That's how it goes, and it goes very well indeed. "Two Girls and a Sailor" is fabricated expertly and always entertainingly from the time Richard Connell and Gladys Lehman put their original script together and thereafter through Richard Thorpe's direction, Sammy Lee's dance direction, Georgie Stoll's musical direction and the overall production guidance furnished with great competence by Joe Pasternak. Supporting roles, delivered praiseworthy, are contributed by Henry Stephenson, Henry O'Neill and Donald Meek.

Running time, 126 minutes. "G."* No release date set.

RED KANN

*"G" denotes general classification.

## Betty Morrissey Dies

Mrs. Elizabeth Murray, 36, who under her maiden name of Betty Morrissey had the feminine lead in the original "The Leather Pushers" series and also appeared between 1920 and 1928 in many pictures, died late last week at St. Clare's Hospital here. Surviving are her husband, Lieut. James A. Murray; her mother, Mrs. Anna Morrissey, and a son, Hugh Edward Murray II.

## Bennett Opens Offices

Constance Bennett Enterprises has opened offices in the General Motors Building here, Jules Alberti, personal manager for Miss Bennett disclosed yesterday.

## New Exchanges Are Planned in Toronto

TORONTO, April 24. — Warner Brothers have acquired a site at Church and Carlton Sts. here on which a new film exchange building will be erected to permit removal from the Hermant Building.

Columbia Pictures of Canada, Ltd., also is understood to be taking over a property in the same vicinity for a Canadian head office, removal from the Hermant Building being necessary because of new Ontario government regulations. Odeon theatres and Empire-Universal will construct a new building on Carlton street nearby for a Canadian headquarters and Toronto branch.

## 'Canary' Flies High In 'Frisco Run, Grossing $28,500

SAN FRANCISCO, April 24.—"Yellow Canary," with Freddie Slack's orchestra on the stage, leads the pacemakers here, getting $28,500 at the Golden Gate. Coasting into second spot is the Fox bill of "Standing Room Only" and "You Can't Ration Love," headed for $24,600. "Cover Girl" is sure of $13,800 in its third week at the Orpheum. Weather good. Total first run business was $168,500. Average is $158,400.

Estimated receipts for the week ending April 25-27:

**"Lady and the Monster" (Rep.)**
WARFIELD—(2,680) (45c-65c-85c) 7 days. Stage: vaudeville. Gross: $23,500. (Average: $21,800).
**"Yellow Canary" (Wilcox-RKO)**
GOLDEN GATE—(2,850) (45c-65c-85c) 7 days. Stage: vaudeville. Gross: $28,500. (Average: $25,000).
**"Her Primitive Man" (Univ.)**
**"The Racket Man" (Col.)**
ESQUIRE—(1,008) (45c-55c-75c) 7 days. Gross: $11,000. (Average: $9,000).
**"Her Primitive Man" (Univ.)**
**"The Racket Man" (Col.)**
TIVOLI—(1,488) (45c-55c-75c) 7 days. Gross: $10,500. (Average: $9,000).
**"Standing Room Only" (Para.)**
**"You Can't Ration Love" (Para.)**
FOX—(5,000) (45c-65c-85c) 7 days. Gross: $24,600. (Average: $24,000).
**"Broadway Rhythm" (M-G-M)**
**"Tunisian Victory" (BMOI-M-G-M)**
PARAMOUNT—(2,740) (45c-65c-85c) 7 days. Gross: $19,500. (Average: $19,600).
**"In Our Time" (WB)**
STATE—(2,306) (45c-65c-85c) 7 days, 2nd week. (Moved over from Paramount). Gross: $14,500. (Average: $12,100).
**"Shine On, Harvest Moon" (WB)**
**"Navy Way" (Para.)**
ST. FRANCIS—(1,400) (45c-65c-85c) 7 days, 2nd week. (Moved over from Fox). Gross: $13,200. (Average: $11,600).
**"Cover Girl" (Col.)**
ORPHEUM—(2,440) (45c-65c-85c) 7 days, 3rd week. Gross: $13,800. (Average: $14,800).
**"It Happened Tomorrow" (UA)**
**"The Whistler" (Col.)**
UNITED ARTISTS—(1,200) (45c-65c-85c) 7 days, 3rd week. Gross: $9,500. (Average: $11,000).

## 15 Are Nominated For Equity Council

The nominating committee of Actors Equity has selected 15 candidates for election to Equity's Council of ten to be held at Equity's annual meeting at the Hotel Astor on June 6.

Designated as the "regular ticket" and announced by Augusta Duncan, chairman of the nominating committee, the 15 candidates are: Donald Cameron, Alexander Clark, Montgomery Clift, Patricia Collinge, Jose Ferrer, Kathryn Givney, Celeste Holm, E. John Kennedy, Philip Loeb, John Lorenz, Philip Merivale, Beverly Roberts, Harvey Stephens, Frederic Tozere and Frank Wilson.

## Marion Harris Killed

Marion Harris, 38, former Broadway star who also appeared in one film, M-G-M's "Devil May Care," opposite Ramon Navarro, burned to death yesterday when a cigarette she was smoking ignited her bed in the Hotel Le Marquis here. She had recently been discharged from the local Medical Center after treatment for shock suffered when Nazi bombs demolished her home in England.

## 'Address' in 43 Cities

Columbia's "Address Unknown" has been set for 43 pre-release engagements in New England starting May 3.

# STEADILY IMPROVED

THE PREFERENCE of cameramen and directors of photography for Eastman Films has a sound basis. In the face of wartime pressures, the exceptional quality of these films has been not merely maintained but steadily improved. Eastman Kodak Company, Rochester, N. Y.

J. E. BRULATOUR, INC., *Distributors*
Fort Lee Chicago Hollywood

# EASTMAN FILMS

# UA Majority Hits Control By Partners

(*Continued from page* 1)

**purchase of Sir Alexander Korda's stock in the face of the unanimous rule procedure long prevailing at UA, the resolutions do not seek to break this method and, in fact, specifically stress the directors' desire to maintain it. Late tonight this was viewed as one effort in the direction of re-establishing harmony within the company and perhaps, a placation of Chaplin in relation to his attitude toward David O. Selznick, which has been described authoritatively as "violent."**

In a statement, Raftery said the directors' meeting was specially held. It was necessary and desirable that the certificate of incorporation of the company be amended so as to make the company more efficient and more able to operate with present-day competitive conditions, his statement read. He said, "The consensus of the directors was that six resolutions which they passed and which now go to the stockholders for approval or rejection, in part or in toto, will be a great step toward U.A.'s being set up corporate-wise and in a business-like way."

### The Resolutions

The resolutions, substantially, follow:

1. That the board be increased from four to nine and that a representative board be elected by the stockholders at their adjourned annual meeting.

2. That cumulative voting, existent in the company since its formation, be retained, the effect of which would give the present stockholders the right for each to elect three directors. He referred to the Mary Pickford Corporation, Chaplin, and Vanguard Productions, Inc.

3. That present restrictions on transfer and sale of stock be retained so that unanimous consent of the owners would be required to sell any new units and that any shareholders desiring to sell must first offer their stock to company and other owners in the same manner as has been required in the past.

4. That by-laws may be amended from time to time by a majority of the stockholders.

### Eligibility Rules

5. That certain eligibility rules be inserted in the charter for qualifications of a director so as to guarantee that no competitive interest will ever sit on the board. This is held to be a proposed safeguard thrown up in view of the recent Korda situation under which he was one-quarter owner of M-G-M's British company and also of UA, yet retained the right to block any UA deals under the unanimous rule procedure.

6. That the board by majority vote shall elect officers, department heads and generally run the company, making it possible to carry on the affairs of UA in quite the same manner as all big business is operated, eliminating the power of veto by any one stockholder.

Raftery's statement terminated by observing that if these resolutions are adopted, UA will take a great step forward.

Having delayed their departure for the East for the directors' meeting, Raftery and Sears expect to leave on the Superchief tomorrow.

It is not essential for the stockholders to attend the Wilmington meeting. The probability is that each will be represented by legal advisers, of course vested with proper voting authority. Isaac Pennypacker, Philadelphia attorney representing Miss Pickford, will also return East tomorrow if transportation is available.

# *Review*

## *"The Hitler Gang"*

*(Paramount)*

"THE HITLER GANG," from Paramount, tells the purportedly documented history of the Nazi Party's rise to power in Germany. It is a powerful, informative film that skillfully avoids the fanatical excesses of the Nazi movement and unfolds as interestingly as a well-written history text book.

Producer B. G. DeSylva presents the lurid history of the Nazi party from Corporal Adolf Hitler's presence in a German military hospital at the time of the Armistice in 1918, when attending doctors first diagnosed his supposed blindness as a manifestation of paranoiacal tendencies to the beginnings of the collaboration of the German High Command with Hitler's grandiose plans for world domination which resulted in the Purge of June, 1934. John Farrow has directed a competent cast with proper restraint, lending added realism to this potent instrument of anti-Nazi propaganda without highlighting it as such. It is difficult to predict the public's response to this production or evaluate the authenticity of its details, although scriptwriters Frances Goodrich and Albert Hackett have apparently drawn heavily on available documents in their well-constructed screenplay. Exhibitors will have to sell it to their customers on the basis of the story it tells without resorting to sensationalism or big box-office names, of which this film has none.

Among the highlights in the Nazis' rise to power with which this film deals dramatically and effectively are the unsuccessful Munich beer-hall putsch in 1923, the burning of the Reichstag, and the 1934 Purge of the Nazi party as dictated by the German High Command. The early beginnings of the party are attributed to the army's attempt to overthrow the Republic, with German officers like General von Ludendorff as sponsors behind the scenes. Subsequent history after Hitler's appointment as commander in chief of the Germany Army is treated in a brief series of montage shots.

The entire cast, headed by Robert Watson as Hitler, gives a splendid account of itself with casting and makeup attaining near-perfection. Featured are Roman Bohnen, Victor Varconi, Alexander Pope, Tonio Selwart, Martin Kosleck, Fritz Kortner and Luis Van Rooten. Ernest Laszlo's photography is excellent. Joseph Sistrom was associate producer.

Running time, 101 minutes. *"G."* Released in Block No. 5.

MILTON LIVINGSTON

**"G" denotes general classification.*

## *Argentinians Want Quota Enacted*

(*Continued from page* 1)

partment, official agency, has presented to exhibitors the producers' petition that first-run theatres should exhibit native products to a minimum of 33 percent of all screen time, and that all other houses exhibit a smaller ration, plus devoting two Saturdays and two Sundays monthly to native films. The petition also requests that rentals of a minimum of 40 percent be imposed for Argentine pictures.

The producers contend that their situation is critical and that native production needs protection. It is understood that exhibitors are preparing to prove that the contrary is true.

# Unions to Aid Wac Recruiting Drive

(*Continued from page* 1)

land; Jerry Zigmond, Kansas City; Seymour Peiser, Los Angeles, and Cecil Vogel, Memphis, were added yesterday as field public relations chairmen for the recruiting week. They will take charge of publicizing the drive in their respective territories.

At a joint meeting of Metropolitan New York exhibitor chairmen and local publicity committee for the industry's Women's Army Corps recruiting week, May 11-17, held at War Activities Committee headquarters here yesterday afternoon, chairman Edward L. Alperson gave an over-all picture of pre-drive efforts to date. Charles C. Moskowitz was represented by Mike Rosen, while Edward Dowden presided over publicity aspects, after an introduction by Harry Mandel, national publicity director.

Among those present were Oscar Doob, Gene Meyers, Irving Liner, Louis Goldberg, Fred Schwartz, John Hearns, Michael Edelstein, Sigurd Wexo, Ernest Emerling, John Cassidy, Blanche Livingston, Paula Gould, Janice Rentchler, Al Naroff, Mike Siegel, Peggy Foldes, Edgar Goth, Irving Ludwig, Ray Malone, William Slater, Al Zimbalist, Sol Handwerger, Sid Kain, Ira Morais, Norman Greenberg and Paul Sherman.

# Film Industry Lacks Representation in Capital: Cantor

(*Continued from page* 1)

who could place the industry's story of its war and public contributions before proper parties and so secure some solutions for its own problems.

Cantor made this assertion prompted by the problem of summer cooling which is facing theatres. Lack of freon gas for use in cooling plants was cited as a case in point by the comedian. "It is a pity that because of a lack of cooling, millions of people will stay out of theatres and will turn to other pleasures," he declared.

"There are three or four men now in Washington who can do the job of presenting a legitimate case for the industry, someone who will be respected," Cantor said. He declined to name specifically the men he had in mind. Cantor ascribed the industry's lack of representation to the fact that "there isn't complete unity in the industry. If the men in it were big enough to sit down and bury their own differences, they might agree on some kind of effective representative for an industry point of view," he declared.

### Current Attempts Insufficient

Current industry attempts at unity between exhibitors and distributors are not enough, he said, referring, for one, to the program advocated by William F. Rodgers, M-G-M vice-president in charge of sales. "This is the only industry that's not making money actually out of the war; the only industry that gives things away for the war, yet the last industry that Washington thinks of," he said. "Of course theatre business is good, but where do you find an industry that gives a part of its output to the Government for nothing. The steel industry and the automobile industry certainly are not doing this," he asserted.

Turning to plans for his next production Cantor, who recently produced "Show Business" for RKO-Radio as well as appearing in it, said he was reading stories. "If I find something for me in it, I'll do it, otherwise I will just produce it."

### Remains Here Two Months

Cantor, who arrived in New York Sunday from the Coast, expects to remain in the East for two months. Enroute back he will make personal appearances at camps and hospitals.

Upon his return to the studio he hopes to produce his next picture with his own self-contained unit within RKO, consisting of his own director and writer. He is also desirous of aiding in the exploitation of the picture and of participating in the profits.

Cantor will be honored at a testimonial dinner at the Hotel Astor on May 6 on the occasion of his 35th year in entertainment, to be given by nine theatrical guilds and organizations.

## *Cline Heads 'Movieland'*

Dorris Cline, formerly chief assistant to Ruth Waterbury, motion picture fan-paper editor, has been appointed editor of *Movieland*, the Hillman publication from which Miss Waterbury resigned last week to join *Photoplay*. Miss Cline will make her headquarters in Hollywood.

# 'Cover Girl' Will Hit $112,000 in 4th at Music Hall

(Continued from page 1)

stage show headed by Paul Whiteman and his orchestra, and Joan Edwards and Victor Borge, at the Roxy, has counted $75,000 for the first five days and close to $100,000 is expected for the first week. The Capitol expects a second week of $56,000 with "Broadway Rhythm" and a stage bill featuring Ginny Simms and Frankie Carle's band getting $41,500 on the first four days. The bill will hold for a third with M-G-M's "Gaslight" set to follow.

### Tenth Week for 'Lady'

"Lady in the Dark" and the Xavier Cugat-Dean Murphy stage show will start a 10th week at the Paramount this morning after rolling up $55,000 on the ninth. More than 900,000 persons have already seen the film here with more than 1,000,000 expected to see the picture here in its run of 10 weeks, ending next Tuesday. The Bing Crosby starrer, "Going My Way," will follow on May 3. "Uncertain Glory" and a Ted Lewis stage show at the Strand are expected to have a third week's take of $38,000 on the basis of a three-day weekend of $21,378. The combination will hold for a fourth week.

"The Song of Bernadette" will probably hit $35,000 in its 13th week at the Rivoli on the basis of $25,000 grossed on the first five days; it will hold. "See Here, Private Hargrove" is expected to get $24,000 in its fifth week at the Astor and will hold. Third week for the revival of "Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs" at the Manhattan brought $23,700 and the picture will start a fourth this morning. Tenth week of "Passage to Marseille" at the Hollywood will yield about $14,000; it will continue until it makes way for "The Adventures of Mark Twain" on May 3.

### 'Boys' Opens Today

Universal's "Follow the Boys" will open at the Criterion this morning, following "Lost Angel" which wound up its second week below early estimates to record about $20,000 on its final ten days ending last night. "Up in Mabel's Room" is expected to have a first week's gross of $15,000 at the Gotham on the basis of the three-day weekend business of $8,300. It will hold over. So will "Knickerbocker Holiday," at the Victoria, where $13,000 is expected for the first week, ending tonight. Second week of "Address Unknown" at the Globe is expected to gross $13,500 on the basis of Saturday and Sunday's $6,300. The picture is expected to hold over for a third week with Paramount's "The Hitler Gang" set to open there on May 6. "Lady and the Monster" is expected to hold for a fourth week at the Rialto with the third week expected to gross $7,000 on the basis of a three-day weekend business of $5,400. "Yellow Canary" will wind up its final five days at the Palace with $12,000. RKO's "Seven Days Ashore" will open there this morning and Universal's "This Is the Life" will start a first-run at the State on Thursday.

# *Zanuck Predicts 20th-Fox To Have About 20 Releases*

(Continued from page 1)

tinuing such production under current market conditions.

"With the millions of new patrons who are attending theatres today," Zanuck said, "the industry has a great opportunity at hand. Good pictures only should be made and the new theatregoers should be educated with the best the screen can offer. Such a policy will pay terrific dividends later on. Motion pictures can live for the next 10 years on the reputation they make for themselves now.

### Sees Chance for Better Product

"We should scrupulously avoid any effort to take advantage of the public in these times. All of the companies are making big profits now. After a certain point the bulk of earnings is consumed by taxes. Therefore, a large portion of the high, current earnings should be invested in better product. To do anything else would be stupid. It is the industry's opportunity to explore new production avenues, to serve its old customers well and to keep for the future the new customers of today," Zanuck said.

The 20th Century-Fox production chief warned against exhibition of too many pictures at advanced admission scales, asserting that the practice, when applied to any production not of the highest quality, endangers theatre patronage everywhere. Production cost should not determine an advanced admission policy, Zanuck said.

### Condemns 'Stinging' Public

"We cannot afford to 'sting' the public," he said. "Many pictures are shown at advanced admissions that are not entitled to that treatment and the people doing it know that some of the pictures are lacking in quality."

He said that the policy is the responsibility of the distributor, not the producer.

Zanuck, who will be in New York for the rest of the week, said he came here to discuss distribution plans for "Wilson" with Tom Connors, 20th Century-Fox vice-president and distribution head, and the latter's staff; to confer with Moss Hart on plans for "Winged Victory," and with Wendell Willkie on production of the latter's "One World."

He said that Willkie, prior to withdrawing as a candidate for the Republican Presidential nomination, had requested that "One World" not be made or, if it was made, that it not be released until after the election next November. While here, Zanuck will ascertain Willkie's present views on the production. He said he would like to go ahead with "One World."

### 'A Great Script'

"We have a great script," he said. "And it must be remembered, 2,000,000 copies of that book were sold."

Zanuck spoke of "Wilson" at considerable length and with great enthusiasm. The production will represent an investment of $4,000,000, with prints, he said, and its running time is two hours and 43 minutes. He said it was his most difficult production to shoot, and his easiest to put together. The major part of the editing was accomplished in three hours and it was turned over to Technicolor within three weeks of its completion. It will be given a New York premiere, Zanuck said, some time between mid-July and Aug. 1, probably in two Broadway theatres, one on a two-a-day policy, the other continuous.

### 'Wilson' a New Realm

"'Wilson' explores a production realm that films never before have entered," Zanuck said. "I am sure most people will find it a new entertainment experience."

Asked if there was any possibility of Hal Wallis joining 20th-Fox Zanuck replied that "it is difficult nowadays for any company to make an attractive proposal to anyone of Wallis's capabilities. My guess is that he will go into independent production."

## *One Objectionable, 9 Passed by Legion*

Columbia's "Address Unknown" has been rated Class B, objectionable in part, because of "sympathetic treatment of revenge element in the story." Nine others were approved by the Legion.

Rated Class A-1, unobjectionable for general patronage, were: "Adventures of Mark Twain," Warners; "The Girl in the Case," Columbia; "Shake Hands with Murder," PRC Pictures; "Slightly Terrific," Universal, and "Two Girls and a Sailor," M-G-M.

Rated Class A-2, unobjectionable for adults, were: "Pin Up Girl," 20th Century-Fox; "Resurrection," Clasa. (Spanish); "Show Business," RKO, and "The Whistler," Columbia.

## *Union Elects 'Cantinflas'*

MEXICO CITY, April 24.—"Cantinflas," Mexican screen comedian, who is Mario Moreno, vice-president of Posa Films in private life, has been elected secretary general of Mexico's new union, "The clown bull-fighters."

## *British Technicians Fear Rank's Power*

(Continued from page 1)

could be used for that time in all Rank controlled houses, they pointed out.

"Twenty million pounds go every year to Hollywood from our cinemas," said Ralph Bond of the general council of the Association of Cine-Technicians. "More of that money should go into the British industry, and one of the best measures is to raise the quota."

Bond further suggested public ownership of the film industry and the establishment of a film credit bank from which independent producers could get "reasonable assistance" to start making pictures.

## *Coe in Minneapolis Today*

MINNEAPOLIS, April 24.—Charles Francis Coe of the Motion Picture Producers and Distributors of America is scheduled to speak here tomorrow before the Minneapolis Executive Civic and Commerce Association.

# Schine Claims Suit Void If 'Big 5' Out

(Continued from page 1)

ing to the terms of the complaint the principal malefactors, in accordance with a commitment made to them by the Government so as to free them from the jurisdiction of this court, while continuing to make the same accusation against them and seeking the same relief against these defendants on account of the alleged unlawful actions of the very defendants dismissed, who were retained as non-defendant distributors."

Schine declares it is in a better position to operate the remaining unsold 10 theatres ordered divested "without loss and to maintain them in a proper condition than would be the case with any trustee. The brief queries, "If trustees are appointed, for whom are they to be trustees?", pointing out the houses are still owned by the defendants. "The appointment of a trustee would cause ruinous expenses and further deterioration to the theatres," it adds.

The brief described an "indispensable party" as one without whom a suit cannot proceed. "The action must be dismissed because the 'Big 5' are indispensable parties and having been dismissed on application and consent of the plaintiff, they cannot be brought into the action," it concludes.

### Wright, Prosecutor, Is Charged with Bias

BUFFALO, April 24.—Robert L. Wright, special attorney for the Department of Justice, is charged with "personal antipathy" to the Schine Circuit Theatres' acquisition of the Liberty Theatre, Cumberland, Md., in a brief filed in Federal District Court here over the weekend in the pre-trial proceedings of the Government's anti-trust suit against Schine.

The brief, as reported yesterday in MOTION PICTURE DAILY, cites a letter to Thomas Burke, owner of the Liberty, in which Assistant U. S. Attorney General Tom C. Clark allegedly sanctions Schine's taking over the house provided the court gives its approval also. The latter is described as accentuating "the consistent position" of Clark in that "he desired no discrimination against the Schines and that, to the contrary, he felt they should receive the same treatment the 'Big Five' had been accorded." Paramount, competitor of the circuit, it is pointed out, has been permitted to acquire additional theatres since the entry of the consent decree.

Claiming that the purchase by Schine would be definitely in the public interest because the circuit has been able to obtain and show good product in good and bad times, the brief calls Judge John Knight's attention to Wright's statement that "the Schines were the last ones he wanted to buy this theatre."

## *'Guerillas' to Columbia*

Columbia will release "Underground Guerillas" May 18. The picture, starring Mary Morris, Godfrey Tearle, John Clements and Tom Walls, was directed by Sergei Nolbandov and produced by Michael Balcon in England.

# AT THE HEAD OF THE PROCESSION!

WE didn't get into first position by stepping in there self-invited We got there because we were put there and by the best brains of this business By Exhibitors who want action, lots of it, and fast Exhibitors who haven't time to monkey with media that isn't fool-proof Exhibitors who want the straightest line between the ad and the box office and want that line full of feet all going the same direction Quite naturally, a quicker, surer, cheaper way to sell shows has put us at the head of the procession.





NATIONAL Screen SERVICE
PRIZE BABY OF THE INDUSTRY

STANDARD ACCESSORIES • TRAILERS • SPECIAL ACCESSORIES

First in Film and Radio News Brief, Accurate and Impartial

# MOTION PICTURE DAILY

Alert, Intelligent and Indispensable to the Motion Picture Industry

VOL. 55. NO. 82 NEW YORK, U. S. A., WEDNESDAY, APRIL 26, 1944 TEN CENTS

DO NOT COPY REMOVE

## Calls for Move For Theatre Tele. Channels

### *Austrian Seeks Meetings To Evolve Film Policies*

Moving to evolve a film industry policy and crystallize industry thought on post-war television possibilities for theatres, Ralph Austrian, RKO's television consultant, is understood to have written to heads of the other four film companies with theatre affiliations suggesting a conference to include their television representatives.

**The purpose of such a conference would be to give consideration to action that should be taken now to guarantee availability of suitable television channels for theatre telecasting.**

Necessity for such a conference now, it is held, is that the film industry does not have any representation on

(*Continued on page 4*)

## *Probe Acting In Television*

A joint television committee from Actors' Equity, Screen Actors Guild and the American Federation of Radio Artists is undertaking an investigation of existing conditions and practices in the television appearances of their members to correct abuses, the joint committee announced here yesterday.

Among the conditions and practices

(*Continued on page 4*)

## *Argentina Threatens Film Import Ban*

BUENOS AIRES, April 25.—Argentina will curtail or prohibit importing of American films, unless the United States supplies Argentine motion picture companies with raw film needed for production, the United States was warned today by Dr. Mario Molina Pico, film section director of the government press and information office.

As a result of severe censoring of Hollywood product in Argentina, the United States recently suspended raw film shipments. An understanding was later reached, whereby the shipments would be resumed on condition that the Argentine government withdraw from raw stock distribution, and banning of American films be stopped.

## *Gov't Eases Lumber, 16mm Raw Stock for Studios*

WASHINGTON, April 25.—Slightly augmented supplies of 16mm positive film for civilian use as the result of a military cut-back, also enough lumber to meet the needs of the studios during the remainder of this year, will be made available soon by the War Production Board, it was indicated here today, although the situation with regard to both commodities still is described as "tight." Officials promise no substantial relief in the 16mm field for many months.

Reports of studios using more than 50,000 feet of lumber quarterly, showing their requirements for the rest of the year, are now being filed with the films section of the War Production Board, which will make allocations to individual studios out of its over-all allotment.

Officials of the WPB section said

(*Continued on page 4*)

## Col. Adds, Changes Eight in Publicity

Further expansion of Columbia's national exploitation-publicity activities, has been effected through eight promotions and additions to the home office and field staffs, as disclosed here yesterday by Frank P. Rosenberg, national director of advertising-publicity.

Ted Baldwin, who joined Columbia from the hotel publicity field in 1942,

(*Continued on page 4*)

## *Variety Clubs Eying N. Y. for Fall Meet*

National Variety Clubs will hold their 1944 convention early in the Fall, with New York a possibility as the convention city. Previous plans to meet in the Spring have been abandoned because of the appointment of Robert O'Donnell, chief barker, as chairman of the industry's Fifth War Loan drive.

Final arrangements for the convention will be completed after Aug. 1, when O'Donnell will have finished his bond drive duties. The convention is scheduled to run three days.

Since only a limited number of local barkers are expected to attend, several tents have put forth proposals that their cities be the scene of the convention. If none of three cities under consideration is approved, the meeting will be held in New York under the auspices of the national organization, such as was the Atlantic City convention some years back.

The last convention was held in Chicago in February, 1943.

### *British Ticket Tax Remains at 33-1/3%*

**London, April 25. — The Chancellor of the Exchequer presented the new budget to the House of Commons today. As previously forecast in *Motion Picture Daily*, the theatre ticket tax will remain unchanged. At present it is scaled from 32 to 33-1/3 per cent.**

## Ball Charges Para. Restrains Trade

PITTSBURGH, April 25. — Harry Norman Ball, Philadelphia owner of the Penn Theatre in Ambridge, has filed suit in U. S. District Court here against Paramount Pictures, operator and stock-owner in Pennmore Theatre Corp., of which A. N. Nolopoulos is president, and which owns the Penn.

He asks that the defendant be restrained from removing equipment, seats and furniture from the Penn, claiming that defendant has conspired to destroy the value and production possibilities of his theatre by erecting another building nearby. Also, the plaintiff states that acquisition of stock in Pennmore lessens competition and is in restraint of trade, in violation of the Sherman and Clayton acts.

The Penn, he says, is in his possession under a lease of May 22, 1937, with terms expiring April 30, 1944.

Attorneys Roy G. Bostwick and Jos. W. Henderson, of Thorp, Bostwick, Reed and Armstrong, and Rawley and Henderson, filed the action.

## *Public Tired of War Films, Says O'Shea*

MEMPHIS, April 25.—"Motion picture fans want escapist films; they are anxious to get away from the war and are demanding more musicals and dramas from well known books," declared E. K. (Ted) O'Shea, M-G-M Eastern, Southern and Canadian sales manager, in a press interview here. He was in town to attend the induction of J. F. Willingham as manager of the company's local branch office, replacing Louis C. Ingram.

O'Shea left here today to continue a tour of exchanges, visiting New Orleans, Atlanta, Charlotte and Washington, before returning to the home office next week.

## WPB Speeds Projector Manufacture

### *Expands Production in Tight Labor Areas*

WASHINGTON, April 25.—The manufacture of 340 recently authorized projector units may be expedited by the revocation of a War Production Board prohibition against expanding civilian production in tight labor areas, it was learned here today. Permission to release the projectors, if and when they could be built, was given last week to Allen G. Smith, chief of WPB's theatre equipment section.

**The relaxation on civilian production, expected to be defined within the next day or two, will solve a major problem of the projector program, that of producing the machines without imperilling the relative competitive situation of the several manufacturers.**

Looking ahead to postwar conversion and recognizing the necessity for start-

(*Continued on page 4*)

## *Stage Shows Hit by Code*

Proposed revisions in the state building code will make it virtually impossible at this time to use stage shows because of extensive building alterations that would be required, most of which would be impossible because of WPB priorities. New York State exhibitors, who have been studying proposed revisions for the state building code for places of public as-

(*Continued on page 4*)

## *Cancels $600,000 Extortionists' Bail*

Federal Judge Alfred C. Coxe yesterday discharged bail aggregating $600,000 in cash posted by the six Capone gang members who were sentenced to ten years' imprisonment for extorting more than $1,000,000 from the film industry.

Half of the amount posted by the six was bail for the extortion case, the other half being bail for a companion case, soon to be tried, accusing them of mail fraud in connection with the disposition of a $1,500,000 fund collected from members of the IATSE by means of a two percent wage tax.

# Personal Mention

BEN GOETZ, M-G-M studio managing director, has arrived in New York from London.

•

PHILIP KEENAN, general manager and vice-president of Hillman Publications, left yesterday for a week's stay in Lakewood, N. J. HAROLD HUTCHINS, advertising director, has returned to the Hillman home office from Chicago.

•

W. C. GEHRING, 20th Century-Fox Western sales manager, and HAL HORNE, advertising and publicity director, arrived in New York yesterday from the Coast one day late, due to flood delays in the Midwest.

•

JAMES COSTON, Warner Circuit Chicago zone manager; MOE SILVER, Pittsburgh zone manager, and HARRY FEINSTEIN, his assistant, will return to their respective headquarters today from New York.

•

JOHN BALABAN, Balaban and Katz Theatre executive, and NATE PLATT, head of the circuit's stage booking department, left for Chicago last night after a New York visit.

•

OCTAVUS ROY COHEN, JR., of the Office of the Co-ordinator of Inter-American Affairs, was married to KATHERINE VAN ELLEN Monday.

•

WILLIAM N. SKIRBALL, head of Skirball Brothers Circuit, Cleveland, has returned to that city after two months in California.

•

JOHN JENKINS of Jenkins and Bourgeois, Dallas, film distributors, will arrive in New York today.

•

MORRIS L. ERNST, attorney, is in London on a business trip.

## Wallis Prolonging His Stay in N. Y.

Hal Wallis will extend his New York visit into next week in order to complete conferences on several proposals for future associations which he has been studying since his arrival here 10 days ago, the producer said yesterday.

Wallis originally planned to leave for the Coast on Friday, but said yesterday his current discussions can not be completed by then. He said he has made no decision as to his future activity yet.

## Coe in K.C. Today, In Dallas, May 4

Charles Francis Coe of the Motion Picture Producers and Distributors of America is scheduled to address the Kansas City Chamber of Commerce at the Muhlebach Hotel today. He will speak in Dallas on May 4 before the Salesmanship Club of Dallas at the Dallas Athletic Club. Yesterday he appeared before the Minneapolis Executive and Commerce Association. All are part of the industry's goodwill promotional series.

# Insider's Outlook

By RED KANN

*Hollywood, April 25*

HOLLYWOOD'S most exciting drama these days, by any and all odds, continues to be the unresolved situation at United Artists.

It is more than an intra-company squabble. Its weavings and its inter-weavings, of uncertain pattern of the moment, are intricate enough to leave impress on producers, their product and their releasing alliances. That's where the theatreman comes in.

■

Whether Charlie Chaplin will go down the line sufficiently to seek an injunction for receivership is viewed in several lights. To begin with, he is known to have made such a statement.

Some analysts incline toward the belief this is a "scare" tactic on his part and that he won't go through because he is a one-third owner of the company which he thereby would place under mandate of the courts.

Other analysts incline toward crediting the intention as a prelude to the deed itself because Chaplin is as actively anti-David O. Selznick as perhaps he can be and because events appear to be shaping into an outline which may not be large enough to hold both of them in the same company.

■

The situation has one amusing angle, at least. It was Chaplin who kept Selznick up until 4:30 one morning some time ago, persuasively arguing with him to accept a partnership in UA. Either Selznick did not want it, or was playing hard to get. That angle is not clear, but the 4:30 A.M. and the Chaplin business are.

Now that David O. is in, and has been for time, Chaplin appears to have lost interest in his original enthusiasm to the extent of turning away from Selznick and of allegedly having observed he will use every resource and every device in his arsenal to vitiate the deal.

In fact, the understanding is Chaplin recently tried to persuade Selznick out of the company by dangling a release from the latter's arrangement under which he is committed to deliver five pictures.

■

Originally on the signed line to deliver ten before the stock interest held in escrow actually became his, the Selznick deal subsequently was amended to permit him to deliver five, then make up his mind about another five after which the stock enters his possession.

It is not believed, however, that David has any escape from the commitments on the first five. Further, it is not believed he seeks any escape, but intends going through. This, in another form, is a re-substantiation of the statement made by him through Danny O'Shea, president of Vanguard, that Vanguard (another name for Selznick) is tying the future to UA.

■

The move toward operation by management through management's designated directors as against management by ownership undoubtedly has Selznick's sympathy as well as Mary Pickford's. He reputedly has made this observation:

"Of the hundreds of thousands of corporations in the United State, all of them function in their management through directors appointed for such a purpose. Only with United Artists is it different.

"Either all the others are wrong, or United Artists is right. I don't think UA is."

■

Not widely known is the fact Selznick held an option on the Korda stock about four months ago at $660,000. It was his intention to buy it in, not on his own behalf but as well on behalf of the other partners, meaning Miss Pickford and Chaplin, of course. It is told Chaplin opposed this as "premature." Four months later, the stock was acquired for one million, the mathematics demonstrating pretty quickly a cost of $340,000 more than it need have been.

It is told, also, that Selznick was urged by his own associates to make the buy on his own and perhaps re-sell to UA at some later time. This was turned down, reportedly, because David did not want to become a half-owner and, presumably, add to the internal fires which have been blazing within the company.

If this is so, on the other hand, it fails to jibe with the impression Selznick ultimately intends dominating UA as he would ultimately endeavor to dominate any setup of which he is a part.

■

Insofar as Neil Agnew is concerned, he is expected to be completely autonomous. Hugh Owen, who leaves Paramount to continue an old association with Agnew at Vanguard, probably will be augmented by several others. How many is believed to be up to Agnew through decisions dictated by the needs of the situation as he alone sees them.

This does not mean setting up sales within sales and it does not mean the authority of Grad Sears and Carl Leserman will be threatened. Agnew's special men may pave the way for the regular UA selling crew. They may, probably will, sit in on sales policy governing Selznick and Vanguard attractions.

■

In the final tally, and as already reported, the selling will be done by UA's direct force. And, as also reported, Selznick seeks to separate himself from the worries and concerns of distribution although he will want to be kept informed on what gives. He is a producer and Agnew is a distributor. The definitions, in this instance, tell the story.

Selznick appears to be cognizant of the dangers of superimposing sales upon sales and, evidently, sees no need for it. One final point to remember in moving these jig-saw pieces around is this:

He is a part owner of UA. Why would he want to endanger his own business?

## DuMont Net Doubles, Reaches $253,260

Net earnings of DuMont Television Laboratories, in which Paramount has a substantial interest, were $253,260 for 1943, after provision for Federal taxes and depreciation but before U. S. contract renegotiation, as compared to a net of $130,164 in 1942 after tax and renegotiation payments, Allen B. DuMont, president, has informed the stockholders.

Sales for 1943 totaled $4,648,345, compared to $2,172,824 in 1942. Profit before Federal taxes and renegotiation were $756,050, compared to $190,164 in 1942.
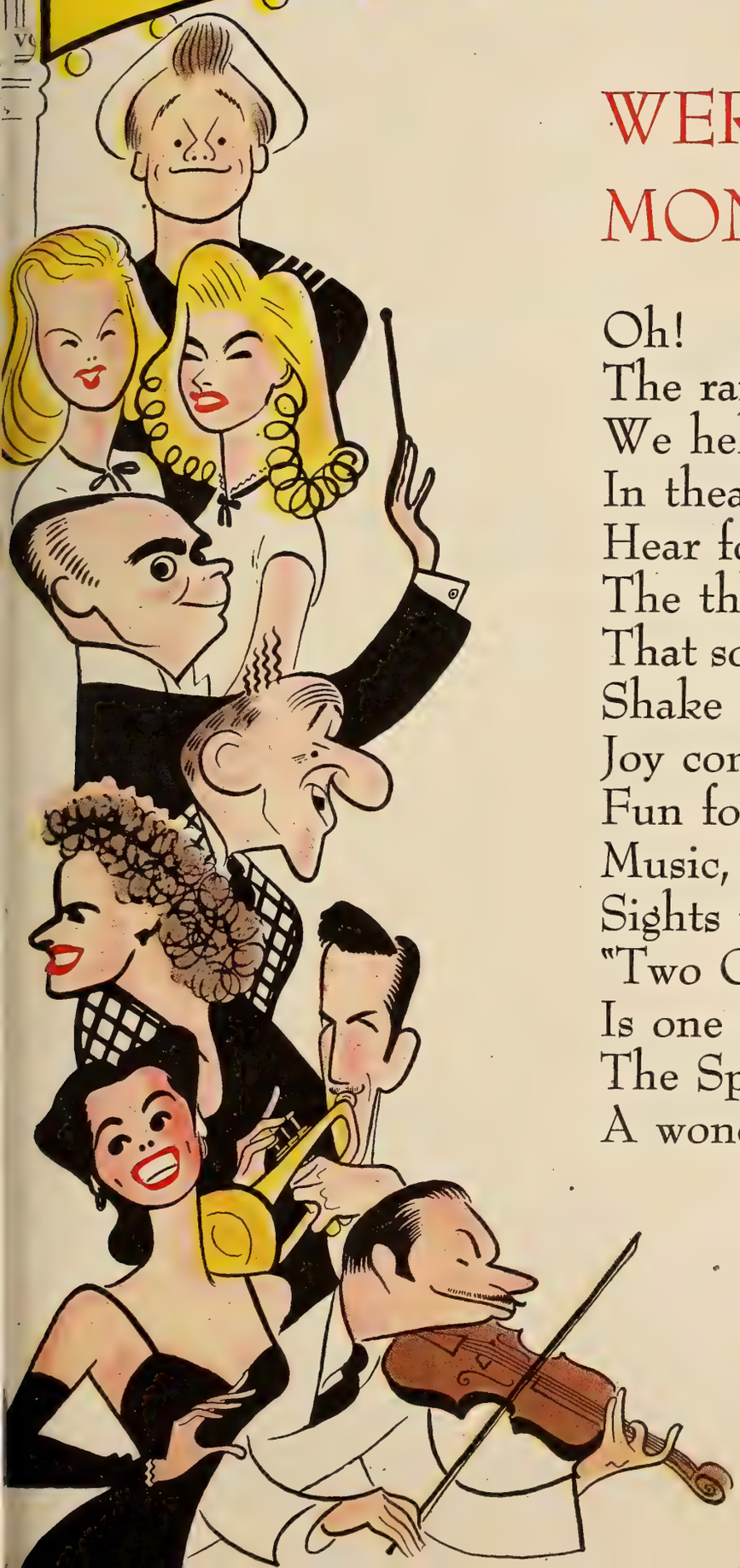
DuMont stockholders will hold their annual meeting in Passaic next Monday. On the agenda is a proposal to eliminate reference to all preferred stock in the company's certificate of incorporation, and the election of officers and directors.

"During the year we disposed of our interest in Majestic Radio and Television for $137,000, which resulted in a profit of $112,848 before taxes," DuMont reported, disclosing further that DuMont entered 1944 "with the largest backlog of unfilled orders on hand it has ever had, over $6,300,000 of signed contracts and letters of intent which it is expected will result in additional sales amounting to $3,600,000, a total of $9,900,000."

"Net current assets have increased $273,618 during the year to $595,640 as of January 2, 1944," according to DuMont.

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# PREVIEW! M-G-M's MUSICAL TWO GIRLS AND A SAILOR



## WERE YOU THERE MONDAY NIGHT?

Oh!
The rafters rang!
We held Trade Screenings
In theatres so you could
Hear for yourself
The thunder of a HIT
That soon will
Shake a nation!
Joy comes to America—
Fun for the millions
Music, romance, talent galore,
Sights to see with glee!
"Two Girls and A Sailor"
Is one of M-G-M's new group
The Springtime Five!
A wonderful group!

"TWO GIRLS AND A SAILOR" with Van Johnson, June Allyson, Gloria DeHaven, José Iturbi, Jimmy Durante, Gracie Allen, Lena Horne, Harry James and His Music Makers with Helen Forrest, Xavier Cugat and His Orchestra with Lina Romay, Tom Drake, Henry Stephenson, Henry O'Neill, Ben Blue, Carlos Ramirez, Frank Sully, Albert Coates, Donald Meek, Amparo Novarro, Virginia O'Brien, Wilde Twins • Original Screen Play by Richard Connell and Gladys Lehman • An M-G-M Picture • Directed by Richard Thorpe • Produced by Joe Pasternak

# Probe Pay, Working Conditions of Television Actors

(*Continued from page* 1)

which will be investigated, it is learned, are those which apply to unreasonable hours of rehearsals; the working of the actors and actresses for small remunerations and even in some cases without remuneration; and poor lighting and ventilation conditions which are considered hazardous to health.

"The committee will determine working conditions and minimum pay scales for television during this experimental period," the statement said, "and will decide when and where and to what extent these will be put into practice." In further setting forth future policy the committee directs that all members who may be working in television or who may be approached for work in television must understand that no outside organization may speak for them in the field, or negotiate for conditions of work or pay in television.

The committee stated that "all members are further instructed that when they work in television they must report to their own union the conditions under which they work, the hours of rehearsal and the pay they receive."

The joint committee consists of Walter Abel, Murray Kinnell and Florence Marston, representing SAG; Paul Dullzell, Walter N. Greaza, Paul N. Turner, Rebecca Brownstein and Alfred Harding, representing Equity, and Emily Holt and George Heller, representing AFRA.

## *Col. Adds, Changes Eight in Publicity*

(*Continued from page* 1)

will take care of special promotion from the home office; Henry Spiegel, who has been with Columbia for four years, has been moved up to assistant exploitation manager under Harry K. McWilliams, exploitation head; George Ettinger, with the company since 1938, will handle radio publicity.

Merlin Lewis joins the home office exploitation staff after 16 years with the *New York Times,* Paramount, Loew's, and Warners; Donald C. Spaulding is resigning as assistant drama editor of the *New York Daily Mirror* to join Columbia's exploitation department on May 8; Ronnie Ames, formerly with RKO, has been engaged as Columbia field representative in the Southwest with headquarters in Dallas; Samuel Siegel becomes Northwest field representative with headquarters in Seattle, also assisting Mike Newman in the Western Division; Jay Burton and Dick Richman are other newcomers to the home office exploitation staff.

## *Schuyler Clearance Dismissal Appealed*

Schuyler Theatres, Inc., operating the Schuyler Theatre, New York, has filed an appeal from a dismissal of its clearance complaint against RKO, Loew's and 20th Century-Fox at the New York arbitration tribunal, the American Arbitration Association reported here yesterday.

# *Austrian Seeks Meetings To Evolve Tele. Policies*

(*Continued from page* 1)

the Radio Technical Planning Board which is now giving consideration to the problems of channels for telecasting. RTPB will eventually make recommendations to the Federal Communications Commission on the allocations of channels and it is felt that the film industry without representation on RTPB might be deprived of channels it would need to make the piping of television programs into theatres possible.

The Society of Motion Picture Engineers is understood to have a representative on RTPB but it is felt that the industry itself should have more direct representation. Besides Paramount and 20th Century-Fox, which have definite direct television interests, RKO, Loew's M-G-M and Warner Bros. are known to be closely watching television developments with the idea of possible eventual application of the medium to their theatres.

The application of television to theatres as presently being discussed involves principally the telecasting of spot-news programs and even stage shows to theatres in a city through special channels allocated for the purpose or by direct telephone lines. Provision for the channels must be made when the FCC finally decides upon a reallocation of channels for both television and frequency-modulation broadcasting. When television networks become available through the contemplated coaxial cable and other constructions of the American Telephone and Telegraph Company and General Electric theatres would be able to pick up telecasts from other cities either directly or through specially allocated channels.

In view of these considerations it is felt that the film industry must present a united front in seeking the telecasting channels it would require. The conference suggested by Austrian has not been set as yet. Austrian was designated by RKO to make a study of the company's possible participation in television. His report is now before the RKO board of directors.

# WPB May Expedite Projector Supply

(*Continued from page* 1)

ing all manufacturers evenly in the race for the civilian market, Smith has been anxious that his projector programs at all times be so allocated as to maintain the 1941 position of all factors in the industry. Since a number of manufacturers of equipment and components for projectors are located in the tight labor areas, this has been a problem of no small magnitude.

At the same time, Smith sees in the relaxation of the prohibition an opportunity to make maximum use of man and machine hours of manufactures engaged in war work. He pointed out that in some instances war contracts do not occupy all of the time of a plant and in others programs are cut back and contracts cancelled, often to be reinstalled, sometimes on an expanded basis, in a short time, while the civilian work heretofore permissible has not always taken up all the slack.

In the case of plants losing war contracts, the ability to go into civilian production will enable the manufacturers to keep their forces intact.

## *86th St. Grande Sued By 'U' and Loew's*

Big "U" Film Exchange, Inc., and Universal have filed suit in Federal Court here against Sanfrebob Theatre Corp and Nathan Steinberg, operators of the 86th St. Grande Theatre, for allegedly unlawfully exhibiting "You're a Sweetheart" on Aug. 25, 1943. Plaintiffs seek an injunction from further infringements, damages of $250 for each alleged infringement and an accounting.

Loew's similarly charge exhibition of "Tortilla Flat" and "San Francisco" on Aug. 25 and 26, 1943. Phillips, Nizer, Benjamin and Krim, attorneys, filed both actions.

# Stage Shows Hit by New Building Code

(*Continued from page* 1)

sembly, prepared by the Department of Labor to apply to all places outside of Metropolitan New York, have so told Senator J. Henry Walters, RKO attorney, who has been acting as contact with State authorities.

The proposals are said to require changes to tighten up fire laws, especially as they relate to exits, draperies, curtains, combustible materials, and other items.

Exhibitors were first apprised of the proposed revisions at a meeting called here by Senator Walters on April 6. A committee will be selected at a meeting to be held at Senator Walters' office on Friday to represent exhibitors in discussions with the State Labor Department.

Circuit representatives who are scheduled to meet in Senator Walters' office on Friday include Al Naroff, Brandt Theatres; Martin J. Tracey, Century; Jonas B. Zab, Cinema; John Nolan, Comerford; Philip F. Harling, Fabian; Harry Moskowitz; Loew's; Charles Brouda, Paramount legal department; J. Guy Selmser, Schine; Walter F. J. Higgins, Seider; Jules W. Catsiff, Skouras; H. R. Maier, Warners.

## *NBC Party for Cantor*

National Broadcasting will fete Eddie Cantor at a reception and supper at the Hotel Ambassador here tonight following his broadcast from the Hunter College Waves Training School. Members of the press have been invited.

## *Martin Leaves MPPDA*

Ray W. Martin, recently of the Motion Picture Producers and Distributors of America office here, has joined the advertising staff of *Guide Magazines.*

## *Coast Flashes*

JACK L. WARNER, who had planned to leave for the East late this week, may again postpone his trip due to pressure of activity at the studio.

•

Edward C. Raftery, Gradwell L. Sears and Carl Leserman left for the East today on the Superchief following the United Artists special board of directors' meeting yesterday. Accompanying them was Isaac Pennypacker, Philadelphia attorney representing Mary Pickford.

•

Walter Lantz will produce 13 cartoons for Universal next season, all in Technicolor.

# Gov't Easing Raw Stock for Studios

(*Continued from page* 1)

today that the supply situation is anything but easy, but it is believed that essential needs of producers can be met, at least for the third quarter and, probably, also the final quarter of this year.

It was also stated that manufacturers of 16mm film are running their perforators on three shifts, evidence that there is no possibility of expanding production, which already is some seven times as great as in the pre-war periods and, so far this year, is showing an increase of 50 per cent over 1943.

The continuing expansion of the training programs of the services is requiring a tremendous supply of the film, it was said. The training pictures are shown to men who are engaged in operations as well as to those undergoing basic training, keeping them instructed in new developments. The narrow film also is used in gun cameras of planes, and for other purposes where the use of 35mm equipment is impracticable.

The cut back of military requirements will free probably only a few million feet, it was said, but will afford some slight relief from almost total lack of supplies in some sections which has prevailed over a number of weeks.

## *Robert Velaise Forms Scoop Productions*

Scoop Productions has been formed here by Robert W. Velaise, former Loew executive in Europe, to produce and distribute feature-length documentaries. Velaise, who is president of Scoop Louisville, Inc., and Scoop 14th Street Corp., owners of theatres in New York and Louisville, will have offices at 363 Lexington Ave. Morris Lev has been named general manager.

First Scoop production, "One Inch from Victory" (Hitler's Russian Surprise) opens at the Stanley here tomorrow. It was produced by Noel Meadow and Lev. Quentin Reynolds wrote and narrated the commentary.

Negotiations are under way for domestic distribution of "One Inch" with a view to securing a major distributor. If unsuccessful, Scoop will sell the film to independent distributors. Scoop is also negotiating for the picture's sale in foreign countries.

First in Film and Radio News Brief, Accurate and Impartial

# MOTION PICTURE DAILY

Alert, Intelligent and Indispensable to the Motion Picture Industry

VOL. 55. NO. 83 NEW YORK, U. S. A., THURSDAY, APRIL 27, 1944 TEN CENTS

## 68 Features For Republic In 1944-45

### *Program Increased by 2 Over Current Year*

HOLLYWOOD, April 26.—Republic's 1944-45 product commitment has been set at 68 features and Westerns and four serials, an increase of two over the current year, Herbert J. Yates, board chairman, has disclosed here. There will be 32 straight features, compared with 30 this year; eight Roy Rogers' productions, same as this season; eight Red Ryder features starring "Wild Bill" Elliot, who this year is appearing in the same number of non-Ryder pictures; eight "Smiley"



Herbert J. Yates

(*Continued on page* 13)

## 'Cantinflas' to RKO For $200,000

MEXICO CITY, April 26.—"Cantinflas," comedian, and considered Mexico's leading money-making player, has been signed by RKO Radio for one picture, at $200,000. Contract specifies that the film be made in Mexico, but that it be in English. Deal

(*Continued on page* 14)

### *Bank Loans $835,000 To Mexican Industry*

**Mexico City, April 26.—Banco Cinematografico, S. A., the Mexican film industry's own bank, made loans and credits in the amount of $835,000 in the first quarter of this year to various interests of the industry here, Carlos Garriedo Galvan, the bank's president, reports.**

**Producers, studios and exhibitors were the principal beneficiaries. The bank was inaugurated in 1938 by the Mexican industry and the Federal Government.**

### *Skouras Will Return To N. Y. Next Week*

**London, April 26.—Spyros Skouras, president of 20th Century-Fox, is expected to leave here for New York next week after completion of a deal with J. Arthur Rank and Loew's for the transfer to Rank of Ostrer Brothers' Metropolis & Bradford Trust Co. stock, controlling Gaumount-British.**

**Larry Kent, Skouras' executive assistant, is reported to be en route to New York.**

## *10,000 Give Wac Pledges*

Over 10,000 film theatres have already been pledged to active participation in the industry's "Women's Army Corps Recruiting Week" May 11-17, according to reports sent by WAC area chairmen to Edward L. Alperson, drive chairman, at War Activities Committee headquarters here.

Field chairmen and the number of theatres pledged in their respective areas are: Lou R. Golding, Albany, 216; William K. Jenkins, Atlanta, 677; Charles Hayman, Buffalo, 286; Sam Pinanski, Boston, 757; H. F. Kincey, Charlotte, 551; John Balaban, Chicago, 676; Arthur Frudenfeld, Cincinnati, 665; Robert Kelly for R. J. O'Donnell, Dallas, 986; 'Rick' Ricketson, Denver, 292; H. J. Fitzgerald, Milwaukee, 371.

Also, Harry Lowenstein and Don

(*Continued on page* 14)

## Hazen Will Act for Decree Companies At Clark Meeting

WASHINGTON, April 26.—Joseph H. Hazen, who resigned as Warner Bros vice-president and counsel two weeks ago, has agreed to continue to act as liaison for consent decree companies in their negotiations with the Department of Justice for revisions of the decree, it became known here today.



Joseph H. Hazen

In that capacity, Hazen will meet with Assistant U. S. Attorney General Tom C. Clark in New York tomorrow to agree upon time, place and topics for a meeting with all company attorneys on Friday, when they

(*Continued on page* 14)

## O'Donnell Outlines Fifth Loan Drive

Ways and means of marshalling and focusing the showmanship of the industry on the Fifth War Loan, June 12-July 8, were discussed at a meeting this week of publicity, advertising and exploitation heads of the industry, here, and others. The meeting

(*Continued on page* 14)

## 4 New Board Members Set For 20th-Fox

### *Ballot May 16 Also on Stock for Officials*

Four new directors will be elected by 20th Century-Fox at its annual stockholders meeting on May 16. In addition the stockholders will be requested to act upon a proposal for the sale of stock to Charles P. Skouras, Elmer C. Rhoden, Harold J. Fitzgerald and F. H. Ricketson, Jr., in the respective 20th-Fox theatre operating subsidiaries which they head.

**The stockholders will also be asked to approve granting of common stock options to certain officers of the company. The officers qualified to receive the options have not yet been designated by the board; but the company's proxy statement,**

(*Continued on page* 14)

## 1,125 More Houses Pledge to M-G-M

Four more circuits, representing 1,125 theatres, have sent pledges of support to play at least one M-G-M subject during the latter's 20-year anniversary observation, June 22-28. They make a total of 2,315 pledges to date.

Charles P. Skouras, president of National Theatres, with 525 houses, has pledged. Also: Harry Kalmine, Warner Bros. Circuit, 450 theatres; Edward L. Alperson, RKO, 105 theatres, and Jack Shea, Jamestown Amusement Corp., 55 theatres.

## *Sound Men to Get Raise; Gains for Local 52 Also*

### *Up to $200,000 in MGM Book Award*

Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer set $175,000 as a possible high in its first annual novel award, with a minimum of $125,000, whether the winning book is filmed or not. Also, the publisher of the winning novel will receive $25,000, making a possible maximum total award of $200,000.

Judges of the first contest were also announced as follows: Harry Hanson, literary critic of the New York *World-Telegram;* Amy Loveman, associate editor of *The Saturday Review of Literature,* and Sidney Franklin, M-

(*Continued on page* 13)

Contracts are expected to be signed early next week between IATSE and Altec Service, RCA and the large circuits who have their own sound servicing departments, covering some 500 sound engineers who service projection and sound equipment of theatres.

The new contracts being drawn provide for a ten per cent increase for these workers, bringing the present minimum scale of $84 to $92 weekly; recognition of the official IATSE roll call in assigning workers; seniority provisions; payment for overtime work; adjustments of hours in Metropolitan districts, and other provisions. Louis Krouse, IATSE general sec-

(*Continued on page* 14)

### *May Limit Rail Use To Essential Trips*

**Washington, April 26. — Suggestions that buyers of railroad tickets be asked to sign slips attesting their trips are necessary are being considered by Office of Defense Transportation officials, but solely as a means of curbing the summer vacation traffic and not as a limitation on business travel, it was learned today. The film industry is a large-scale user of rail transportation.**

# Personal Mention

CHARLES P. SKOURAS, president of National Theatres, accompanied by A. J. KRAPPMAN, his executive assistant, left yesterday for St. Louis, and will leave from there for Los Angeles.

•

CPL. ALOYSIUS CANNON, formerly of the Capitol, Hazleton, Pa., has been cited by President Roosevelt for meritorious service in India where he has been stationed with the India-China-Burma Wing of the American Air Transport Command.

•

ENSIGN RAY ESSICK, associated with his father, P. E. ESSICK, in operation of the Scoville, Essick and Reif circuit, Cleveland, home on leave, has been assigned to Harvard University for training.

•

T. SCOTT GOEBEL, manager of the Cameo Theatre, Bristol, Tenn., is at Kings Mountain Memorial Hospital, in that city, following a paralytic stroke.

•

HARRY THOMAS, Monogram Eastern division manager, left New York yesterday on a visit to Philadelphia and Washington.

•

THOMAS CAREY, Comerford Theatres, Waverly, N. Y., district manager, has been accepted for service in the Navy.

•

GERTRUDE L. TRACY, manager of Loew's Ohio, Cleveland, is vacationing at Hot Springs, Ark.

•

LOYD WRIGHT, Hollywood film attorney, is scheduled to arrive in New York today.

•

HARRY SEED, Warner Midwest district manager, has returned to Chicago from New York.

•

SEYMOUR BORDE, RKO Chicago salesman, has returned from a vacation in Florida.

## Reiner Addresses AMPA

Manny Reiner, film publicist, recently returned from an Office of War Information assignment in Iceland, will be a speaker at today's annual AMPA meeting at the Hotel Piccadilly here. Reiner and Robert Weitman, managing director of the Paramount Theatre, will be guests of honor. The agenda includes election of officers and the presentation of an honorary AMPA membership to Weitman.

## Krouskup Succeeds Weinberg at Ken

CHICAGO, April 26.—Mrs. Marian Krouskup, formerly with the Mar Theatre, Wilmington, Ill., and Universal theatres in the West, succeeds W. A. Weinberg, who resigned at the weekend, as manager of the Ken Theatre, it was announced here by the Mar's managing director, Benjamin Banowitz.

## World Premiere at Home of Wassell

LITTLE ROCK, Ark., April 26.—Little Rock citizens paid tribute today to a heroic son of Arkansas, Commander Corydon M. Wassell, in a series of events climaxed by the premiere showing of Cecil B. De Mille's "The Story of Dr. Wassell" at Robb and Rowley's Capitol and Arkansas theatres.

The events included a Chamber of Commerce luncheon for 400, a parade, dinner and supper party following the premiere. Hollywood visitors were Mr. and Mrs. Cecil B. De Mille and Signe Hasso and Carol Thurston, who appear in the picture. De Mille, who spoke at both the luncheon and stage ceremonies was made an honorary "Arkansas Traveler" and good will ambassador for the state. Dr. Wassell also spoke at both functions.

**Melvin Francis Welcomed**

Getting a large hand at all events was Melvin Francis, one of the sailors saved by the doctor and the only one of the group to play himself in the picture. Also attending the premiere were Maj. General H. E. White, commanding officer at Camp Robinson; Rear Admiral Percy W. Foote, of Houston, Tex., and Rear Admiral E. C. White, representing Vice-Admiral Ross T. McIntire, surgeon general of the U. S. Navy.

Three days of functions honored Commander Wassell, a native of Little Rock and former city health officer. Opening event was the nationwide "Vox Pop" broadcast, which originated from station KLRA here on Monday night. Yesterday De Mille, Miss Hasso, Miss Thurston, Governor Adkins of Arkansas, Admiral White and others entertained the troops at Camp Robinson.

## HartmanAsks $65,000 For Contract Breach

LOS ANGELES, April 26.—Don Hartman has filed suit in Superior Court here against Samuel Goldwyn, asking $65,000, which he claims he would have received during the remainder of an associate producer contract that he asserted Goldwyn terminated on March 30 by discharging him. The complaint charges that Goldwyn ridiculed Hartman and did not accord him due respect.

## GPE 3-Month Net Up to $318,946

General Precision Equipment Corp. and subsidiaries report for the three months ended March 31, consolidated net profit of $318,946 after provision for depreciation, taxes, U. S. contract renegotiation and contingencies. These earnings, which are subject to year-end adjustments, compare with net profit of $293,082 for the corresponding period of 1943.

## MGM Auditors End Meet

M-G-M auditors concluded a two-day meeting here yesterday at the Hotel Astor. Fifteen from the field and several home office executives, attended.

## Bostonians Send Relics of Japs

**Boston, April 26.—The industry here is building a unique display of war souvenirs, through the Macaulay (Theatrical) American Post, which has contacted members of the local industry stationed all over the Globe.**

**Mayor Tobin donated a building on Boston Common for the display, which already includes such items as captured Jap flags, money from Guadalcanal, souvenirs from Bizerte, machine guns, grass (hula hula) skirts, snipers' tree-climbing spikes, Jap pistols (made in Belgium), German battle flags from Italy, captured plane parts, etc. One captured Jap flag was autographed by 21 Boston-area film boys.**

## Player Dispute Ends, Mexico Resumes

MEXICO CITY, April 26.—Production here has resumed after a halt of several weeks caused by a dispute between the National Cinematographic Industry Workers Union and film players over the latter's formation of their own guild. Peace resulted after the Federal Board of Conciliation and Arbitration ruled that producers might engage any players they wished, whether they were members of the union or the NCIWU.

Players appealed to President Manuel Avila Camacho to act in the dispute which seriously affected Mexican production. The National Mexican Actors Union has been putting on benefits to aid players pinched by the production halt.

## Eddie Cantor Feted At NBC Party Here

New York trade and newspaper radio representatives and columnists, Young and Rubicam advertising agency executives and National Broadcasting officials were among the 100 guests at a reception party and buffet supper given to Eddie Cantor at the Hotel Ambassador here last night.

The party followed Cantor's first broadcast from New York on his current trip. The program originated from Hunter College Waves Training School with the actor and his troupe providing an additional half-hour show for the Waves following the broadcast. Newspaper representatives also attended the broadcast and show.

## UA Workers Receive Christmas Bonuses

United Artists employees in the home office and in all exchanges, received their belated one week's Christmas bonus yesterday, following the approval given by the War Labor Board, upon U.A.'s filing an appeal from the previous rejection by the WLB agency to the company's original request last December.

# Coming Events

**Today**—AMPA annual meeting and election, Hotel Piccadilly, New York.

**Today**—Film committee of United Jewish Appeal drive meeting, Hotel Astor, New York.

**May 7**—Theatrical organizations' testimonial dinner for Eddie Cantor, Hotel Astor, New York.

**May 15**—Deadline for filing new U. S. Revenue Bureau reports by all unions and guilds.

**May 16**—RKO "war bond" golf tournament, Westchester Country Club, New York.

**May 24-25**—Spring directors' meeting, National Allied, Philadelphia.

**May 29**—National convention, IATSE, St. Louis.

**June 12-July 8**—Fifth War Loan campaign.

**June 20**—Allied Theatre Owners of New Jersey observance of silver jubilee, Hotel Chelsea, Atlantic City.

## '306' Honors Kravitz, Business Agent

Morris Kravitz, business agent of New York IATSE projectionist's Local 306 was given a testimonial dinner by some 300 members of the union and friends elsewhere in the industry at the Hotel Sharon here last night. Kravitz was presented with an oil painting of his son, T/Sgt. Milton Kravitz.

Among those invited from the industry were: Major L. E. Thompson, RKO; C. C. Moskowitz, Joseph R. Vogel and Lester Isaac, Loew's; William White, Skouras; Bert Sanford, Altec; William Hartman, RCA, and Richard F. Walsh and Louis Krouse, IATSE.

## To Examine Schenck In Grafton Suit

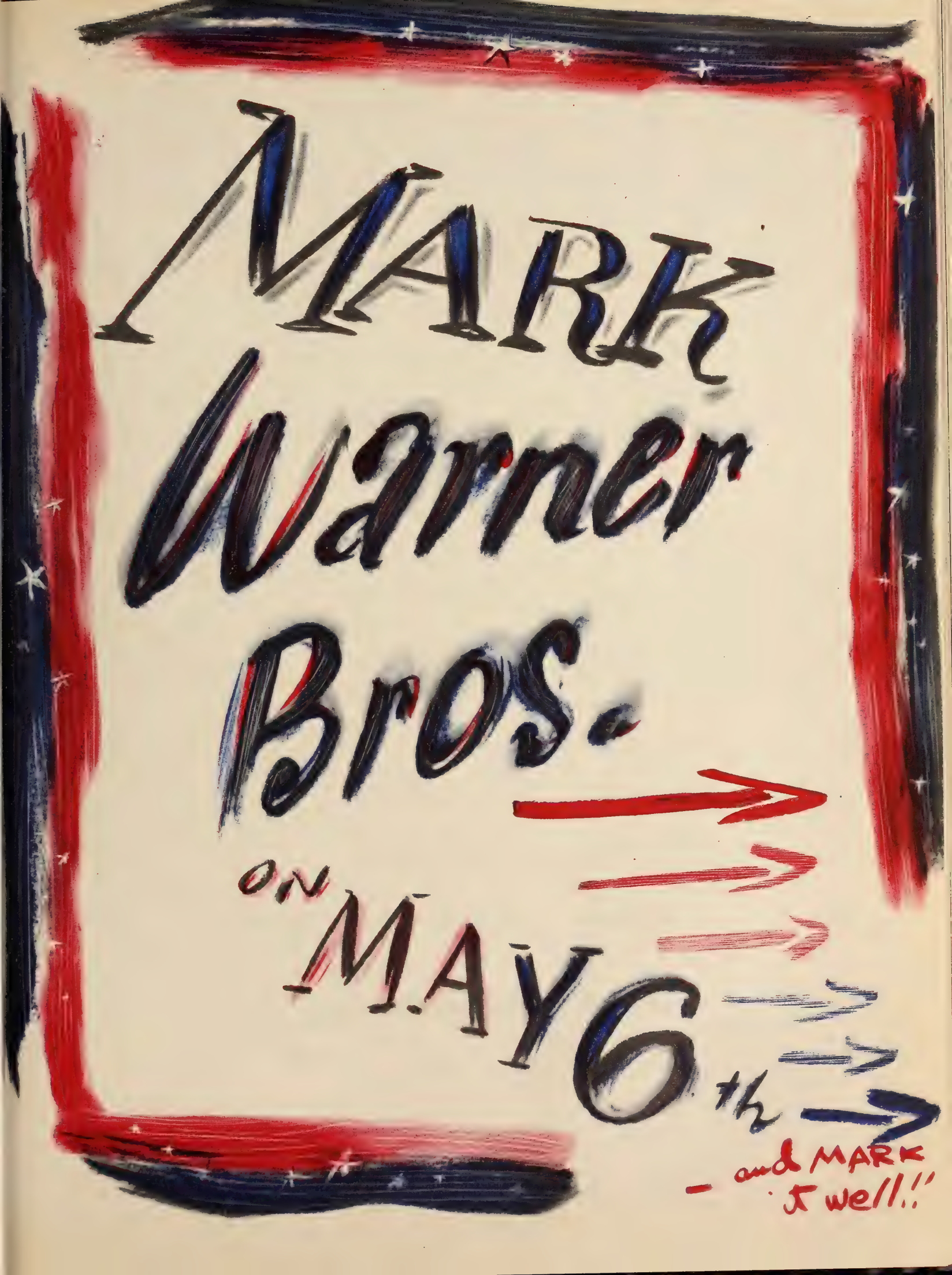
Examination before trial of Nicholas M. Schenck, president of Loew's, will begin tomorrow, in the $1,000,000 damage suit pending in Federal Court here against Loew's as filed by Grafton Films. Further examination of William F. Rodgers, vice-president in charge of distribution, and Howard Dietz, advertising-publicity director, will be resumed following Schenck's examination.

The suit alleges improper distribution of Grafton's "The Stars Look Down."

## Odeon Expansion Is On, Gets 2 More

TORONTO, April 26.—Describing its operations as "steadily growing," Odeon Theatres, nearest competitor to Famous Players Canadian, has added two more key theatres. The purchase of the Capitol at St. John, and the Sturgeon Falls at Sturgeon Falls, Ont., has been disclosed by Haskell Masters, general manager of Odeon. Both houses were purchased from the Oscar Hanson interests.

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MARK
Warner
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# THE TRANSCONTINENT

**IN 200**

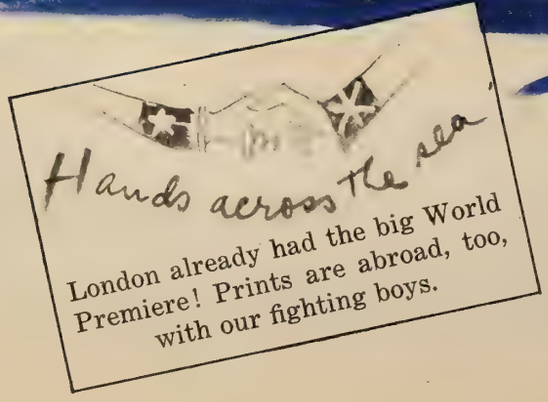
**CHOSEN THEATRES**

**ADVANCE ENGAGEMENTS**

**AT ADVANCED ADMISSIONS**

**LIMITED TO**

**ONE WEEK ONLY**



AL 7-DAY SHOWING OF

# THE ADVENTURES OF MARK TWAIN



*The Gol-darndest American!*

"WARNER BROS. have an enviable record for combining good citizenship with good picture-making."

*N. Y. Times*

ADC...AKRON WOKO...ALBANY WFBG...ALTOONA WFBR...BALTIMORE WBZ-WBZ

...CHICAGO WCKY...CINCINNATI WTAM...CLEVELAND WBNS...COLUMBUS

GBF...EVANSVILLE WOWO...FORT WAYNE KMI...FRESNO WOOD...GRAND RAP

M...INDIANAPOLIS WJAX...JACKSONVILLE WMBH...JOPLIN KZO...KALAMAZOO WDA

MJ...MILWAUKEE WSM...NASHVILLE WSMB...NEW ORLEANS WOR...NEW YORK W

AR...PHOENIX KDKA...PITTSBURGH KOIN... WPRO...PROVIDE

MOX...ST. LOUIS KGB...SAN DIEG

FRC...SAN FRANCISCO

GY...SCHENECTADY

SYR...SYRACUSE

...TAMPA WBOW...TERRE HAUTE

OL...TOLEDO KVOA...TUCSON

O...TULSA WOL...WASHINGTON

WVA...WHEELING

KFH...WICHITA

WDEL...WILMINGTON

WTAG...WORCESTER

...YANKTON

WORK...YORK

# ARE YOU LIS



## NEVER, NEVER ANYTHING LIKE WARNERS' NATI




# TENING, SHOWMEN?

**HERE'S HISTORY!** For the first time! –A series of five *15-minute* radio shows, Warner created and Warner sponsored, will be featured ahead of every engagement of this attraction! Every program carries *specific theatre-and-date announcements!* In addition, there will be a continued series of unusual station-break messages, and other big *localized* radio promotions such as have never before been accomplished! Listen in for Warners' big *New* in theatre-radio ballyhoo!

## I-WIDE LOCALIZED 5-SHOW RADIO BROADSIDES!

# THE SCALE ON WHICH WARNERS PRODUCED IT WILL BE MATCHED BY THE WAY IN WHICH WARNERS INTRODUCE IT!

THE ADVENTURES OF MARK TWAIN

STARRING

FREDRIC MARCH · ALEXIS SMITH

with

DONALD CRISP · ALAN HALE · C. AUBREY SMITH
JOHN CARRADINE · BILL HENRY · ROBERT BARRAT · WALTER HAMPDEN · JOYCE REYNOLDS · Directed by IRVING RAPPER

Screen Play by Alan LeMay • Adaptation by Alan LeMay and Harold M. Sherman • Additional Dialogue by Harry Chandlee • All biographical material based on works owned or controlled by the Mark Twain Company, and the play "Mark Twain" by Harold M. Sherman • Music by Max Steiner

*Produced by*
JESSE L. LASKY



# WEEK OF MAY 6th

JACK L. WARNER
*Executive Producer*

# To Study Materials For School Films In the Postwar Era

The Commission on Motion Pictures in Education, recently organized under a reputed grant of $100,000 from the industry to develop a program for the more effective use of Hollywood films in visual education, has determined that its first task is to study relevant curriculum materials and to organize and present them in a form from which motion picture scripts can be prepared, the MPPDA said here yesterday.

This was the decision reached by the commission at a meeting here this week to fix matters of policy and procedure, according to a statement released by the chairman, Dr. Mark A. May of Yale University.

**Army Provides Experience**

The experience of the Army and Navy in film war training programs is seen as having an influence on the work of schools in the years immediately ahead, and the commission said it recognizes that much of this experience will be available to education not only in the form of finished films but in the services of a large number of workers trained in the use of films in education and training.

The commission intends to study and collect materials relevant to the new educational objectives toward which they feel a shift is already apparent. Among these new interests they include a greater emphasis on global geography, on science, invention and modern technology and their influence on the peoples of the earth, and on new problems of democracy.

**Will Start Development**

A start toward developing materials for a series of films will be made in these subjects, Dr. May said. Other series will be added later. The procedure of the commission in preparing educational materials for scripting will be similar in some respect to the methods of the armed forces. As these materials are developed, they will be made available to the public and to all film production companies in the hope that many of them will be filmed, he continued. The commission itself will not attempt any production, he pointed out.

Other members of the commission, all of whom attended the meeting, are: Dr. Edmund E. Day, president of Cornell University; Dr. George Counts of Teachers College, Columbia University; Dr. George Zook, president of the American Council on Education; Monsignor George Johnson, general secretary of the National Catholic Educational Association, and Dr. Willard E. Givens, executive secretary of the National Education Association.

## LeachimCorp.Formed Here to Produce

Leachim Corp. has filed a certificate of incorporation at Albany for the purpose of producing and distributing feature pictures, it was learned here yesterday. Offices are located at 250 West 52nd St., New York.

Incorporators were Harry Bloomfield, B. Postal and James Colligan.

# Review

## "Once Upon a Time"

*(Columbia)*

ALEXANDER HALL'S "Once Upon a Time" is a delightful and charming adult fantasy telling a most unusual story, from Norman Corwin's radio script, "My Friend Curly," based on an idea by Lucille Fletcher Hermann. Despite some alterations, Columbia has preserved the essence of the theme that the strong cannot get away with pushing the weak around. With the names of Cary Grant and Janet Blair, and a grand production, this film is headed for big box office returns.

The unique story centers around a dancing caterpillar, Curly, who stands on its tail and dances to the harmonica strains of "Yes Sir, That's My Baby." Curly is the property of little Pinky Thompson, played with simple and adorable forthrightness by Ted Donaldson. In the swell screen play by Lewis Meltzer and Oscar Saul, from an adaptation by Irving Fineman, Grant, a brilliant young theatrical producer who is penniless and about to lose his theatre to the bank after three successive failures, sees a chance to exploit Curly and raise $100,000 to pay off the mortgage. Through Gabriel Heatter's human interest broadcast of Pinky and his pet, Grant's project receives a sensational launching. Walt Disney is finally willing to pay the asking price of $100,000 to bring Curly to the animated screen, but that is where Pinky and his partner, Grant, finally come to grips. Pinky is not anxious to part with his pet and Grant's attempt to take Curly by force goes to naught, leading to an estrangement. Meanwhile Curly disappears.

Miss Blair, Pinky's sister, a chorine, who at first opposes Grant's efforts to promote Curly and then strings along to pacify Pinky, finally manages to effect a reconciliation between Pinky and Grant with the help of James Gleason, Grant's aide, and Pinky's pals. In the meantime, Curly emerges from his cocoon as a beautiful butterfly.

Grant delivers another first-rate performance with Miss Blair handling her role in fine style. Good performances are also contributed by Gleason, William Demarest as a scoffing newspaper editor, Art Baker as Gabriel Heatter and Micky McGuire as Pinky's pal, but the real star of the film is young Donaldson and his pet.

Hall's direction is tops. It strikes a happy balance. The suggested romantic thread between Grant and Miss Blair strikes a pleasant note. Louis F. Edelman, who produced, has achieved an attractive production and Franz F. Planer's camera work rates plaudits. Frederick Hollander supplied the musical score.

Running time, 89 mins. "G."* Release date, May 11.

MILTON LIVINGSTON

*"G" denotes general classification.*

## Selznick Appeal Will Be Heard Tomorrow

David O. Selznick's appeal from a decision rendered by Justice Ferdinand Pecora in New York Supreme Court recently, in Charles Chaplin's suit, will be heard before the Appellate Division tomorrow.

Pecora had held that both Vanguard Films and David O. Selznick, Inc., are doing business in New York and are not foreign to the state, as claimed by Selznick in his attempt to prevent Charles Chaplin from joining his two corporations in the accounting action filed also against 20th Century-Fox and United Artists following Selznick's sale of certain production assets to 20th-Fox.

## Arnold Cites Balaban For 'Memphis Belle'

Barney Balaban, president of Paramount, has received word from General H. H. Arnold, Commanding General of U. S. Army Air Forces, expressing appreciation of Paramount's efforts to achieve wide distribution for the Eighth Air Force film, "The Memphis Belle," which has already played 9,000 theatres in the United States.

The film, a four-reel Technicolor documentary, is being distributed by Paramount on a non-profit basis for the Air Force through the War Activities Committee.

## Saugus House Files Clearance Complaint

Richard B. Rubin of the State Theatre, Saugus, Mass., has filed a clearance complaint at the Boston tribunal against the five decree companies, the American Arbitration Association reported here yesterday.

Plaintiff states that he exhibits first-run pictures at Saugus which are subject to the following clearance: 30 and 45 days after the Paramount Theatre, and 21 and 30 days after the Warner Theatre, both in Lynn, Mass. Films are generally available, however, at the end of 21 days after such prior run showings. Complainant is further subject to clearance of 21 days after the Strand, Granada and Mystic Theatres, all in Malden, Mass. Rubin seeks a reduction to a minimum of one day after the Paramount and Warner Theatres, and complete elimination or a reduction to one day after the Malden theatres.

## New Connecticut Booking Office

NEW HAVEN, April 26.—Flora Cohn has opened film buying and booking quarters on South Orange St. here, under the name of Theatre Buying and Booking Office, to service Connecticut independents.

Miss Cohn was formerly office manager and booker for RKO here.

# Coast Flashes

*Hollywood, April 26.*

LEON SCHLESINGER will make 13 "Merrie Melodies" and 13 "Looney Tunes" cartoons next season, all Technicolor.

•

Jules Levey, producer of United Artists' forthcoming "The Hairy Ape," has been awarded a certificate of honor for meritorious service to the Masquer's servicemen's morale corps. Levey also was recently made an honorary citizen of Boy's Town (Nebraska) for services to Father Flanagan's foundation.

•

Director Rene Clair has returned from a New York visit in connection with the opening of his new picture, "It Happened Tomorrow," to be released through United Artists. He plans to finish work on his latest book, a mystery novel.

•

Lester Cowan has purchased "This Is the Life," a Fred Othman original about a modern Rip Van Winkle returning from overseas to find life different. It will be produced as a musical.

•

A dual feature on juvenile delinquency and its possible solutions will be made by Columbia and sold as a double bill. The titles: "Our Wandering Daughters" and "What Price Innocence."

•

Monogram has completed 90 per cent of its 1943-44 feature program, exclusive of Westerns, according to Trem Carr, executive director.

•

Orson Welles has bought "Don't Catch Me," from which he will write, produce and direct a picture. Release has not been set.

•

"Girl of the Limberlost," previously filmed by Monogram and RKO, has been bought by Columbia for an Irving Briskin production.

•

Joris Ivens, documentary producer, has been signed by Lester Cowan to collaborate with writers and directors on background material.

•

George Jessel will leave on the Chief tomorrow to confer with Darryl Zanuck in the East.

•

Universal has announced "Wolfman versus Frankenstein," with Ford Beebe producing and directing.

•

PRC has set May 29-31 as the dates for its fifth annual sales convention, to be held at the studio.

•

Columbia has announced a new "G. I." musical, "Gertie from Bizerte."

•

Universal has added "We Want to Sing" to Frank Gross' schedule.

## Jessel M.C. at Dinner

George Jessel, film producer and stage star will be a master of ceremonies, together with James J. Walker at the testimonial banquet for Eddie Cantor to be held May 7 at the Hotel Astor here.

# "HERE IS A MILEST

## SHE SKATES!

"Producer Scott R. Dunlap scaled new heights . . . . . this bigger and better picture confirms in triplicate the convictions of greatness held by admirers of Belita's work."

. . . . MOTION PICTURE HERALD



## SHE DANCES!

"Easily the most costly, sumptuous and impressive ever produced by Monogram, a film of major studio proportions in every respect . . . . . definitely crystallizes Belita's bid for lofty stardom."

BOXOFFICE



## SHE ROMANCES!

"Monogram's most ambitious production thus far. The company obviously tossed plenty of coin into this second showcase for skating star Belita, one of the most versatile artists in Hollywood."

. . . . VARIETY



MONOGRAM PICTURES

IT'S THE ENTERTAINMENT M

# IE PICTURE"...Boxoffice

★ BELITA... most talented beauty you have ever seen ... in a romance that sweeps from dance world to glittering ice show!



"LADY, LET'S DANCE"



"THE DAYS OF BEAU BRUMMEL"





"SILVER SHADOWS and GOLDEN DREAMS"



"THE BALLET MODERNE"



MONOGRAM PICTURES presents

# BELITA

in the SCOTT R. DUNLAP Production

# "Lady, Let's Dance!"

with

JAMES ELLISON

FRICK and FRACK • Walter CATLETT

Lucien LITTLEFIELD • Maurice ST. CLAIR

....and 4 GREAT BANDS!

HENRY BUSSE · MITCH AYRES · EDDIE LEBARON · LOU BRING

Produced by SCOTT R. DUNLAP

Directed by FRANK WOODRUFF

Associate Producer: WILLIAM D. SHAPIRO

Original Story by Bradbury Foote and Scott R. Dunlap

Screen Play by Peter Milne and Paul Gerard Smith

*ACLE OF 1944——FROM MONOGRAM!*

# 'Ladies' Pulls $48,200 at 3 L. A. Houses

Los Angeles, April 26.—"Ladies Courageous," coupled with "Her Primitive Man," was top scorer here during a normal week. It got $48,200 in Fox West Coast's Egyptian-Los Angeles-Ritz threesome where $33,100 is aggregate average. "Around the World," linked with "Tarzan's Desert Mystery," was under par in the circuit's Chinese-Loew's State-Uptown setup. "Shine On Harvest Moon" turned in a third week that prompted a holdover for a fourth.

Estimated receipts for the week ending April 26:

**"Around the World" (RKO)**
**"Tarzan's Desert Mystery" (RKO)**
CARTHAY CIRCLE—(1,516) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 7 days. Gross: $7,200. (Average: $11,200).

**"Around the World" (RKO)**
**"Tarzan's Desert Mystery" (RKO)**
CHINESE—(2,500) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 7 days. Gross: $12,500. (Average: $15,500).

**"Ladies Courageous" (Univ.)**
**"Her Primitive Man" (Univ.)**
EGYPTIAN—(1,500) (50c-60c-95c-$1.00) 7 days. Gross: $10,400. (Average: $9,500).

**"The Lady and the Monster" (Rep.)**
**"Trocadero" (Rep.)**
HAWAII—(1,000) (50c-60c-75c-80c) 7 days, 4th week. Gross: $3,000. (Average: $6,200).

**"Cover Girl" (Col.) 2nd week**
**"Two-Man Submarine" (Col.)**
HILLSTREET—(2,700) (50c-60c-80c) 7 days. Gross: $20,000. (Average: $19,700).

**"Around the World" (RKO)**
**"Tarzan's Desert Mystery" (RKO)**
LOEW'S STATE—(2,500) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 7 days. Gross: $30,000. (Average: $24,100).

**"Ladies Courageous" (Univ.)**
**"Her Primitive Man" (Univ.)**
LOS ANGELES—(2,098) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 7 days. Gross: $17,500. (Average: $14,900).

**"Cover Girl" (Col.) 2nd week**
**"Two-Man Submarine" (Col.)**
PANTAGES—(2,000) (50c-60c-80c-$1.00) 7 days. Gross: $23,000. (Average: $16,700).

**"The Uninvited" (Para.)**
PARAMOUNT HOLLYWOOD—(50c-60c-80c-$1.00) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $11,500. (Average: $20,300).

**"The Uninvited" (Para.) 2nd week**
**"Henry Aldrich, Boy Scout" (Para.)**
PARAMOUNT DOWNTOWN—(50c-60c-80c-$1.00) 7 days. Gross: $15,000. (Average: $8,700).

**"Ladies Courageous" (Univ.)**
**"Her Primitive Man" (Univ.)**
RITZ—(1,376) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 7 days. Gross: $10,300. (Average: $8,700).

**"Around the World" (RKO)**
**"Tarzan's Desert Mystery" (RKO)**
UPTOWN—(1,716) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 7 days. Gross: $9,500. (Average: $10,500).

**"Shine On, Harvest Moon" (WB)**
WARNERS HOLLYWOOD—(3,000) (50c-60c-80c-$1.00) 7 days, 3rd week. Gross: $13,880. (Average: $17,000).

**"Shine On, Harvest Moon" (WB)**
WARNERS DOWNTOWN—(3,400) (50c-60c-80c-$1.00) 7 days. 3rd week. Gross: $16,595. (Average: $18,700).

**"Shine On, Harvest Moon" (WB)**
WARNERS WILTERN—(2,200) (50c-60c-80c-$1.00) 7 days, 3rd week. Gross: $12,520. (Average: $15,200).

## Committees for RKO Tournament Named

Committees for RKO's golf tournament, to be held May 16 at Westchester Country Club, were announced yesterday as follows: Tournament, N. Peter Rathvon, Ned Depinet, Malcolm Kingsberg, Robert Mochrie, Edward Alperson, Garret Van Wagner, J. Henry Walters, Major Leslie Thompson; Publicity, S. Barret McCormick, Harry Mandel, Rutgers Neilson, Arthur Brilant, Jack Level, John Cassidy; Prizes, Depinet, J. Henry Walter, John Farmer and Dick Gavin.

# Review

## "Man from 'Frisco"

*(Republic)*

SWINGING into something of a new and novel wartime story, Republic presents one of the finest productions on its current schedule. "Man from 'Frisco" is an excellent production and it can be expected to bring gratifying grosses wherever it plays.

Robert Florey again shows his ability as a director in the handling of this story of a dynamic construction engineer, Michael O'Shea, who sets out to make new records in shipbuilding, a la Henry Kaiser. A headstrong character, apparently oblivious of seemingly insurmountable obstacles and impervious to the ridicule heaped upon his radical methods, O'Shea almost miraculously converts a small-town shipyard into a beehive of wartime industrial activity. Gene Lockhart, old-time shipbuilder and civic stalwart of the reactionary town, steeped in tradition, is his chief opponent, while Tommy Bond, Lockhart's progressive-minded 16-year old son, is the "dynamo's" champion. Tommy loses his life in the yards just prior to the launching of O'Shea's first "prefabricated" ship. Anne Shirley, Lockhart's daughter, carries the love interest, at first nursing a silent affection for O'Shea, while she opposes his ideas. When Lockhart relents on his attitude towards O'Shea, Miss Shirley does likewise and goes immediately to the fore for O'Shea and the romantic "partnership" blossoms into love.

Effective "asides" to the main theme play up the courage of migratory defense workers who, with their families, go where there are homefront wartime tasks to be done. Stephanie Bachelor deserves high acting honors for her role of a young Navy widow and mother of charming little Michael Barnitz. The original story and adaption by George Worthing Yates and George C. Brown were done in admirable fashion by script-writers Ethel Hill and Arnold Manoff. Also deserving of commendation is Otto Siegel whose impressive sets add much to the general production value. O'Shea, Lockhart, young Bond and Miss Shirley contribute fine performances, as does the supporting cast, headed by Dan Duryea, Ray Walker and Miss Bachelor. Albert J. Cohen produced.

HELEN MCNAMARA

Running time 91 mins. "G"* Release date not set.

*"G" denotes general classification.

## W. E. Sells Sound to Mexican Studios

With the production of pictures in Mexico City continuing to mount, E. S. Gregg, vice-president of Western Electric Export Corp., here reports the closing of recording agreements with two Mexican companies, Servicio Cinematografico S. A. and the Jenkins interests, for the immediate installation of six channels of W. E. Electric recording equipment. Servicio provides a recording service for the Clasa and Azteca Studios.

R. O. Strock, formerly with Eastern Service Studios and Audio Productions, Astoria, L. I., and subsequently with W. E. Export as recording engineer, has left for Mexico City to supervise installation.

## Drama Critics Fail On 'Best Play'

The New York Drama Critics Circle has bypassed its annual award for the best American play of the season because the members failed to arrive at a majority vote for any play. Nearest contender to winning the award was Lillian Hellman's "The Searching Wind," which failed of a majority by only one vote, receiving seven.

"Jacobowsky and the Colonel" received a citation as the best foreign play of the year.

## Pep Club Elects

St. Louis, April 26. — The Paramount Pep Club here has elected the following: Louis Kuttnauer, president; Bert Sauerwein, vice-president; Ruth Shurnas, secretary, and John Koenig, treasurer.

## 'Hargrove' Is High On $26,000 Take

Baltimore, April 26.—Strong attractions, drawing ample crowds for openings, and continuing with big business over the weekend, are keeping first-run box-offices busy. Figures are in the upper brackets. "See Here, Private Hargrove" is safe for $26,000 at the Century.

Estimated receipts for the week ending April 27:

**"See Here, Private Hargrove" (M-G-M)**
CENTURY—(3,000) (35c-43c-55c and 60c weekends. Gross: 526,000. (Average: $17,500).

**"Chip Off the Old Block" (Univ.)**
KEITH'S—(2,406) (35c-40c-50c-60c) 7 days. Gross: $15,500. (Average: $15,000).

**"The Purple Heart" (20th-Fox)**
NEW—(1,581) (30c-40c-60c) 7 days. Gross: $12,000. (Average: $11,000).

**"Passage to Marseille" (WB)**
STANLEY—(3,280) (35c-44c-55c-66c) 7 days. Gross: $20,000. (Average: $18,000).

**"Up in Arms" (RKO)**
HIPPODROME—(2,205) (35c-44c-55c-65c) 7 days, 2nd week. Stage show: Wally Boag, Stubby Kaye, Arren & Broderick, Sally, Jack & Mascot, Frank Victor Quartet. Gross: $18,500. (Average: $18,500).

**"Lady in the Death House" (PRC)**
MAYFAIR—(1,000) (35c-54c) 7 days. Gross: $7,000. (Average: $7,000).

## Loew's Book 'Seabees'

Republic's "The Fighting Seabees" has been booked by the Loew Metropolitan Circuit beginning May 4 at the Ziegfeld, Lexington, and 175th St. Theatres in Manhattan, and the Valencia, Jamaica, L. I.

## Stokowski to Produce

Leopold Stokowski is quoted by press dispatches reaching here from Mexico City as saying he is now at work on a film there. He will continue to Peru and Chile later on his current concert tour.

# Hollywood

By JACK CARTWRIGHT

*Hollywood, April 26*

SOL LESSER is working on the script of his new production, "Three's a Family," with Riam James. Every time they get a new idea to make it funnier Sol ups the budget to cover the added cost. He says he's preparing a comedy just as hilarious as "You Can't Take It with You," with touches of the "Abie's Irish Rose" type of humor. He just announced the first casting: Charlotte Greenwood, for whom the maiden-aunt role in the stage play was expressly written and then she found she couldn't play it because of film commitments. Now she has the part in Lesser's picture. One of the feature roles, that of a six months' old baby whose part carries through the entire story, will be given to the child of some service man, Lesser said.

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*The Olsen and Johnson comedy, "See My Lawyer," began to roll at Universal almost before the lights flicked off on "The Ghost Catchers." Eddie Cline is directing with Edmund Hartmann producing. Alan Curtis, Gus Schilling, and Noah Beery, Jr., have supporting roles. . . . Abbott and Costello will head the entertainment at the IMPPA dinner honoring Joe E. Brown for his services entertaining fighters overseas. It will be held at the Ambassador Hotel here May 3. . . . "Men of the Deep," a story of deep sea divers, is being made ready at Columbia by producer Sam White.*

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**Greer Garson has more than 28 changes of makeup as she progresses from age 18 to 83 in "Mrs. Parkington," which Leon Gordon is producing at M-G-M.**

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Walter Lantz has received more than 5,000 entries in his contest for a name for his glamour girl 'cartune' character known tentatively as "Miss X." Most of them are from exhibitors, Lantz said. The new 'cartune' character bowed in "The Greatest Man in Siam". . . . Cameras are rolling on Hunt Stromberg's "Guest in the House," starring Anne Baxter, with Ralph Bellamy, Ruth Warrick, Aline MacMahon and others. Lewis Milestone is directing.

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*Ray Taylor is directing "Boss of Boomtown," starring Rod Cameron and Vivian Austin at Universal. . . . Irving Cummings, producer-director, is still seeking an unknown, male or female, between 18 and 25 to build for stardom. . . . Stephanie Bachelor completed the feminine lead in Republic's spy story, "Secrets of Scotland Yard" and stepped right into the lead in "Port of 40 Thieves" at that studio. . . . Sol Lesser, who starred two unknowns, Cheryl Walker and Lon McCallister in "Stage Door Canteen", will 'glamorize' grandpa in his "Three's A Family". . . . Freddie Rich and his band and Connie Haines, all from the Abbott and Costello radio show, have been signed for Monogram's "A Wac, a Wave and a Marine".*

## 'Whistler' to Rialto

Columbia's "The Whistler," starring Richard Dix, will open at the Rialto here Friday.

# Up to $200,000 in MGM Book Award

(Continued from page 1)

G-M producer. John Scott Mabon is in charge of the contest for M-G-M.

It was previously unofficially reported that the winning author would receive $100,000 if his novel were filmed and $25,000 if not.

Only novels for which a publication contract has been signed will be eligible for consideration. Closing date for the submission of entries is July 7 and the opening date is June 15. In return for the award, M-G-M will acquire film rights to the winning novel. The term "novel" in the contest refers to fiction stories of 40,000 words or more and neither non-fiction nor collections of clearly unrelated short stories will be considered.

Besides the minimum award of $125,000, M-G-M will pay to the author of the wininng book 20 cents for each copy over 50,000 and up to 300,000 sold within 18 months after publication, making a possible additional $50,000, or a possible total award of $175,000.

## *Seek New Programs For Television Shows*

"The best style of program production for television has yet to be found," Gilbert Seldes, CBS director of television, told members of the Television Press Club at a luncheon meeting here this week. Seldes stressed the entertainment appeal of impromptu programs, citing the fact that spot events have to date proved to be the best type of television program, with unfinished programs like prize fights rating next. CBS will resume "live" television shows next week.

Murray Grabhorn, president of the Radio Executives Club, another speaker, revealed further details of REC's television seminar; 15 weekly lectures for REC members will start on May 18 with James L. Fly, FCC chairman; Niles Trammell, NBC president, and Dr. Alfred N. Goldsmith, television engineer, participating in the opening lecture.

## *'I Am An American' To Be Made by WB*

HOLLYWOOD, April 26.—Production of a two-reel patriotic short, entitled "I Am an American" will get underway at Warner Bros. following the celebration of "I Am an American" day next month with the film set for August release.

A camera crew will be sent to the celebration at Soldiers' Field in Chicago for background material. Gordon Hollingshead will produce with Crane Wilbur writing and directing. Marjorie Riordan, Jean Sullivan, Robert Shayne, Craig Stevens and others have already been cast.

## *Bell Named on Kodak Bd.*

FLEMINGTON, N. J., April 26.—James F. Bell, chairman of the board of General Mills, Inc., was named a director of the Eastman Kodak at the annual stockholders' meeting held here yesterday. Bell succeeds Daniel E. Evarts, Jersey City banker who declined reelection because of ill health.

# *68 Features Announced by Republic for 1944-45*

(Continued from page 1)

Burnette Westerns, replacing the same number of Don (Red) Barry pictures, with Barry appearing in straight features, and a new series of Allan Lane Westerns, which series this year features various personalities.

Also announced by Yates at the company's sales conference at the studio here today was a 1944-45 production budget of $17,750,000, an increase of $1,750,000 over the all-time record budget of this season. The chairman also declared that the advertising-promotional budget had been increased $1,200,000 to $2,700,000. The two-day session was the first of three regionals called by James R. Grainger, Republic president.

### Others Attending

Attending the conference, besides Yates and Grainger, are: Francis A. Bateman, J. T. Sheffield and F. M. Higgins, Seattle; J. H. Sheffield, Portland; Gene Gerbase, Denver; H. C. Fuller, Salt Lake City; Sid Weisbaum, San Francisco, and John Frey, of Los Angeles. Subsequent conferences are scheduled for the Hotel Drake, Chicago, May 1-2-3, and later, at an unset date, in New York.

Grainger told the Western exchange representatives that Republic will give theatremen unprecedented pre-selling cooperative selling in the new season.



James R. Grainger

"Every effort will be made to cast top-ranking stars and featured players in future Republic films and to develop new talent in a stock company already the largest ever contracted by the studios."

In addition to having acquired sufficient story properties for production one year ahead, Republic now has nine features in the cutting room and eight awaiting release. The studios will reach peak production during June, July and August.

### Features Ready for Release

Now ready for release are "Man From Frisco," starring Michael O'Shea and Anne Shirley, and "Storm Over Lisbon," starring Vera Hruba Ralston, Richard Arlen and Erich Von Stroheim. This week director Ray McCarey will start "Atlantic City," starring Constance Moore and Bradford Taylor. Director Al Rogell will shortly start on "Brazil," musical. Six other "deluxe" features, titles for which are yet to be announced, will follow.

Both Yates and Grainger stressed that the 1944-45 program will embrace a wide range of story material, with musicals predominating. "Motion pictures can best serve public morale during the most critical and violent days of the war by providing escapist film-fare, entertainment with action, music, romance and down-to-earthy human drama," Yates asserted.

Forthcoming features are to be produced by Albert J. Cohen, Robert North, associate producer-directors Albert Rogell, George Sherman, Joseph Kane and Ray McCarey. Executive producer Armand Schaefer will have under his direction as associate producers Don H. Brown, Walter Goetz, Rudy Abel, Harry Grey, Herman Millakowsky, Sidney Picker, Leonard Sillman, Lester Sharpe and Eddy White; William J. O'Sullivan, executive producer of action films, will be assisted by associate producers Louis Gray, Ron Davidson and Stephen Auer. Forty-eight stars and featured players are at present under contract at Republic, including the largest group of singing actors and actresses at any Hollywood studio.

During April, 49 scenarists have been at work on stories for the new program, and dance directors Seymour Felix and Larry Ceballos have had the largest group of dancers ever brought to the studio in rehearsals.

## *86 in Loew's Equal Leo's 20 Years*

Celebrating with Leo on his 20th anniversary, the week of June 22, will be 86 Loew employes in the field who have been with the company 20 years or more. Of these, 17 have served at least 25 years, and 69 have been with the company between 20 and 25. Additionally, 163 have put in between 15 and 20 years and 172 others have been employed from 10 to 15 years.

# 'Rationing', Show Good for $22,000

CINCINNATI, April 26.—Despite unusually warm weather, attendance is up with "Rationing" at RKO's Albee and Tommy Tucker's orchestra, plus acts on the stage, getting approximately $22,000.

Estimated receipts for the week ending April 25-29:

**"Rationing" (M-G-M)**
RKO ALBEE—(3,300) (50c-60c-70c-85c-95c) 7 days, plus Saturday midnight show. Stage: Tommy Tucker and orchestra, Marion Hutton, Hal LeRoy, Cy Reeves. Gross: $22,000. (Average: $22,000).

**"Lady in the Dark" (Para.)**
RKO CAPITOL—(2,000) (44c-50c-60c-70c) 7 days, 3rd week. Gross: $7,000. (Average: $10,000).

**"The Monster Maker" (PRC)**
**"Frontier Law" (Univ.)**
RKO FAMILY—(1,000) (30c-40c) 4 days. Gross: $1,750. (Average: $1,600).

**"Bombs Over Burma" (PRC)**
**"Prisoner of Japan" (PRC)**
RKO FAMILY—(1,000) (30c-40c) 3 days. Gross: $900. (Average: $800).

**"The Miracle of Morgan's Creek" (Para.)**
**"The Memphis Belle" (WAC-Para.)**
RKO GRAND—(1,500) (44c-50c-60c-70c) 5 days, plus Saturday midnight show, 3rd week for "Morgan's Creek." Gross: $4,800. (Average: 7 days, $9,500).

**"Lost Angel" (M-G-M)**
KEITH'S—(1,500) (44c-50c-60c-70c) 7 days, plus Saturday midnight show. Gross: $6,300. (Average: $5,000).

**"The Impostor" (Univ.)**
RKO LYRIC—(1,400) (44c-50c-60c-70c) 7 days, plus Saturday midnight show. Gross: $6,000. (Average: $5,500).

**"Ladies Courageous" Univ.)**
RKO PALACE—(2,700) (44c-50c-60c-70c) 7 days, plus Saturday midnight show. Gross: $10,000. (Average: $15,000).

**"Cover Girl" (Col.)**
RKO SHUBERT—(2,150) (44c-50c-60c-70c) 7 days, 2nd week, moveover from the Palace. Gross: $7,300. (Average: $5,000).


# Join Us at AMPA'S Annual Open Meeting

**TODAY, THURSDAY, at the HOTEL PICCADILLY at 12:45 P. M.**

BESIDES THE ELECTION OF OFFICERS, ANOTHER IMPORTANT EVENT* WILL TAKE PLACE.

This year's slate includes for president, Martin Starr; vice-president, James Zabin; secretary, David Bader; treasurer, Jacques Kopfstein; additions to the board of directors: Blanche Livingston, Hal Horne, William Ferguson, David O'Malley and Vincent Trotta; trustee for three years, Rutgers Neilson.

*A scroll parchment will be presented to Robert M. Whiteman, newly elected Honorary Member, for his "unusual co-operation" extended AMPA during the past year.

# Sound Men to Get Raise; Local 52 Also Makes Gains

(Continued from page 1)

retary-treasurer, is handling negotiations for the workers.

IATSE sound engineers are members of individual IATSE projectionists' locals in the areas where they work but hours and conditions of employment differ from those of the projectionists in that they work an average of 48 hours weekly in Metropolitan areas and 54 hours on a four-week basis with allowances for time off in other areas.

**Concessions Similar To Hollywood Locals**

Pat Casey, film company labor contact, set details here yesterday with C. J. Scoppa, business manager of Motion Picture Studio Mechanics Local 52, IATSE, granting some 300 members of the union, including grips, props and soundmen employed by the film companies, newsreels and others here, concessions similar to those granted recently to IATSE studio locals of Hollywood.

Local 52 had reached agreements with the companies last January for a 15 per cent increase for some 250 of the production workers employed by the companies and a five per cent increase for some 50 workers employed by the five newsreels. These agreements are now before the War Labor Board for approval and the understanding was that these workers were to benefit by the same general concessions granted to IATSE Hollywood studio locals. Scoppa is also representing similar workers of the IATSE Chicago Local 476. Increases are retroactive to Jan. 1 for the production workers and to Dec. 19 for the newsreel workers.

**No Newsreel Agreement**

Casey also presided at sessions yesterday between representatives of the five newsreels and IATSE newsreel cameramen Locals 644 of New York and 659 of Chicago on contract negotiations for 35 newsreel cameramen and others in that city. Cameramen are understood to be seeking a ten per cent wage increase and severance pay provisions in addition to the general concessions granted to the IATSE Coast studio cameramen. Meetings broke up at a late hour without any agreement being reached. W. A. Lang is handling negotiations for the New York local and W. E. Strafford for the Chicago group.

Meanwhile it was learned yesterday that the IATSE had finally signed new contracts covering the 11 IATSE studio locals which concluded negotiations with the studio representatives at Casey's office here two weeks ago. The contracts are now going to California for signing by the locals and producers. Their submission to the War Labor Board for approval is not expected to take place for several weeks.

## Rites for Jack Gelman

CINCINNATI, April 26. — Funeral services were held here recently for Jack N. Gelman, 48, who died following a heart attack. Gelman, with Jack Stallings, founded Midwest Theatre Supply Co. Surviving is his widow.

# 4 New Board Members Set For 20th Century-Fox

(Continued from page 1)

**issued yesterday by secretary Felix A. Jenkins, lists the following as having been discussed in this connection: president Spyros P. Skouras, executive vice-president William C. Michel, distribution vice-president Thomas J. Connors, vice-president and treasurer Sydney Towell, and comptroller Wilfred J. Eadie. Also listed as eligible are secretary Jenkins and foreign distribution vice-president Murray Silverstone.**

Silverstone is one of the four new nominees for board membership, as are L. Sherman Adams, vice-president of Massachusetts Investors Trust; Robert L. Clarkson, chairman of the board of the American Express Co., and Robert Lehman, president of Lehman Brothers. In addition, the following 11 are scheduled for reelection: Skouras, Wendell L. Willkie, Connors, Eadie, Michel, Towell, John R. Dillon, Daniel O. Hastings, William P. Phillips, Seton Porter and production vice-president Darryl F. Zanuck.

**Follows National Purchase**

The proposal for the stock sale to the managers of the theatre operating companies follows upon 20th-Fox's purchase, last July 6, of the 58 per cent interest in National Theatres previously held by Chase National Bank. The plan calls for reclassifying National's capital stock so that the total authorized number of shares will be 2,040. Of these, 2,000 shares shall be designated as Class "A" stock and 40 as Class "B." Of the Class "A" stock, 1,600 shares shall be issued in exchange for the 1,800 now outstanding, all of which are owned by 20th-Fox. The 40 Class "B" shares shall be sold at $14,125 each—25 of them to Charles P. Skouras, six to Rhoden, six to Fitzgerald and three to Ricketson. They shall be convertible into Class "A" stock on the basis of one share of "B" for 10 of "A" upon payment of a premium of $127.125 for each share so surrendered. The two classes shall share equally in dividends, but voting rights shall be vested in Class "A".

The proposal for granting options in 20th-Fox stock to its executives calls for reserving 140,000 authorized and unissued shares for this purpose. No one person would be allowed to buy more than half of these. President Skouras is expected to receive the limit, 70,000 shares. The division scheme for the remainder has not yet been determined. Based upon the closing price on the New York Stock Exchange as of April 21, the option price would be $23⅜ per share, or an aggregate of $3,272,500 for the 140,000 shares.

**$12,920,455 Profit Announced**

Along with the proxy statement in which the stockholders received the board nominations and stock plans went also the company's annual report for the fiscal year ended Dec. 25, 1943, in which president Skouras formally confirmed the previously estimated net profit of $12,920,455 (as reported in MOTION PICTURE DAILY on April 6) and announced that the gross income of $159,809,944 was the highest ever reached in the history of 20th-Fox.

It was also stated that of the $23,800,000 Federal income taxes estimated for the past year, $20,250,000 was excess profits tax minus postwar credit. The taxes amounted to $13.66 per share for each share of common stock outstanding.

The report shows current assets of $79,570,088, including cash of $26,897,669 and U. S. Government securities of $11,021,647. Current liabilities on Dec. 25 were $42,589,274, of which the reserve for Federal taxes was $28,277,668. The total assets of the corporation and its subsidiaries now amount to $132,423,427.

## 'Cantinflas' to RKO, For $200,000

(Continued from page 1)

was set by Santiago Reachi, president of Posa Films, S.A., for "Cantinflas," and for RKO by Phil Reisman, vice-president in charge of foreign distribution.

"Cantinflas," who is Mario Moreno in private life and vice-president of Posa, has received several offers from American companies. Paramount is said to have previously made him an offer of $100,000 for a single picture.

Reachi stated the film for RKO should gross in the neighborhood of $1,000,000 in the U. S. and Latin America, where "Cantinflas" is considered a favorite.

## Nine Named to IATSE

CHICAGO, April 26.—Sam Lamansky, business agent for Local B-45 here; Edward Daniels of the chapter in Milwaukee, and Roy Willowsby of the ushers' union in St. Louis, were elected at the ninth district meeting at Davenport, Ia., recently to serve as delegates to the IATSE convention in St. Louis in May.

## O'Donnell MapsDrive At Meeting Here

(Continued from page 1)

was called by R. J. O'Donnell, chairman of the campaign, at the War Activities Committee office, with the Fifth War Loan staff of John Friedl, R. M. Kennedy and Ray Beall also attending.

Others present were: S. Barret McCormick, Al Adams, Harry Mandel RKO; Charles Einfeld, Harry Goldberg, Mort Blumenstock, Warner Bros.; Martin Starr, United Artists; Lawrence Lipskin, Frank P. Rosenberg, Columbia; Bob Gillham, Claude Lee, Paramount; Si Seadler, William R. Ferguson, M-G-M; Oscar Doob, Ernest Emerling, Loew's; Maurice Bergman, Universal; Charles Schlaifer, 20th Century-Fox; John Hertz, Jr., Buchanan and Co.; John Harkins, Selznick Productions; Glenn Allvine, MPPDA; Walter T. Brown, John C. Flinn, Francis S. Harmon, Si Fabian and Ed. Schreiber of the War Activities Committee.

## $125,000 and Share For 'One World'

**A sum of $75,000 was paid to the trustee of the Wendell Willkie charity fund by 20th-Fox for film rights to Willkie's "One World;" Simon and Schuster, publishers of the book, received $50,000, according to the 20th-Fox stockholders' proxy statement issued yesterday.**

**In addition, the trustee and the publishers are given participation in the profits of the picture, based upon costs of production and gross receipts in excess of $3,000,000.**

# Hazen Is Named to Meet with Clark

(Continued from page 1)

will resume the decree revision discussions that were suspended early in February after the consenting companies had submitted their "final" draft incorporating decree changes.

While it was said that Hazen will represent Loew's, Paramount, RKO and 20th Century-Fox at the meeting with Clark, it was not clear whether he also would represent Warners or whether that company would designate its own representative for the conference.

Clark left here for New York tonight after being advised by telephone that Hazen had been authorized to represent the companies in the forthcoming discussions. Clark is scheduled to attend a regional conference of U. S. Attorneys in New York at which he will be a speaker on Friday.

## 10,000 Pledges for Wac Theatre Drive

(Continued from page 1)

Jacocks, Newark, 243; I. J. Hoffman, New Haven, 200; Charles Moskowitz, New York, 700; Jay Emanuel, Philadelphia, 795; J. Rosenberg and Mo Silver, Pittsburgh, 604; O. J. Miller, Portland, Ore., 227; Ed Fay, Providence, 63; John Rugar, Salt Lake City, 354; Harry Arthur and Fre Wehrenberg, St. Louis, 514; John J Payette, Washington, 63; W. J. Crockett, Virginia Beach, Va., 310; A. H Blank, Des Moines, 300 and Charle P. Skouras, Los Angeles, 609.

## First Proclamations Given on Wac Week

First official proclamations on the industry's Women's Army Corps recruiting week, to be observed in theatres May 11 to 17, have been received from Governor John W. Bricker of Ohio, Mayor Joseph J. Kelly of Buffalo and James A. Burke and John Cashmore, borough presidents of Queens and Brooklyn, respectively. War Activities Committee headquarters reported here yesterday.

All four urge the public to cooperate with theatres in the vital task of recruiting women for the Wac.

## McGough Joins M-G-M

CHICAGO, April 26.—Austin McGough has been appointed M-G-M publicist in Des Moines, it was disclosed at M-G-M's branch here.

First in Film and Radio News Brief, Accurate and Impartial

# MOTION PICTURE DAILY

Alert, Intelligent and Indispensable to the Motion Picture Industry

VOL. 55. NO. 84 NEW YORK, U. S. A., FRIDAY, APRIL 28, 1944 TEN CENTS

DO NOT COPY REMOVE

# Greatest Need For Theatres On West Coast

## *McMurphey Reports on Theatre Requirements*

WASHINGTON, April 27.—Southern California war centers, particularly those around Los Angeles and San Diego, are the most critical areas in the country so far as the need for new theatres is concerned, it was declared today by George W. McMurphey, chief of the amusement section of the Office of Civilian Requirements, just returned from a two-week investigation of West Coast theatre conditions in war sections.

McMurphey said that there was not anywhere near the decree of urgency for new houses in Oregon, Washington or Northern California originally anticipated, but that in some sections of Southern California the situation was much worse than had been indicated by surveys previously made.

"Several defense areas were found where the nearest theatres for a war

(Continued on page 7)

# PCCITO, Gov't Set New Building Talks

WASHINGTON, April 27.—Proposals of Fox West Coast Theatres to build eight houses in California war-production areas, currently before the War Production Board and Department of Justice, will be discussed with officials of those agencies May 24 by Hugh Bruen and Robert Poole of the Pacific Coast Conference of Independent Theatre Owners.

Independent operators on the Coast are described here as being opposed to construction of new houses in many areas where additional facilities are

(Continued on page 7)

## *CBS Hits Delays On Television Research*

Moving to bring before the public the issue of new television channel allocations by the Federal Communications Commission, Columbia Broadcasting yesterday announced it would support postwar improvements even at the cost of scrapping prewar investments. This policy will keep at a minimum the possible obsolescence of television receiver sets, provided provision can be made now for postwar operations, Paul W. Kesten, CBS executive vice-president indicated.

Speaking before some 200 members

(Continued on page 8)

## *Even Junk Film Is Hit by the War*

**War Production Board restrictions on the use of solvents needed to reduce junk-film to solutions used in the manufacture of plastics and other synthetic products has severly limited the junk-film market. Junk-film buyers are understood to have large stocks on hand and are having difficulty disposing of them. Warner Bros.' Cellulose Products, large purchaser of discarded film, has, as a result, cut prices to 7½ cents per pound. Previous price set by the OPA was 9½ cents.**

# Average Sales For 'A' Films Is Now 14,000

M-G-M, Paramount, RKO, 20th Century-Fox and Warner Bros. estimate that top "A" pictures this season are averaging about 14,000 contracts, against 9,000-10,000 in 1941-42; secondary features which received an average circulation of approximately 6,000 in 1941, have spread to as high as 9,000-11,000 billings, *Motion Picture Herald* discloses in a survey

(Continued on page 8)

# U.S. APPROVES FILMS IN POSTWAR TALKS

## Seek U.S. Policy on Venereal Disease Films in Theatres

WASHINGTON, April 27.—Members of the Surgeon General's advisory committee tonight had before them a considerable volume of opinion as to the desirability of general showing of social disease films, following a two-day meeting at which representatives of a number of leading religious, civilian and labor organizations were heard.

**Specifically, the representatives of the organizations were asked whether promiscuity was a proper subject of discussion in films and over the radio and whether theatres and broadcasting stations should be used for sex hygiene education.**

The committee, which is to make a report and recommendations to the Surgeon General, may hold sessions in other cities to hear persons who could not come to Washington.

The two-day conference was held as a result of protests last month against the nation-wide circulation, planned by the Office of War Informa-

(Continued on page 8)

## *Advisory Group Can Be Formed But Cannot Set National Policies*

By BERTRAM F. LINZ

WASHINGTON, D. C., April 27.—The Department of Justice will have no objection to the setting up of a committee of members of the film industry to assist American officials in projected negotiations with foreign governments this Summer on the international treatment of motion pictures in the postwar, it was learned today.

**Members of the industry, however, should not be given authority to determine national policy or carry out a program, which are responsibilities of the State Department, it was said.**

The subject of industry participation in international conferences was dealt with last night by U. S. Attorney General Francis Biddle in an explanation of his position with respect to such representation in the oil con-

(Continued on page 8)

# Smith Due Monday On Projector Plan

WASHINGTON, April 27.—Allen G. Smith, chief of the theatre equipment section of the War Production Board, will go to New York over the weekend for Monday conferences with industry representatives on production matters, including the WPB approved plan for the manufacture of 240 projectors in the third quarter of this year.

Meanwhile, it was learned here to-

(Continued on page 7)

## *Newsreels Called to Help 5th Loan*

Participation of the five newsreels in the industry's Fifth War Loan drive, slated for June 12-July 8, will be discussed today at a meeting called by R. J. O'Donnell, national chairman of the industry campaign. The meeting will take place at War Activities Committee headquarters in the Paramount Building here.

Members of the WAC newsreel division, of which Walton Ament is chair-

(Continued on page 7)

# *Wac Drive to Follow the Pattern of Bond Drives*

New York's "Wac Recruiting Drive" film committee yesterday decided to handle the Women's Army Corps recruiting campaign in theatres, May 11-17, in a manner similar to their operations in behalf of the 4th War Loan, and industry War Activities Committee officials predicted the same pattern will be adopted elsewhere.

Basically, the approach is the splitting-up of local territories of co-chairmen into districts with district captains appointed to organize and supervise aid for recruiting women for the Army Corps.

Following the Army's request to 16.000 theatres to aid it in enlisting Wac recruits, the industry has prepared, under the national chairmanship of Edward L. Alperson, a full

(Continued on page 7)

## *Decree Talk Date Is Expected Today*

Preliminary conferences were held here yesterday between Assistant U. S. Attorney General Tom C. Clark and Joseph H. Hazen, representing consent decree signatories Loew's, Paramount, RKO and 20th Century-Fox, to set an appointment for a meeting of Clark and the companies with a view to the reopening of discussions on a new decree. Because of a heavy schedule, however, Clark was unable to set a definite date for a meeting with company attorneys and another attempt will be made today. He is here for a three-day regional conference of U. S. attorneys.

Hazen, acting as liaison for the

(Continued on page 8)

# Personal Mention

TREM CARR, executive director of Monogram Pictures, is due here from Hollywood for a visit of several weeks.

•

HARRY BUXBAUM of 20th Century-Fox's New York exchange reports the arrival here of LT. (J.G.) HARRY BUXBAUM, JR., from the Solomons after 33 missions in the Pacific, where he received four silver stars and three citations.

•

HYMAN RACHMIL, retired Brooklyn exhibitor, and his family will leave Tuesday for the West Coast, where they will visit their son Lewis J. Rachmil, producer for Harry Sherman Productions.

•

B. G. KRANZE, RKO Eastern Central district manager, is in New York from Cleveland for conferences with ROBERT MOCHRIE and NAT LEVEY.

•

I. J. HOFFMAN, Warner Theatre New England zone manager, is in Hartford, Conn., on company business.

•

BERT STEARN, head of the Co-operative Theatre Service Co., Pittsburgh, has arrived in New York.

## WUXTRA! Brandt Is Nominated by ITOA

Harry Brandt, president of the Independent Theatre Owners Association of New York, was nominated for re-election at yesterday's luncheon at the Hotel Astor. Others nominated for re-election were: David Weinstock, first vice-president; Max A. Cohen, (new candidate), second vice-president; Leon Rosenblatt, treasurer; Abraham Leff, secretary and John C. Bolte, sergeant-at-arms.

Nominated for the directorate, in addition to the aforementioned, were Hyman Rachmil, Abraham Shenk, A. H. Eisenstadt, J. J. Goldberg, Gilbert Josephson, Jack Hatten, Rudolph Saunders, Emanuel Hertzig, Samuel Freedman, Leo Brecher, Samuel Seelen, Ray Rhonheim, A. Erickson, Charles Steiner and Isadore Gottlieb.

## Zanuck, Connors At 'Family Club' Dinner

Tonight's 20th-Fox Family Club dinner-dance is expected to have as guests Joseph M. Schenck, Mr. and Mrs. Darryl F. Zanuck, Tom Connors, W. C. Gehring, W. C. Michel and other corporation executives. Members of the club will be eligible for prizes of 14 war bonds, donated by Terrytoons, March of Time and National Theatres.

## Prass to Denver M-G-M

William Prass has been named by M-G-M to succeed R. W. Huffman as exploitation representative in the Denver territory.

## Film Group Sets Jewish Appeal

Plans for the industry's participation in the United Jewish Appeal's 1944 fund campaign to raise $32,000,000 to provide relief and rescue facilities for Jewish victims abroad were advanced yesterday at a luncheon meeting of a committee of film leaders at the Hotel Astor here.

The committee includes Barney Balaban, David Bernstein, Jack Cohn, Albert Warner, George Schaefer, Joseph Seidelman, Sam Rinzler, Louis Nizer, Harry Brandt, Nate Spingold and Herman Robbins.

Last year the industry in New York raised $140,000, falling short of its quota, so a special effort is being made to establish a good record this year. Attorney Monroe Goldwater is general chairman for the city, where the overall quota is $12,000,000.

## Ampa Elects Officers At Annual Meeting

Associated Motion Picture Advertisers' officers elected without opposition yesterday at the annual luncheon at the Hotel Piccadilly were Martin Starr, president, succeeding Vincent Trotta; James Zabin, re-elected vice-president; David Bader, secretary, succeeding Blanche Livingston; Jacques Kopfstein, treasurer, replacing "Hap" Hadley. Additions to the board of directors are: Blanche Livingston, Hal Horne, William Ferguson, David O'Malley and Vincent Trotta. Rutgers Neilson was named trustee for three years.

Trotta was presented with a cocktail shaker on retiring, while the organization presented Robert M. Weitman, managing director of the New York Paramount, with a scroll in appreciation of his cooperation with Ampa. Trotta presided at the meeting.

The influence of commercial radio shows from America, rebroadcast through transcriptions to the people of Iceland by the Office of War Information, has served to change the standing of motion picture stars in that country, Manny Reiner, home on a mission for the OWI overseas branch, said at the meeting.

## Yates, Grainger to Chicago for Meet

HOLLYWOOD, April 27.—Following the completion of the first of three Republic conferences here, H. J. Yates, Sr. and James R. Grainger left today for Chicago, where the second meeting will be held Monday and Tuesday at the Drake Hotel. Midwestern district sales manager Edward Walton and Southern district sales manager Merritt Davis will head a contingent from their territories. Republic's national director of public relations, John LeRoy Johnston also will be present.

The final session will take place in New York May 10-11, when Yates and Grainger will be joined by Central district sales manager Sam Seplowin and Eastern district sales manager Maxwell Gillis, heading a group from their areas.

## Cameras Also Shot Behind Enemy Lines

**"People's Avengers," described as the first film for theatres to be completely photographed by any United Nations cameramen behind Nazi lines will be released in this country by Artkino Pictures, Soviet film agency. It was made by 17 men and a woman who parachuted into the forest hideouts of Russia's guerrilla brigades and fought beside them for months.**

**Two of the lensmen were killed while making their way back to the Russian lines. Among those who participated in the numerous visits to the guerrilla regions were Vasili Byelaev, Stalin prize-winner and Dmitri Astradantsev, composer who prepared the musical score.**

## Ball Withdraws His Para. Injunction

PITTSBURGH, April 27.—Harry Norman Ball, whose lease on the Penn Theatre, Ambridge, expires Sunday, has withdrawn "without prejudice" his preliminary injunction against Paramount to prevent removal of equipment from the theatre. Paramount is part owner of the Pennmore Theatre Corp., which owns the Penn.

The motion, in U. S. District court here, had been filed by Ball in connection with an anti-trust suit that claims Paramount conspired to destroy the value and production possibilities of the house by erecting another building nearby; also, that Paramount's acquisition of stock in Pennmore lessens competition and is in restraint of trade.

## M. Conery, Upstate Exhibitor, Dead

Mitchell Conery, up-state theatre operator, died at his home in Ravena, N. Y., following a heart attack Wednesday night. He was 38 years old. Funeral services will be held at 2:00 p.m. tomorrow at the home of the deceased. Conery is survived by a wife and two children. He was an associate member of Allied of New Jersey and that organization will be represented at the services by E. Thornton Kelly.

## Form New Law Firm

Samuel Spring, film attorney, and Lee V. Eastman yesterday announced the formation of Spring & Eastman, their new partnership for general law practice. Spring, now on the Coast, is expected back on Monday.

## Benefit Fund Swells

OMAHA, April 27.—Nearly 100 theatres in this area are cooperating in the local Variety Club's campaign to aid the Children's Memorial hospital, to be built here. Variety has raised over $10,000 to date; $5,000 was realized at a special screening of "Lifeboat" at the 20th-Fox projection room.

## Hirliman Reports 20 Franchises

Film Classics, observing its first anniversary this week, has established 20 franchise agreements with states right distributors in the field. One year ago the company had only one distribution outlet, in New York, George Hirliman, Film Classics president, pointed out here yesterday.

Twenty features have been released and 34 more are scheduled for the next year, principally reissues, plus some 400 Hal Roach short subject issues.


NEW YORK THEATRES

RADIO CITY MUSIC HALL
50th St. & 6th Ave.
RITA HAYWORTH - GENE KELLY
"COVER GIRL"
in TECHNICOLOR . A Columbia Picture
Music by Jerome Kern
Lyrics by Ira Gershwin
Gala Stage Show . Symphony Orchestra
1st Mezzanine Seats Reserved. Circle 6-4600

Held Over 2nd Week
EXTRA! THE IRISH QUESTION! LATEST MARCH OF TIME RELEASED BY 20th CENTURY-FOX
RADIO CITY MUSIC HALL

RKO PALACE B'WAY & 47th St.
"7 DAYS ASHORE"
Wally Brown - Alan Carney
Marcy McGuire-Dooley Wilson

PARAMOUNT'S
"LADY IN THE DARK"
In Technicolor
IN PERSON
XAVIER CUGAT And BAND
DEAN MURPHY
PARAMOUNT TIMES SQUARE

LOEW'S STATE B'WAY & 45
ON SCREEN
First N.Y. Showing
Donald O'Connor
SUSANNA FOSTER
in
'THIS IS THE LIFE'
IN PERSON
Mitch AYRES' ORCHESTRA
under the direction of
STELL SLAVIN
Extra! GUS VAN

Joel McCrea - Maureen O'Hara - Linda Darnell
"BUFFALO BILL"
IN TECHNICOLOR
Plus on Stage—PAUL WHITEMAN and ch.
VICTOR BORGE - JOAN EDWARDS
BUY MORE BONDS ROXY 7th Ave. & 50th St.

THE SONG OF BERNADETTE
A 20th CENTURY-FOX PICTURE
CONTINUOUS
Doors Open 9:30 A.M. B'WAY & 49th ST. RIVO


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# St. Louis Grosses At a Record Low

ST. LOUIS, April 27.—Torrents of rain, the threat of floods, plus the annual Police Circus, sent receipts to a new low for the year. "The Heavenly Body," at Loew's State, looks like the best of a bad week with $14,500.

Estimated receipts for the week ending April 26:

**"Buffalo Bill" (20th-Fox)**
**"Tarzan's Desert Mystery" (RKO)**
FOX—(5,038) (40c-50c-60c) 7 days. Gross: $13,500. (Average: $18,700).
**"The Heavenly Body" (M-G-M)**
**"The Girl in the Case" (Col.)**
LOEW'S STATE—(3,162) (40c-50c-60c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $14,500. (Average: $18,900).
**"Standing Room Only" (Para.)**
**"Action in Arabia" (RKO)**
AMBASSADOR — (3,154) (40c-50c-60c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $10,000. (Average: $15,700).
**"The Impostor" (Univ.)**
**"Her Primitive Man" (Univ.)**
MISSOURI—(3,514) (40c-50c-60c) 7 days. Gross: $9,500. (Average: $9,900).
**"Broadway Rhythm" (M-G-M)**
LOEW'S ORPHEUM—(1,900) (40c-50c-60c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $5,000. (Average: $7,100).
**"Tender Comrade" (RKO)**
**"Four Jills in a Jeep" (20th-Fox)**
SHUBERT—(1,900) (40c-50c-60c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $4,500. (Average: $6,100).
**"Curse of the Cat People" (RKO)**
**"Weird Woman" (Univ.)**
ST. LOUIS—(4,000) (45c-50c) 7 days. Gross: $4,400. (Average: $5,200).

# MGM in Exclusive For REA Displays

M-G-M, beginning May 1 and continuing indefinitely, will have exclusive use in the film industry of advertising space on 4,200 side display boards of 4,200 express trucks in 73 large cities, under an arrangement completed with the Railway Express Agency and the Douglas Leigh poster organization. It is estimated by M-G-M that the ads will be looked at 750,000,000 times each month by persons along the 2,100,000 miles that the trucks cover.

First film to be so exploited will be "The White Cliffs of Dover," followed by other pictures featured in connection with the company's 20th anniversary celebration.

# Keough Testimony in Cooper Suit Held Up

Pre-trial examination of Austin C. Keough, Paramount vice-president, in that company's suit for adjudication of its rights to stock of J. H. Cooper Enterprises of Colorado, has been indefinitely postponed because of illness of a son of J. Lee Rankin, Cooper's attorney, who has returned to his home in Lincoln, Neb. The examination was to have been held this week in the offices of O'Brien, Driscoll and Raftery.

# Taylor Is Reelected President of Ascap

Deems Taylor yesterday was reelected president of Ascap by the board of directors, which also chose Gustav Schirmer and Oscar Hammerstein II as vice-presidents; George W. Meyer, secretary; Max Dreyfus, treasurer; G. J. Bregen, assistant secretary, and Irving Caesar, assistant treasurer.

# Johnson Is Supervisor

SAN FRANCISCO, April 27.—Arthur L. Johnson has been named field supervisor of the Warner film checking service in Northern California, succeeding Edward Resnick.

# Review

## "This Happy Breed"

*(Twin Cities-Eagle-Lion)*

*London, April 27*

J. ARTHUR RANK'S Eagle-Lion Films is off to a flying start with the trade showing here today by Two Cities Films of Noel Coward's "This Happy Breed." Produced in Technicolor, it is a simple, yet consummately cunning depiction of ordinary London folk and the years of uneasy peace from 1919 to 1939. A dozen little entrancing stories are slyly interwoven in the pattern of two faithful and loyal households whose husbands were fighting as private soldiers in the last war.

Demobilized, they are fondly imagining they now have reached the millennium of never again having wars or anxiety. Growing older and never consciously appreciating the shape of terrors to come, they rear their children, cherishing them tenderly and clumsily; their wives suffering bereavement and disappointment in the children. They grow cynical about politicians' mishandling of home affairs. Inarticulately and instinctively they protest against the inevitable march of events preluding the present gigantic, global catastrophe. In other words, it is the picture of everyman and his wife.

It is a familiar design and an episodic portrayal of those years but so accomplished is the Coward instinct in unveiling the essential greatness of little people, so exquisitely expressed is his now familiar philosophy of the loyalty of those who are not only the tragic victims of outside circumstances but are inherently the salt of the earth, that the picture takes on a tremendous grandeur. There is the counterpoint of tears and laughter throughout. Today's hardboiled exhibitor audience loudly applauded the picture's merit at its conclusion. Eagle-Lion's newly appointed salesmen have a "natural."

Producer Havelock Allan, director David Lean and cameraman Ronald Neame merit credit but primarily honors go to Robert Newton and Celia Johnson in the principal roles. Both are noted and accomplished British players, neither of whom hitherto had achieved in their respective spheres such exquisite and moving tenderness. "Happy Breed" will inevitably cram every British theatre. It is Rank's justification of faith in native production. In addition, it serves to elevate Newton and Miss Johnson to the foremost ranks of British artists.

Critical New York people present readily admitted that the cockney dialect was no bar to an American appreciation, saying that anyone will get the language. "This Happy Breed" is a great, ennobling and stimulating picture, lending dignity to the entire British industry.

Release date not set. "G."* PETER BURNUP

**"G" denotes general classification.*

# 'Lady', 'Dwarfs' Tops In Average Week

MILWAUKEE, April 27.—"Lady in the Dark" at the Wisconsin and Palace theatres looks like 10 percent over par for both places, with $14,500 and $11,000, respectively. "Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs," held over at the Alhambra, is aiming at $11,000.

Estimated receipts for the week ending April 28:

**"Lady in the Dark" (Para.)**
**"Memphis Belle" (WAC-Para.)**
WISCONSIN—(3,200) (40c-60c-80c) 7 days. Gross: $14,500. (Average, $13,000)
**"Lady in the Dark" (Para.)**
**"Memphis Belle" (WAC-Para.)**
PALACE — (2,400) (40c-60c-80c) 7 days. Gross: $11,000. (Average, $10,000)
**"Miracle of Morgan's Creek" (Para.)**
**"The Navy Way" (Para.)**
STRAND — (1,400) (40c-60c-80c) 7 days, 3rd week downtown. Gross: $4,250. (Average, $4,000)
**"The Bridge of San Luis Rey" (U. A.)**
**"Moon Over Las Vegas" (Univ.)**
WARNER — (2,400) (50c-72c) 7 days. Gross: $16,000. (Average, $15,500).
**"Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs" (RKO-Disney)**
ALHAMBRA — (1,900) (50c-72c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $11,000. (Average, $10,000)
**"Weird Woman" (Univ.)**
RIVERSIDE — (2,700) (65c-85c) 7 days, plus Sammy Kaye and his orchestra on stage. Gross: $15,000. (Average, $15,500)

# Cleve. Drive-Ins Reopen

CLEVELAND, April 27.—The Drive-In season has started here with the reopening of the Toledo, Dayton, Lima and East Side theatres. The West Side will reopen in May along with the Strassburg.

# $17,000 for 'Arms' In Providence

PROVIDENCE, April 27.—RKO-Albee took in $17,000 with Danny Kaye's "Up in Arms" and the film will be held over. "See Here, Private Hargrove" took in about $19,000 at Loew's State.

Estimated receipts for the week ending April 27:

**"Up in Arms" (RKO)**
**"Passport to Destiny" (RKO)**
RKO-ALBEE—(2,239) (35c-44c-55c-60c) 7 days. Gross: $17,000. (Average: $12,800).
**"Lady in the Dark" (Para.)**
STRAND—(2,200) (44c-55c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $9,700. (Average: $10,500).
**"See Here, Private Hargrove" (M-G-M)**
**"The Whistler" (Col.)**
LOEW'S STATE—(3,232) (35c-44c-55c) 7 days. Gross: $19,000. (Average: $17,700).
**"The Lodger" (20th-Fox)**
**"So's Your Uncle" (Univ.)**
MAJESTIC—(2,250) (35c-44c-55c) 7 days. Gross: $13,000. (Average: $12,100).
**"The Song of Bernadette" (20th-Fox)**
FAY'S—(1,800) (76c-80c-$1.10) 7 days, 3rd week. Gross: $15,300. (Average, under old scale: $6,500).
**"Shine On, Harvest Moon" (WB)**
**"The Memphis Belle" (Para.-WAC)**
CARLTON—(1,526) (35c-44c-55c) 7 days, 3rd week, (2nd week after being moved from Majestic). Gross: $3,000. (Average: $4,000).
**"First a Girl" (G-B)**
METROPOLITAN—(3,050) (50c-60c-70c) 3 days. On stage: Johnny Long's Orchestra. Gross: $9,000. (Average: $7,900).

# Herb Lyon Promoted

CHICAGO, April 27.—Herb Lyon, advertising man for Balaban and Katz, has been promoted to director of exploitation.

# Coast Flashes

*Hollywood, April 27*

WALTER J. KLINGER, M-G-M short subjects executive for the past 10 years, has resigned to join the Princeton Film Center. He will leave for the East on Saturday.

•

Buster Keaton, after an absence from the screen of three years, will be seen in Universal's "San Diego, I Love You," starring Louise Allbritton and Jon Hall. Reginald Le Borg is directing.

•

Paul Harrison, NEA feature editor, has been appointed, effective May 8, to an executive post on the information committee of the Association of Motion Picture Producers, according to an announcement by Arch Reeve.

•

J. Edmund Grainger, producer at Republic prior to his entering the service, has been promoted to the rank of captain in the U. S. Army Signal Corps.

•

B. G. De Sylva will return on May 8 from Mexico City, where he contracted Esther Fernandez for Paramount leads.

•

Bing Crosby Productions has borrowed Linda Darnell from 20th Century-Fox for the feminine lead in "The Great John L."

# All Drop, Except 'Morgan's Creek

PITTSBURGH, April 27.—Business fell off in many houses here this week, chief bright spot being "Miracle of Morgan's Creek," which continued above average in its fourth week, promising $4,500 at the Ritz.

Estimated receipts for the week ending April 25-28:

**"The Sullivans" (20th-Fox)**
FULTON—(1,700) (35c-44c-65c) 7 days, 3rd week. Gross: $8,000. (Average: $8,500).
**"The Song of Bernadette" (20th-Fox)**
HARRIS—(2,200) (80c-$1.10) 7 days, 3rd week. Gross: $10,000. (Average: $10,100).
**"Shine On, Harvest Moon" (WB)**
PENN — (3,400) (35c-44c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $18,000. (Average: $21,700).
**"The Miracle of Morgan's Creek" (Para.)**
RITZ—(1,100) (35c-44c-65c) 7 days, 4th week, moveover after one week at the Penn, two at the Warner. Gross: $4,500. (Average: $3,000).
**"Sing a Jingle" (Univ.)**
**"Moon Over Las Vegas" (Univ.)**
SENATOR—(1,750) (35c-44c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $2,800. (Average: $3,400).
**"The Bridge of San Luis Rey" (UA)**
STANLEY—(3,800) (44c-68c-85c). On stage: Six days of vaudeville, including Bill Robinson and Teddy Powell's band. Gross: $21,000. (Average: $22,000).
**"Lady in the Dark" (Para.)**
WARNER—(2,000) (35c-44c-65c) 7 days, 3rd week, moveover after two weeks at the Penn. Gross: $8,500. (Average: $9,350).

# William Green to Chicago

William Green, M-G-M exploitation representative in Des Moines, has been transferred to Chicago, succeeding Ted Galanter as assistant to William G. Bishop. Austin John McGough succeeds Green in Des Moines.

# NOW IN THIRD BIG WEEK

## RIALTO, NEW YORK



"A macabre horror tale that will tempt the cinematic appetites of even the most jaded thrill-film-followers. Here is a bizarre theme with a dual appeal: its attraction for those who glory in eerie lighting and impending violence, and the more subtle, intellectual fascination of the pseudo-scientific premise that a man's brain, once the body has ceased to function, can go on living in a disembodied state. George Sherman, director and associate producer, has made this one of Republic's more ambitious current efforts."

**— Motion Picture Daily**

"An interesting mystery melodrama. It should prove satisfying to most audiences; the story, though fantastic and morbid, is different and holds one in suspense. The production tone is very good, and the spectator will be gripped by its mysterious atmosphere."

**— Harrison's Reports**

"A gripping, absorbing horror tale of the Class A variety. This picture will profit at the box office through word-of-mouth comment."

**— Showmen's Trade Review**

"Weird and tense, the picture is quite a compound of fear-producing elements. Suspense is worked for all it is worth. Miss Ralston performs appealingly in her first straight role."

**— The Film Daily**

"Cleverly conceived and well cast. Suspense is excellently maintained to the climax. A generally superior presentation. Vera Hruba Ralston proves herself a capable actress."

**— Motion Picture Herald**

"Will hold the interest of audiences, asserting a special appeal to those who relish screen fare of scientifically macabre variety. Well produced."

**— Boxoffice**

# OW IN THIRD SMASH WEEK

## TRANS-LUX, BOSTON

# THE Lady AND THE Monster

**VERA HRUBA RALSTON • RICHARD ARLEN • ERICH VON STROHEIM**



*with*

HELEN VINSON
SIDNEY BLACKMER

GEORGE SHERMAN—*Director*

Screenplay by Dane Lussier—Frederick Kohner
Based on the Novel "Donovan's Brain" by Curt Siodmak

A REPUBLIC PICTURE

# 'Snow White' At $35,000 Is No Chi. Dwarf

CHICAGO, April 27.—First Illinois showing at the RKO Palace theatre of the reissued "Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs" won top receipts of $35,000 in the Loop parade of outstanding features. Afternoon attendance soared to new highs with children on Spring school vacation swarming to theatres with parents.

Estimated receipts for the week ending April 28:

**"The Song of Bernadette" (20th-Fox)**
APOLLO—(1,200) (80c-$1.20) 7 days, 9th Loop week. Gross: $18,000. (Average: $11,400).
**"The Miracle of Morgan's Creek" (Para.)**
CHICAGO—(3,850) (55c-65c-95c) 7 days, 2nd week. Stage: Lou Breese and band. Gross: $43,000. (Average: $51,500).
**"Cry Havoc" (M-G-M)**
**"Memphis Belle" (WAC-Para.)**
GARRICK—(1,000) (55c-65c-95c) 7 days, 3rd week. Gross: $11,000. (Average: $9,100).
**"Ali Baba and Forty Thieves" (Univ.)**
**"Hi, Good Looking" (Univ.)**
GRAND—(1,250) (50c-60c-85c-95c) 7 days, 3rd Loop week. Gross: $14,000. (Average: $9,100).
**"Lady, Let's Dance" (Mono.)**
ORIENTAL—(3,200) (44c-55c-60c-80c-95c) 7 days. Stage: Borrah Minevitch and Harmonica Band. Gross: $33,000. (Average: $24,000).
**"Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs" (RKO)**
**"The Falcon Out West" (RKO)**
PALACE—(2,500) (50c-60c-85c-95c) 7 days. Gross: $35,000. (Average: $24,000).
**"Shine On, Harvest Moon" (WB)**
ROOSEVELT—(1,500) (55c-65c-95c) 7 days, 3rd week. Gross: $26,000. (Average: $24,000).
**"Lady in the Dark" (Para.)**
STATE-LAKE—(2,700) (55c-65c-95c) 7 days, 3rd week. Gross: $29,000. (Average: $29,000).
**"A Guy Named Joe" (M-G-M)**
UNITED ARTISTS—(1,700) (55c-65c-95c) 7 days, 4th week. Gross: $20,000. (Average: $20,200).
**"Voodoo Man" (Mono.) and**
**"Ghost That Walks Alone" (Col.) 4 days, 3rd week**
**"Up in Arms" (RKO) 3 days**
WOODS—(1,200) (55c-65c-95c) 7 days. Gross: $14,000. (Average: $10,000).

## *Boston Grosses Dip, 'Gung Ho' High*

BOSTON, April 27.—Business in Boston took a sharp drop this week, following the death of Cardinal O'Connell. However, "Gung Ho," at the Boston, with $30,500, did better than average business.

Estimated receipts for the week ending April 26:

**"Gung Ho" (Univ.)**
RKO BOSTON—(3,200) (50c-65c-85c-$1.10) 7 days. Gross: $30,500. (Average: $28,300).
**"The Sullivans" (20th-Fox)**
**"Timber Queen" (Para.)**
FENWAY—(1,373) (40c-55c-74c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $5,400. (Average: $7,000).
**"Up in Arms" (RKO)**
**"Passport to Destiny" (RKO)**
KEITH MEMORIAL—(2,900) (40c-65c-80c) 7 days. Gross: $25,000. (Average: $27,000).
**"Standing Room Only" (Para.)**
**"Navy Way" (Para.)**
METROPOLITAN—(4,367) (40c-65c-74c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $23,000. (Average: $27,300).
**"Lost Angel" (M-G-M)**
**"Hey Rookie" (Col.)**
LOEW'S ORPHEUM—(2,900) (35c-55c-74c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $23,000. (Average: $23,700).
**"The Sullivans" (20th-Fox)**
**"Timber Queen" (Para.)**
PARAMOUNT—(1,700) (35c-55c-74c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $12,000. (Average: $12,800).
**"Lady and The Monster" (Rep.)**
**"Chinese Cat" (Mono.)**
TRANS LUX—(900) (30c-40c-74c) 7 days, second week. Gross: $7,800. (Average: $6,200).

# *Reviews*

## *"Song of the Open Road"*

*(Charles R. Rogers-United Artists)*

UTILIZING the refreshingly new background material of the American Youth Hostels, Charles R. Rogers presents a semi-musical that throbs with the exuberance of youth, contains a catchy score, and serves to introduce an engaging youngster, Jane Powell, who, in her first effort, displays a singing and acting ability that would do credit to a seasoned player. She travels in fast company, being aligned with Charlie McCarthy and Edgar Bergen, W. C. Fields, Bonita Granville and Sammy Kaye and his orchestra. All of these elements combine, in "Song of the Open Road," to evoke a merry melody for theatre cash registers.

Miss Powell, as a young Hollywood star who has grown weary of her exacting confinement on studio lots, flees her bondage for the companionship of people of her own years. She joins a group of youths who are bicycling from locality to locality, aiding farmers harvest their crops. There are two charming romances involving the foursome of Jackie Moran and Bonita Granville and Bill Christy and Peggy O'Neill, and there is a message for America's young people, and their elders, too, to get out and pitch for Uncle Sam with the crops that need harvesting. This appeal is injected so ingenuously that it goes down very easily.

The film provides a field day for the youngsters, with the oldsters simply hovering in the background. Miss Powell proves an appealing youngster, with a lovely voice, who will have no difficulty winning herself an immense public. All the juveniles deliver natural and disarming performances. Also in the cast are Reginald Denny, Regis Toomey, Rose Hobart and Sig Arno. Specialties are performed by the Condos Brothers, the Liphan Four, Chuck Faulkner and his band, and Catron & Popp.

S. Sylvan Simon directed from a screen play by Albert Mannheimer, based on a story by Irving Phillips and Edward Verdier. Walter Kent and Kim Gannon supplied the score, of which "Too Much in Love" and "Here It Is Monday" are extremely listenable.

Running time, 93 mins. "G."* Release date, not set.

CHARLES RYWECK

## *"Gambler's Choice"*

*(Pine-Thomas-Paramount)*

WILLIAM PINE and William Thomas go back to New York's "Tenderloin" district for "Gambler's Choice." It has many moments of fast action, but it is handicapped by an oft-told story that weaves a too familiar pattern. Chester Morris, one of three kids from the sidewalks of New York, who go their separate ways only to be reunited when they reach maturity, effectively essays the role of a gambler with familiar ease; Nancy Kelly is the girl, and Russell Hayden completes the triangle with a forthright performance as an honest cop.

When a police officer is killed by some thugs imported by Sheldon Leonard, a rival gambler, to do away with Morris, Hayden raids the Tenderloin, smashing gambling establishments. He is "broken" for this, but is reinstated as a special investigator for the governor's office. An attempt to frame him is foiled by Morris, who loses his life, however, in doing so. Hayden and Miss Kelly are romantically united.

Director Frank McDonald managed to extract a fair share of excitement from a screenplay by Maxwell Shane and Irving Reis, derived from an original by Howard Emmett Rogers and James Edward Grant. Others in the cast are Les Patrick, Lloyd Corrigan and Lyle Talbot.

Running time, 66 mins. "G."* Released in Block No. 5.

CHARLES RYWECK

**"G" denotes general classification.*

## *Censorship of Films Adopted in Knoxville*

KNOXVILLE, Tenn., April 27.—An "emergency censorship committee" has been appointed here and empowered by the city council to "either endorse or prohibit" any film or stage show "about which a question is raised."

The drastic shakeup in Knoxville's turbulent motion picture affairs has been accompanied by a move on the part of city safety director P. Virgil Graves to enforce a midnight curfew. As a result, Saturday midnight shows have been cancelled. Although Knoxville has a population of 100,000, Sunday films were decisively defeated last year.

## *Mayor and Military At Brown Banquet*

LOS ANGELES, April 27.—Mayor Fletcher Bowron and others prominent in civic, military and film circles will attend the Independent Motion Picture Producers Association's testimonial dinner at the Ambassador Hotel May 3 honoring Joe E. Brown for entertaining service forces abroad.

The military will be represented by Major Gen. Clayton B. Vogel, Major E. J. Hart; the Navy by Comm. A. J. Bolton, and the Marines by Ralph E. Davis, State commandant, and Ray George, commandant of the Marine Corps League. W. Ray Johnston, Monogram president, is chairman of arrangements.

# K. C. Gives Week's Best to Chillers

KANSAS CITY, April 27.—The Tower Theatre with two thrillers, "Weird Woman" and "Charlie Chan in the Secret Service" wound up a good week with $10,000. The Newman kept "Lady in the Dark" a fourth week and "Up in Arms" at the Orpheum finished a three weeks' run with $45,000.

Estimated receipts for the week ending April 26-29:

**"Buffalo Bill" (20th-Fox)**
**"Memphis Belle" (WAC-Para.)**
ESQUIRE—(800) (45c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $5,000. (Average, $6,000)
**"Heavenly Body" (M-G-M)**
**"Memphis Belle" (WAC-Para.)**
MIDLAND—(3,500) (40c-60c) 7 days. Gross: $14,500. (Average: $14,000).
**"Lady in the Dark" (Para.)**
**"Memphis Belle" (WAC-Para.)**
NEWMAN—(1,900) (46c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $12,500. (Average: $11,000).
**"Up in Arms" (RKO)**
**"Murder on the Waterfront" (WB)**
ORPHEUM—(1,900) (45c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $13,000. (Average: $10,000).
**"Weird Woman" (Univ.)**
**"Charlie Chan in the Secret Service" (Mono.)**
TOWER—(2,200) (40c-60c) 7 days. Gross: $10,000. (Average: $9,400).
**"Buffalo Bill" (20th-Fox)**
**"Memphis Belle" (WAC-Para.)**
UPTOWN—(2,000) (45c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $5,600. (Average: $5,600).
**"Buffalo Bill" (20th-Fox)**
**"Memphis Belle" (WAC-Para.)**
FAIRWAY—(700) (45c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $1,400. (Average: $1,600).

## *'Heavenly Body' on Dual Nets $19,400*

BUFFALO, April 27.—"Heavenly Body" and "Tunisian Victory" are the prize package here, pulling for $19,400 at the Hippodrome. "The Sullivans" and "Shine On, Harvest Moon" will be above average at the Buffalo and Lakes, respectively.

Estimated receipts for the week ending April 29:

**"The Sullivans" (20th-Fox)**
**"You Can't Ration Love" (Para.)**
BUFFALO—(3,489) (40c-50c-60c-70c) 7 days. Gross: $18,500. (Average: $17,400).
**"Shine On, Harvest Moon" (WB)**
GREAT LAKES—(3,000) (40c-50c-60c-70c) 7 days. Gross: $17,800. (Average: $16,600).
**"The Heavenly Body" (M-G-M)**
**"Tunisian Victory" (M-G-M)**
HIPPODROME—(2,100) (40c-50c-60c-70c) 7 days. Gross: $19,400. (Average: $9,700).
**"Up in Arms" (RKO)**
TWENTIETH CENTURY—(3,000) (40c-50c-60c-70c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $11,000. (Average: $12,200).
**"Cover Girl" (Col.)**
**"Klondike Kate" (Col.)**
LAFAYETTE—(3,000) (40c-50c-60c-70c) 7 days. "Cover Girl" 3rd week. Gross: $9,100. (Average: $12,400).

## *'Joe' Leads in Omaha With Good $12,100*

OMAHA, April 27.—Grosses here held up well despite a week of almost continuous rain. "A Guy Named Joe" set the pace at the Paramount with $12,100, while "The Uninvited" and "The Memphis Belle" registered $10,600 at the Orpheum.

Estimated receipts for the week ending April 26-27:

**"Up in Arms" (RKO-Goldwyn)**
**"Passport to Destiny" (RKO)**
BRANDEIS—(1,200) (44c-60c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $6,400. (Average: $6,500).
**"Lost Angel" (M-G-M)**
OMAHA—(2,000) (44c-60c) 7 days. Gross: $8,400. (Average: $8,400).
**"The Uninvited" (Para.)**
**"The Memphis Belle" (Para.-WAC)**
ORPHEUM—(3,000) (44c-60c) 7 days. Gross: $10,600. (Average: $9,800).
**"A Guy Named Joe" (M-G-M)**
PARAMOUNT—(2,900) (44c-60c) 7 days. Gross: $12,100. (Average: $11,700).

# Wac Drive to Follow Style Of Bond Drive

(Continued from page 1)

campaign to induce women to become Wacs. Others on the general committee are: Ned E. Depinet, distributor chairman; Harry Mandel, in charge of publicity, and Harry Brandt and Charles B. McDonald, field co-directors.

The drive committee reported here yesterday that "every advertising aid known to the industry has been enlisted to aid in the campaign." Trailers, heralds, posters, radio, newspapers and other media will be employed by theatres to bring the Women's Army Corps to public attention during May 11-17.



Charles B. McDonald

A 250 - foot trailer stars Lionel Barrymore in an appeal to the women of America. It was produced by Frank Whitbeck of M-G-M studios and will be distributed free to theatres through National Screen.

There will be 20,000,000 heralds available, application blanks number 1,250,000, there are 16,000 new Wac Army Corps posters and 16,000 accessory kits each containing the following: a 25-by-38-inch lithograph, a red-and-black pictorial of the same size both specially imprinted, two midget posters, a page of .99 stamps with copy about the Women's Corps for putting on outgoing mail, etc., and four streamers 5-by-25 inches for lobby display. Most of the material can also be utilized for decorating recruiting booths in lobbies and for lobby displays.

As a prologue to the campaign Eddie Cantor will broadcast a special salute to the Wacs on his regular air show on Wednesday night, May 10, the night before the drive opens. A special 12-page press book has been prepared under the direction of Mandel for distribution to theatres.

**The Army will issue special citations to every theatre manager who secures applications for at least a squad of 12 Wacs.**

To implement the theatres' "Wac Recruiting Week," chairman Alperson created an industry advisory council consisting of the following: Joseph Bernhard, Barney Balaban, Nate Blumberg, Jack Cohn, Tom Connors, Oscar Doob, Gus Eyssell, Si Fabian, Leonard Goldenson, Ben Kalmenson, Harry Kalmine, Carl Leserman, Abe Montague, Rodney Pantages, N. Peter Rathvon, Charles Reagan, Herman Robbins, William F. Rodgers, Eddie Rubin, George Schaefer, Joseph M. Schenck, Nicholas M. Schenck, Edward Schreiber, William Scully, Si Seadler, Gradwell Sears, Spyros Skouras, Edwin Silverman, Kenneth Thomson, Joseph Vogel, Harry Warner, Richard Walsh and Pete Wood.

This committee will function in addition to special field committees on distribution, exhibition and publicity.

# *Industry Ready for Wacs*



***Col. Oveta Culp Hobby, director of the U. S. Women's Army Corps, approves plans for the motion picture industry's War Activities Committee sponsorship of 'Wac Recruiting Week' in 16,000 theatres, May 11-17. Presenting the plans to Col. Hobby are (l. to r.) Edward L. Alperson, national chairman of the industry drive; Harry Mandel, national publicity director, and Harry Brandt, co-field director.***

# PCCITO, Gov't Set New Building Talks

(Continued from page 1)

under consideration, on the ground that surveys show that many theatres are operating far below capacity and there is no real need for additional seats.

Meanwhile, it has developed, charges also have been made that consent decree companies are using the war need for new theatres as a means of overcoming opposition of the Department of Justice to further circuit expansion, although WPB officials said that FWC is the only large circuit to come forward with any program for new construction and that the decree companies have lagged far behind independents in cooperating with the Office of Civilian Requirements program to meet war-center recreation needs.

At the Department of Justice it was indicated that in the consideration of circuit expansions in war centers the report by OCR officials on the need for houses would carry considerable weight.

## *Trade Press Aid to Loan Drive Pledged*

**Editors and publishers of motion picture trade publications have pledged full support in the industry's Fifth War Loan drive to R. J. O'Donnell, national chairman.**

**All trade papers will report on special war bond promotions well in advance of the drive's start and during the drive. O'Donnell, who presided at a trade press meeting here, praised the cooperation of the press in all four previous bond campaigns.**

# Smith Due Monday On Projector Plan

(Continued from page 1)

day that the additional projector units contemplated under the expanded program will be made chiefly in plants in areas where no stringency of labor prevails. There is little likelihood of any additional production in the so-called No. 1 areas, including Detroit and Chicago, where the most severe conditions exist. The expanded program will be handled chiefly in the No. 2 areas, including Indianapolis, Toledo, Newark, and other sections where labor conditions are good.

Smith explained that the inability to expand their civilian production will have little effect on the plants in the most congested areas, which are running on a large backlog of military orders.

## *Newsreels Called to Help 5th Loan*

(Continued from page 1)

man, will attend the session at which plans will be developed for the newsreels' support in bringing the war loan message to theatre audiences.

Members of the Metropolitan New York WAC theatres division, of which Sam Rinzler and Fred Schwartz are co-chairmen, held their organization meeting on the drive yesterday at WAC headquarters. Various showmanship promotions were discussed with the aim of surpassing previous bond drive showings.

## *Salesmen Get $4,700*

WASHINGTON, April 27.—Joseph Walsh, president of the Motion Picture Salesmen's Club here, reports that the organization's welfare fund campaign has hit $4,700.

# Greatest Need For Theatres On West Coast

(Continued from page 1)

population of as much as 50,000 were from two to ten miles distant," he said.

Two major factors are now guiding the OCR in carrying forward its program for the construction of additional facilities in congested areas, he disclosed. One is whether a location for which a new theatre is proposed will continue to be as important after the situation in Europe is cleared up and the war shifts from that area to the Pacific with consequent change in the type of material which will be required. When that shift occurs, it was explained, there will be less emphasis upon supplying the tremendous Army and more upon the requirements of the greatly expanded Navy.

The other factor is the shortage of manpower and construction materials, and where the situation is critical new houses will be authorized only in cases where the distance to operating theatres is definitely unreasonable or the existing houses are playing SRO nightly.

While on the coast, McMurphey talked with Government officials and with theatre interests, securing the views of both as to the recreation needs of the area. "Similar trips will be taken to other defense sections as opportunity arises," he said.

## *NTS Has Service Club*

Women employes of National Theatre Supply here have formed a "Servicemen's Letter Club," under the sponsorship of W. E. Greene, president of the company. Each member has pledged herself to write at least one letter a week to a man in service, other than relatives. Membership is open to all girls in National's 28 branches.


A MAN WHO KNOWS!

**How nice it is to do business with a man who, by experience, knows and understands your problems . . . a man who has faced those same problems himself.**

* * *

**MY BACKGROUND:**

**Screen:** 7 years Exploitation Director, Columbia Pictures.

**Stage:** 10 years Theatrical (legit.) managing and publicizing, from coast to coast, famous dramatic and musical shows, and representing celebrated stars, including Ethel Barrymore, Jeanette MacDonald, Mme. Jeritza, Cary Grant, others.

**Radio:** 2 years Radio writer, director, producer.

**Advg.:** 6 years national advertising and public relations. 2 years newspaper reporting and editorial work, Times and Post.

* * *

**Let me assist in solving your personnel problems . . . none is too large or too difficult.**

* * *

FRANK McGRANN

POSITION SECURING BUREAU, Inc.

(Agency)

331 Madison Ave., N.Y.C. MU.2-6494

# Average Sales for 'A' Pictures Is 14,000 This Year

(*Continued from page* 1)

of current season's sales, published today. Contracts and bookings for 1943-44 pictures are the highest of any period in the last 10 years, it is said.

**Reduction in the number of pictures released and in the prints available is the reason cited by the sales executives for the record contracts.**

The product shortage has resulted in greater circulation, in some instances as high as 200 per cent over 1941-42 billings, for Republic, Monogram and PRC Pictures. Columbia, United Artists and Universal also show a higher average of bookings this season for both top "A" and program product.

Hugh Owen, Eastern division sales manager for Paramount, reported that the highest number of billings for any company picture this season was 15,094, compared to 14,016 in 1941, and the lowest circulation for any film in 1943-44 was 7,801, compared to the low of 5,020 two years ago. Owen estimated that the average number of billings for 10 of Paramount's top "A" features this season was 14,594.

### M-G-M Reports on Booking

H. M. Richey, director of exhibitor relations for M-G-M, reported the company has had more big-budget pictures hitting the 14,000 booking mark this season than in previous years. Secondary product, as a result, received wider circulation, reaching an average of approximately 9,000. Richey pointed out that with 15,000 theatre accounts representing the peak in possibilities, M-G-M has come closest in many years to hitting that mark.

Robert Mochrie, general sales manager of RKO Radio, said that 14,000 bookings was the high figure this season, compared to about 9,000 two years ago. At 20th Century-Fox, bookings are in excess of 13,000 for important pictures, and at Warners, it was said that 14,000 is an average estimate of bookings for top "A" pictures this season, with some going as high as 15,500, including repeat bookings.

### Special Handling for 67

At least 67 pictures thus far this season received special handling and were sold at higher terms, with most of them given pre-release exhibition. There are approximately 20 more to come before the end of the season which will be sold in the higher brackets. According to sales executives, reissues and second grade product have alleviated the product shortage for many subsequent run theatre operators. It is estimated that there are more theatres playing first run product now than ever before, including the moveovers which were converted into first run outlets and closed houses which reopened as first runs. Since the war, approximately 2,000 theatres in the country have closed, because of population shifts, gasoline restrictions, manpower and product shortages. It is understood that of the 2,000 closed houses, at least 200 have reopened.

The bottleneck of product in key city first runs which caused alarm last season among distributors, circuit and independent exhibitors alike, has been eased a little this season, sales executives report.

# Review

## *"This Is the Life"*

*(Universal)*

UNIVERSAL in "This Is the Life" offers a wide assortment of entertainment which, in an effort to be all things to all men, becomes somewhat diffuse in effect, but retains those ingredients peculiar to box office prosperity, nevertheless.

There are the special talents of Donald O'Connor at singing and dancing and being just Donald O'Connor; there is Susanna Foster to sing; there is the suave support of Patric Knowles and Louise Allbritton; there are Ray Eberle and his orchestra; there is explosive Peggy Ryan, and also a host of lesser players who deliver solid performances.

Miss Foster, on the verge of departing her teens, is romantically inclined to Patric Knowles, an invalided veteran of Guadalcanal, who is many years her senior. This creates a problem for Donald, who has already staked out a claim on Miss Foster's affections. Knowles flees the brazen Miss Foster who has, in no uncertain terms, made known her feelings. She pursues him to New York, where he agrees to become engaged to her in an effort to make her follow a singing career. Her girlish infatuation is eventually dissipated when Miss Allbritton reappears to kindle an old spark in Knowles' heart. It seems that they have been divorced through a misunderstanding. Donald goes on to the Army and in a final camp show sequence is reunited with Susanna.

Director Felix Feist has turned out a craftsman-like job; while Wanda Tuchock, who has derived inspiration for her screenplay, in some small way, from the play by Sinclair Lewis and Fay Wray, has given the players many amusing lines. Her script is also sufficiently knowing where necessary in the language of the "hepcats" to pass muster. A bit of business with a cherry in a glass makes for some really hilarious moments.

Others who contribute their talents are Dorothy Peterson, Jonathan Hale, Frank Puglia, Eddie Quillan, Frank Jenks, Virginia Brissac, the Bobby Brooks Quartette and Smoky, an educated Scotty. Bernard Burton was associate producer.

Running time, 87 mins. "G."* Release date, June 2.

CHARLES RYWECK

**"G" denotes general classification.*

# Films Can Advise On Foreign Talks

(*Continued from page* 1)

ferences now going on between the U. S. and British governments.

Quoting from a letter he sent to Secretary of State Cordell Hull on the subject, Biddle said: "Consultation by the State Department with technical experts does not constitute any violation of the Federal anti-trust laws."

"Consultation," he explained, "does not involve, of course, the determination of policies nor the formulation of problems which should be the responsibility of the State Department. If technical experts operating as members of a panel should themselves agree on any private plan or program, or should take part in any such private plan or program such a plan or program would be subject to the anti-trust laws.

"Advisory committees representing private interests are one valuable source of information and advice, but provision should be made so that any group which feels that its interests are being neglected may present its grievances or suggestions to the Government. Moreover, no advisory committee or other private group, representative of special interests, should have authority to determine national policy or to carry out a program," it was said.

## *U.A. to Release 'Europe'*

"The Battle of Europe," distributed by United Artists here in the World-in-Action series, will be released nationally May 5.

# CBS Hits Delays On Television

(*Continued from page* 1)

of the press at a luncheon at the Hotel Waldorf-Astoria here, Kesten acknowledged that the stand taken by CBS will create problems which Government, manufacturer, broadcaster and the public must face. "But," he stated, "delay in improving television standards may in itself be fatal, dooming better television pictures."

To facilitate an early FCC decision in favor of higher frequencies required for improved television, the CBS policy urges immediate concentration of effort by all laboratories to complete experiments on which "CBS knows that 80 percent, perhaps 90 percent, has been done and has been tested in the crucible of war."

Channels 16 megacycles in width rather than the present six megacycles would be employed by CBS to turn coarse-screen television into fine screen television, increasing from 250,000 to 585,000 the number of picture elements. Color picture elements would be increased from 250,000 to 900,000 under the 16 megacycle channel.

## *Decree Talk Date Is Expected Today*

(*Continued from page* 1)

aforementioned four companies, will participate in the discussions as advisor to their representatives, it is understood. Warner Bros. will be represented by either Robert Perkins or Howard Levinson, company counsel.

# Hollywood

By JACK CARTWRIGHT

*Hollywood, April 27*

PARAMOUNT will reach production peak for the year during May with eight pictures set for the cameras. "Murder, He Says," directed by George Marshall, and "Two Years Before the Mast," directed by John Farrow, are underway. Mark Sandrich will start "Here Come the Waves" this week; Lewis Allen will give the green light to "Fear" on May 8. The following week will see three started: "Out of This World," directed by Hal Walker; "Kitty," with Mitchell Leissen directing, and "A Medal for Benny," with Irving Pichel calling the signals. Pine and Thomas will put "Double Exposure" in work in mid-May. Chester Morris is starred and it will probably be his last for P-T, at least under their present agreement.

•

**Sam Wood has finished direction of "Casanova Brown," starring Gary Cooper and Teresa Wright, at Goldwyn Studios and has moved back to his production headquarters at Columbia where he is already deep in preparations on "Jubal Troop" for Columbia release. He also plans to make "This Land Is Bright," and "Tatiana" following "Jubal Troop." He is negotiating for the loan of Ingrid Bergman from David O. Selznick for "Tatiana."**

•

Gypsy Rose Lee probably will do one or two more pictures when she finishes work in "Belle of the Yukon," which William Seiter is directing for International. . . . John Farrow has started direction on "Two Years Before the Mast," one of Paramount's top budget pictures for the year. . . . Columbia has changed the title on two stories in preparation. "Forever Art" is now "The Sealed Tomb" while "Once Upon a Mountain" has been retitled "Eve Knew Her Apples".

# Seek U.S. Policy on Disease-Film Shows

(*Continued from page* 1)

tion and the industry War Activities Committee, of the Walter Wanger film, "To the American People." While the withdrawal of Public Health Service sponsorship of the picture was based on a protest from the Legion of Decency, it was learned that other organizations had voiced objections.

This was the first picture produced for the PHS for which nationwide showing was planned, such films heretofore having been made available to state health authorities who arranged for showings within the state.

The views of the OWI were presented in a letter from Stanton Griffis, chief of the motion picture bureau, but neither Griffis or Francis Harmon, executive chairman of the WAC, who also had been invited, were able to attend the meeting here.

Public Health Service officials said they were anxious that a policy be developed which would meet with public approval and support. To that end, the Surgeon General's advisory committee will make a thorough study of the matter before it submits its report.

First in Film and Radio News Brief, Accurate and Impartial

# MOTION PICTURE DAILY

Alert, Intelligent and Indispensable to the Motion Picture Industry

VOL. 55. NO. 85 NEW YORK, U. S. A., MONDAY, MAY 1, 1944 TEN CENTS

## Industry 5th Loan Drive Heads Named

### *Kennedy Co-chairman, Friedl Is Director*

The remainder of the top personnel of the national committee for the industry's participation in the forthcoming Fifth War Loan drive, June 12-July 8, was announced at the weekend by R. J. O'Donnell, national chairman.

**Richard M. Kennedy and John J. Friedl, previously reported as having been named to work with O'Donnell, will act as co-chairman and campaign director, respectively.**

Kennedy is associated with the R. B. Wilby circuit in Alabama and Tennessee and is exhibitor chairman of the War Activities Committee for Alabama. Friedl is president of Minnesota Amusement Co. and is WAC chairman of the Minneapolis exchange area.

Ray Beall, associate advertising-

(*Continued on page 6*)

## To Argue Momand Findings May 12

A hearing will be held on or about May 12 in Federal District court at Oklahoma City on the findings of fact and conclusions of law of Judge E. S. Broaddus in the Momand anti-trust suit against major companies and several circuit defendants.

The findings and conclusions exonerate the defendants in all major particulars involving conspiracy against Momand. In a minor case, the court found that overbuying at Wewoka, Okla., involved Paramount and resulted in restraint of interstate commerce and unlawful and unfair com-

(*Continued on page 6*)

## *$250,000 Down for Goldwyn Reissues*

Terms of the long-pending deal whereby George Hirliman's Film Classics has secured outright reissue rights to 31 Samuel Goldwyn productions provide for a $250,000 down payment and an eventual total payment of $1,000,000. The acquisition is for the United States and Canada only; the group was previously sold to others for Argentine, Chile and Puerto Rico, with deals for other countries to follow.

## Rank, Skouras Mull Acquisition of Loew's G-B Shares

LONDON, April 30.—Consideration is being given a plan by which J. Arthur Rank and Spyros Skouras, 20th Century-Fox president, would purchase jointly Loew's holdings in the Metropolis and Bradford Co., holding company for Gaumont-British, it was learned from an informed source here at the weekend.

The three-way negotiations between Rank, Skouras and Sam Eckman, managing director for Loew's here, veer in this direction after reaching an impasse two weeks ago, as reported in MOTION PICTURE DAILY, when Loew's representatives here, meeting in London, reached the limit of their negotiating ability without an agreement being concluded.

Up to that point the negotiations involved the purchase by Rank of the

(*Continued on page 6*)

## *Chicago Salesmen Seek AFL Charter*

CHICAGO, April 30.—Union organizers here today disclosed that a majority of Chicago film salesmen have signalized their desire to have the IATSE, at its May convention in St. Louis, arrange for the American Federation of Labor to grant a charter for Midwest organization purposes in keeping with efforts launched by Oscar E. Olson, business agent of the Milwaukee projectionists' Union Local 164.

## *Claude Lee Is Again War Bond Liaison*

**Claude F. Lee, director of public relations for Paramount, has been appointed film industry consultant to the War Finance Division of the Treasury in the Fifth War Loan, it was announced here at the weekend by R. J. O'Donnell, chairman of the Industry's war loan committee. The appointment was made upon the invitation of Ted Gamble, national director of War Finance. Lee served similarly during the Fourth War Loan.**

**Lee also has been appointed special consultant to the War Finance Division for the duration of the war.**

## *E. L. Alperson Leaves RKO*

Edward L. Alperson, general manager of RKO Theatres for the past two years, has resigned from the company, effective immediately, it was announced on Saturday. Alperson said his future plans will be decided shortly.

No successor to Alperson has been named. It is assumed that RKO theatre operations for the time being will be handled by Malcolm Kingsberg, executive vice-president of the two prin-

(*Continued on page 6*)

## *Release New Tires for Film Delivery Trucks*

WASHINGTON, April 30.—Operators of film delivery trucks, beginning tomorrow, will be permitted to purchase new tires for replacement purposes, as a result of larger allocations of new passenger car tires for civilian use.

Reversing a previous ruling restricting light trucks to used tires, as reported in MOTION PICTURE DAILY, April 21, the War Production Board at the weekend announced that operators of commercial vehicles, as well as film salesmen and others traveling on "B" and "C" gasoline rations, would be eligible for new synthetic casings.

For May, a total of 1,300,000 new tires has been allocated by the Office of Price Administration, double the number available as recently as last January.

## *6,000 Lagging on Red Cross Reports*

Six thousand theatres, "dilatory in reporting their Red Cross collections, are spoiling the industry's united effort in the recent Red Cross drive," according to Joseph Bernhard, industry chairman, who made an urgent request at the weekend that these exhibitors immediately forward the amount of their collections to headquarters, WAC headquarters has reported here.

"The 9,000 already reported indicate that we will double last year's collection," said Bernhard. "This is a better record than the Red Cross itself has been able to achieve because its 1944 goal was only 40 percent ahead of 1943.

(*Continued on page 3*)

## RKO, MGM to Extend Air Promotions

### *Inaugurating New Shows On Blue and Mutual*

Continuing the trend of film companies to extend the use of radio promotions to make up for promotional losses through reduced space in newspapers and magazines, RKO will inaugurate a new coast-to-coast radio show on the Blue Network of 177 stations, starting May 29, and Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer will inaugurate a new network series on 71 stations of the Mutual web on June 12.

The RKO program is an extension of the original 15-minute, five-day test program, "Hollywood Star Time," inaugurated Feb. 28 on 20 Coast stations of the Blue web. The M-G-M program, "Screen Tests," will replace the company's present 15-minute five-day show featuring Fulton Oursler on 60 Mutual stations, which will be heard for the last time

(*Continued on page 6*)

## Clark, Presidents Meet Next Week

Tom C. Clark, Assistant U. S. Attorney General met briefly here late Friday with company counsel during an intermission in his conferences at the annual regional meeting of U. S. Attorneys in the U. S. Court House, Foley Square. No major issues were discussed, Clark said, actual confer-

(*Continued on page 6*)

## *WMC Orders 48-Hour Week in Cincinnati*

CINCINNATI, April 30.—The regional War Manpower Commission here has ordered a 48-hour work week for Cincinnati and some adjacent counties in Ohio and Northern Kentucky, effective June 1. The ruling applies to film distribution and to theatres as well as to other industries. All may file prior to May 18 for exemption.

"Certain types of amusements will be exempt because it would be foolish to compel them to operate 48 hours a week," John M. Baker, WMC chairman here declared, but he did not define the "certain types."

Following previous practice, distributors are expected to file for exemption from the order for their exchanges.

# Personal Mention

POSTMASTER GENERAL FRANK C. WALKER became a grandfather the other day with the birth of a daughter to his son, LT. (jg) THOMAS J. WALKER and MRS. WALKER.

•

CAPT. JULIAN F. GOLD, U. S. Marine Corps, son of ERWIN GOLD, general manager of Randforce, is home on leave after two years in the South Pacific.

•

CECIL B. DEMILLE has made reservations at the Blackstone Hotel, Chicago, for June 26, reportedly to attend the Republican Convention.

•

GEORGE JESSEL, 20th Century-Fox producer, arrived in New York over the weekend for home office conferences.

•

EDWARD K. (TED) O'SHEA, M-G-M Eastern sales manager, is expected back tomorrow from a three-week tour of Southern exchanges.

•

EDWARD C. RAFTERY, GRADWELL L. SEARS and CARL LESERMAN returned to New York on Friday from the Coast.

•

LARRY KENT of the Loew's Palace, Hartford, was a New York visitor at the weekend.

•

A. J. O'KEEFE, Universal Western sales manager, will leave today for Chicago and Milwaukee.

•

JOSEPH M. SCHENCK left New York for the Coast at the weekend.

## Newsreels in Final Talks with Unions

Representatives of the five newsreels here met with IATSE officials in the office of Pat Casey, film company labor contact, over the weekend to wind up negotiations for a new contract for newsreel cameramen in New York and Chicago who are members of "IA" Locals 644 and 659.

Stumbling block in the negotiations was the demands of cameramen for severance pay of two weeks for each year worked, without any limit. Newsreel companies sought to incorporate provisions permitting 20 percent of their staffs to be apprentices, looking toward post-war conditions when apprentices are available. Companies have agreed to grant five percent increases to the cameramen, which would bring them up to the 15 percent allowance under the "Little Steel" formula. New pacts will run for two years.

W. A. Lang has been handling negotiations for the New York local and W. E. Strafford for the Chicago group, with Walter C. Ament, Pathe News general manager, and other newsreels executives representing the five newsreels.

# Tradewise . . .

By SHERWIN KANE

A GOOD many exhibitor organizations are on record with the expression that they would prefer no consent decree at all to the revised decree which has been proposed by the consenting companies. There is in that attitude something that continually suggests a current domestic phenomenon to me and, if you will pardon my dragging the family into this, perhaps we might discover whether any real similarity exists between the two and, if so, can the same poultice be applied to both.

Well, there is this five-year-old of ours who, for all of his simulated machine-gunning of imaginary Japs that lurk in every nook and cranny of the domicile, either is one of those who "don't know there's a war on" or is unwilling to make that supreme sacrifice which the conflict would ask of him, for every time he is offered ice cream that is 50 per cent sherbet he assumes an unnatural disdain and refuses the diluted offering in toto. He is the 100 per cent-or-nothing kind.

So supposing exhibition rejects a revised decree that is half cream and half ice, just as organized exhibition has said it would prefer to do. Out the window then will go (assuming, for the sake of argument, that the Department of Justice would be influenced to act accordingly) such creamy items as restraints on theatre expansion, the granting of cancellations, decentralized film selling, and any and all benefits inherent in arbitration. Simply because the remainder of the decree proposals, in the opinion of some exhibitor organizations, is "sherbet."

• •

And what is the alternative? A chance (and many legal minds regard it as a long-shot) that the Department could win its pending anti-trust suit or a new one and thereby possibly achieve a divorcement of affiliated theatres. And of just what benefit would that be to the average exhibitor? Your guess is as good as the next man's, but if anyone has given an acceptable answer to that one, he hasn't released it for publication. This corner's guess is that ownership of circuit entities would be transferred to new independent companies headed by the present active operators or their associates, in much the manner of the dismemberment of Standard Oil. Which means, as we see it, that if you reject the cream because you don't care for sherbet, you're likely to end up by not eating.

The moral of this little tale of domesticity is: Seek a decree that both sides can live under; work over it and shape it into the best possible form. "A half a loaf is better than . . . ," and all that sort of thing.

• •

*Silver Lining Note*: "Wrigley's entire output of chewing gum will go to armed forces abroad." (*News item*)

There is one wartime casualty that is all to the good, insofar as most theatre operators are concerned.

• •

Wendell Willkie says "No foundation!" to those reports that he would not consent to continue as chairman of the board of 20th Century-Fox.

• •

There is the odd story going the Broadway rounds about the high-placed Hollywood executive who checked out of a Chicago hotel, where he paused between trains, and whose suite was immediately assigned to another member of the industry, just arrived from New York. The newcomer was startled shortly after taking possession of the suite to discover that several workmen whom he had admitted were removing dictaphone equipment from concealed locations all over the suite.

• •

That United Artists purchase of Alex Korda's stock interest over the objections of Charlie Chaplin was made possible by a discerning legal eye which perceived that the company's by-laws specified that the unanimous consent rule was applicable to *sales* of the company's stock, and that *purchases* were not mentioned.

• •

Altec's service charges are to be increased in the near future, due to increasing costs all along the line, particularly for labor.

• •

Universal is selling away from the Schine and Saenger circuits and a good part of the Skouras circuit. The evidence would tend to show that Bill Scully has the courage of his convictions.

## 1,664 Houses Pledge For MGM Birthday

Thirteen Paramount theatre affiliates with a total of 796 theatres and 31 independent operators representing 868 theatres have pledged to run at least one M-G-M picture during the company's 20th year anniversary celebration, June 22-28. This makes a total of 3,979 houses pledged.

The Paramount partners are: Lucas and Jenkins, 54 theatres; Famous Players Canadian, 186 theatres; Interstate, 159; Balaban & Katz, 47; Minnesota Amusement, 100; Jefferson Amusement, 74; Florida State Theatres, 100; Intermountain, 28; Northio, 17; Western Massachusetts, 18; Publix Bamford, five; Publix-Richards-Nace, eight.

The 31 other independents are: Affiliated, 77; Amusement Enterprises, nine; Atlantic, 14; Brandt, 106; Associated, 24; Bijou, 41; Commonwealth, 56; Cornell, four; Dixie, six; Dominion, 15; Durwood Dubinsky, 12; General, 17; Gibraltar, 40; Gregory, 25; A. B. Hyman, three; Latchis, 14; Harris, 18; Interboro, 35; Kallet, 34; Maine & New Hampshire, 30; Muscle Shoals, seven; Pal Amusement, nine; Redwood, 27; Premier, 36; Rockwood, 44; Skirball, 15; Skouras, 74; Ralph Talbot, four; T & D, 40; Waters, 15; Maurice White, 13, and Wilmer & Vincent, 20.

## Coe's Autobiography Sketches Film Men

Advance copies of Charles Francis Coe's autobiography, "Never a Dull Moment," which will be published May 23 by Hastings House, were distributed at the weekend.

The final 25 pages of the 326-page volume are devoted to Coe's impressions of the industry and some of its executives, gained since his association with MPPDA in late 1941. He pens brief word sketches of Louis B. Mayer, Harry Cohn, Joseph I. Breen, Nicholas M. Schenck, H. M. Warner, Spyros Skouras and Barney Balaban.

## Zanuck to Film Life Of Hero Kelly

Darryl F. Zanuck has completed negotiations for 20th Century-Fox to film the story of the life of "Commando" Charles E. Kelly, hero of the Italian front who won the Congressional Medal of Honor for his exploits.

Zanuck also effected arrangements whereby the *Saturday Evening Post* will serialize Kelly's story, following which it will be published in book form.

## British Honor Keating

CHICAGO, April 30.—Lt. Col. Geoffery Keating, co-producer with Lt. Col. Frank Capra of "Tunisian Victory," will be the guest tomorrow evening in the Blackstone Hotel here at a press reception arranged by the British Information Services.

## Daff En Route Here

LONDON, April 30.—Al Daff, foreign supervisor for Universal, is en route to New York.

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## Selznick Appeal on Chaplin Heard

The Appellate Division of the New York Supreme Court here heard arguments Friday on David Selznick's appeal from a decision rendered by Supreme Court Justice Ferdinand Pecora recently in Charles Chaplin's suit. Presiding Justice Francis Martin and associates Judge Irwin Untermeyer, Judge Alfred H. Townley, Judge Edward J. Glennan and Judge Edward S. Dore are expected to render a decision in a week or two.

Judge Pecora had held that both Vanguard Films and David O. Selznick, Inc., are doing business in New York and are not foreign to the state as claimed by Selznick in his attempt to prevent Chaplin from joining his two corporations in the accounting action filed also against 20th Century-Fox, United Artists and Selznick following Selznick's sale of certain production assets to 20th-Fox. Louis D. Frohlich of the law firm of Schwartz and Frohlich is representing Chaplin, plaintiff, in his own behalf and in behalf of other UA stockholders.

## *Young Reorganizing Film Enterprises*

Reorganization of Robert R. Young's various film interests will be completed within two weeks, it was learned here at the weekend.

A new company, Pathe Industries, will be established as the top holding company, with Pathe Laboratories of New Jersey and Pathe Laboratories of California as subsidiaries. PRC Pictures will be another subsidiary, which in turn will be the top holding company for PRC Productions, PRC Studio and PRC Real Estate Co.

A PRC directors' meeting will be held here shortly, at which time directors and officers of all PRC companies will be elected.

## *WB Receives Teacher Award for Education*

Warner Brothers was presented with the New York Teachers Union award for "outstanding service in the cause of education" on Saturday at the organization's 10th annual conference in the Hotel Commodore here.

Jesse Lasky, producer of "The Adventures of Mark Twain," accepting the award for the company, said "The way to greater achievement in education and greater understanding of Democracy is through the medium of the motion picture."

## *Republic Sales Meet At Chicago Today*

CHICAGO, April 30.—Herbert J. Yates, Sr., chairman of the board of Republic Pictures, and James R. Grainger, president, manager, will meet tomorrow at the Drake Hotel here with Edward Walton and Merritt Davis, Midwestern and Southern district sales managers, respectively, and managers and salesmen from these territories. The session will continue through Tuesday.

## *5,131 'Victory' Contracts*

M-G-M has set 5,131 bookings of "Tunisian Victory," British-American produced documentary.

# *Coast Flashes*

*Hollywood, April 30*

OVER 3,000 players have entertained servicemen and women in more than 26,000 appearances involving some 3,000,000 miles of travel, during the 28-months existence of the Hollywood Victory Committee, it was reported at the weekend. In addition, HVC sponsored players have sold over $3,000,000,000 in war bonds, taking part in every national relief and charity drive since Pearl Harbor. Performers included members of SAG, AGVA, AFRA, AGMA, Ascap and Actors' Equity.

•

Jack Conway will mark his 35th anniversary in films by directing "The Clock," in which Judy Garland and Robert Walker are to be starred. The story is by Paul and Pauline Gallico and deals with a soldier's last 48 hours in New York before going overseas.

•

Sam Spring, film attorney, Superchiefed for New York at the weekend.

## *WLB Will Look for Petrillo Today*

WASHINGTON, April 30.—James C. Petrillo, American Federation of Musicians' head and officials of AFM locals in Chicago and Milwaukee are supposed to appear before the War Labor Board in Washington tomorrow to show cause why penalties should not be levied against them for refusing to call off strikes of musicians of radio stations WJJD, Chicago, and KSTP, Milwaukee. William H. Davis, WLB chairman, issued the order last week.

Telegrams originally sent to Chicago Local 10 on April 21 and Minneapolis Local 73 on April 24, and to Petrillo, to call off the strikes were ignored, with the locals continuing their strike to force the two stations to use additional union musicians.

## *6,000 Lagging on Red Cross Reports*

(*Continued from page* 1)

"In order to have this fact recorded properly in the Red Cross report, we must be able to present our national totals to the Red Cross within the near future.

"We have done a great job of collecting. Please fill out the form, or a postal card, or simply write on your theatre letterhead 'Red Cross Collection' and the total figure," Bernhard advised exhibitors.

## *Schwalberg, Dolid in New Posts Today*

A. W. Schwalberg, formerly vice-president of Vitagraph and supervisor of Warner exchanges, today assumes the post of Eastern representative of William Goetz and Leo Spitz's International Pictures. Schwalberg was with Warners 18 years.

Mike Dolid, formerly head of Warners' contract department, succeeds Schwalberg as supervisor of Warner exchanges.

## State Keeps Hands Off Local Codes

Revisions proposed in the state building code for theatres and other places of public assembly are not intended by the New York State Department of Labor to supersede ordinances of towns and cities that have building bureaus, as had been feared by some theatre operators, it was learned here at the weekend, when New York circuit representatives met with Senator J. Henry Walters, RKO attorney, who has been acting as exhibitor contact with state authorities and who first apprised the industry of the anticipated revisions.

The new proposals, said to require changes to tighten up the fire laws, especially as they relate to exits, draperies, combustible materials and other items, will be discussed further on Tuesday at a meeting in the office of the Motion Picture Producers and Distributors of America, with each representative submitting an analysis of suggested provisions in the code. At the same time, a committee of three will be appointed to cooperate with the industrial code referee of the Commissioner of Labor's office in bringing about a code satisfactory to all concerned.

## Charge Communism Among Film Writers

HOLLYWOOD, April 30.—The Screen Writers' Guild invitation to industry representatives to meet Tuesday for the purpose of investigating the Motion Picture Alliance for the Preservation of American Ideals was labeled part of a smear campaign of a Communist group within SWG and the Hollywood Writers Mobilization at a membership meeting of MPA on Friday.

Captain Clark Gable told America through MPA members: "The boys talk a great deal of home and what they want to find when they get back and it's not Communism."

Captain John Lee Mahin praised the organization of MPA for its ideals and principles, as did leading members of industry unions. Gary Cooper declared its objectives are fine in principle.

Frank McGuinness, chairman of the MPA executive committee, charged that Communist-inspired smear campaigns were directed at MPA under cover of the Hollywood Writers Mobilization, while Fred Niblo, Jr., flatly said: "The Screen Writers' Guild is definitely in the hands of Reds."

## *Powers Plans Exhibit*

Pat Powers, recently special exploiteer for 20th Century-Fox's "The Song of Bernadette," and prior to that producer of the "Red Cross at War" pageant at Madison Square Garden and also aide to Major Leslie Thompson of RKO on the creation of the "War Center" for the Third War Loan drive, has formed Post War Expositions, with himself as president. He will present an exhibit, to be known as "Post War America," which will give a preview of the plans of American industry in the postwar. First showing is planned for Madison Square Garden in late Summer or early Fall, with subsequent showings in 20 other cities.

## Schenck, Prutzman, Scully, Bernhard Report Stock Deals

PHILADELPHIA, April 30.—Trading by officers and directors of motion picture companies in the securities of their corporations last month was light, it was reported here yesterday by the Securities and Exchange Commission in its monthly summary of transactions.

The largest transaction reported was the purchase by Nicholas M. Schenck of 9,896 shares of Loew's Boston Theatres common, giving him a total of 10,913 shares. Loew's, Inc., continued its Boston buying, securing 345 shares to give it a total of 120,982.

Large transactions were reported in Universal Pictures, with Charles D. Prutzman exercising rights to secure 1,000 common voting trust certificates, to give him a total of 6,000, through the exchange of 1,000 warrants; Prutzman also disposed of 500 warrants by gift, leaving him with 13,400. William A. Scully also reported a gift of 6,000 warrants, leaving him with 12,000, and Preston Davie, director, sold 200 voting trust certificates, leaving him with 3,500.

**Shaw Sells Out**

The sale of 500 shares of Warner common was reported by Joseph Bernhard, leaving him with 6,000 shares. The purchase of 500 shares of Radio-Keith-Orpheum common was reported by George H. Shaw, director, representing his entire RKO holdings. A purchase of 100 shares of Paramount common was recorded for Stephen Callaghan, director, increasing his interest to 200 shares.

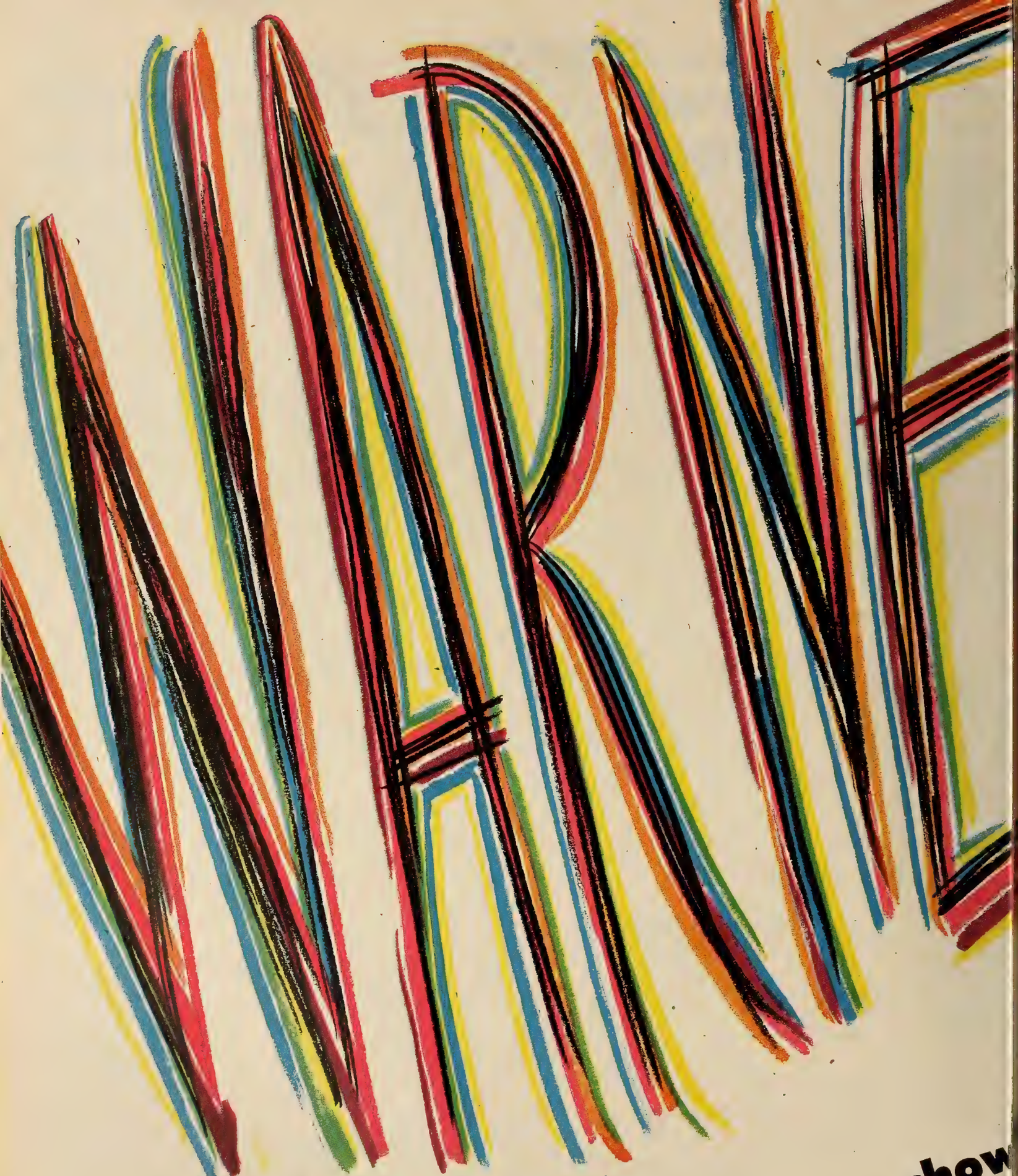
A long series of belated reports was filed on the holdings of Setay Co., Inc., in Consolidated Film Industries, showing that between March, 1941, and May, 1943, it built up its holdings of part preferred stock from nothing to 31,250 shares.

In radio, a report on Columbia Broadcasting showed that Paul W. Kesten bought 134 and sold 600 shares of Class A common, leaving him with 743 shares.

## *De Mille, Wm. Morris Now TBA Members*

Cecil B. de Mille Productions and the William Morris Agency have been accepted as affiliate members of the Television Broadcasters Association, Inc., it was announced at the weekend. They are, respectively, the first production company and talent agency to become affiliated with TBA. Affiliate members have the power to make recommendations through the committees set up by TBA for various fields of activity. The Bamberger Broadcasting Service, operator of station WOR, has been accepted as an active member.

The board of directors of TBA also announced its opposition to the stand of the Columbia Broadcasting System on television as voiced by CBS last week. Columbia had announced that it was ready to scrap its pre-war or current investment in order to proceed with postwar improvements. The CBS statement was characterized by TBA "as not based on experience or sound technical principles."



(Writing show

*Theatre WAC Recruiting, May 11-17. Cooperate!*

**Jack L. Warner,** *Executive Produce*


PASSAGE TO MARSEILLE
DESERT SONG
DESTINATION TOKYO
SHINE ON HARVEST MOON
IN OUR TIME
UNCERTAIN GLORY
istory!)
THE ADVENTURES OF
MARK TWAIN
Getting set!
OT

# RKO, MGM to Extend Air Promotions

(Continued from page 1)

on May 12. It is understood that M-G-M plans to extend its new program to the whole 221 stations of the Mutual web in September if the initial trial period proves satisfactory. Meanwhile M-G-M will also inaugurate a seven-week five-minute program three times weekly on Mutual starting June 5, and it also plans additional spot coverage.

The feature of both programs, of course, will be specific current product promotions for the benefit of local exhibitors.

**Special RKO 'Plugs'**

Under the RKO setup exhibitors playing RKO pictures will get special air "plugs" over local radio stations. The "plugs," which will run one minute, will come at the end of each broadcast, mentioning the name of the picture, theatre, and playdate, and will be delivered by the local station announcer. The show will be aired from the M-G-M Coast studio dining room in Hollywood daily from Monday through Friday from 12:15 p.m., Pacific War Time, making it one hour later in each of the successive time zones going east.

The theme of RKO's "Hollywood Star Time" will be "what's going on at RKO," with brief interviews by masters of ceremonies with stars at the studio. Also, highlights of forthcoming product and vocal and instrumental music will be aired.

S. Barret McCormick, RKO advertising-publicity director, is preparing a series of ads which will be placed in newspapers in all of the 177 stations' cities, announcing the new show, which, as announced by Ned E. Depinet, RKO-Radio president, will cost an estimated $1,000,000 annually.

**Screen Tests on Air**

The new M-G-M program originating from Mutual Playhouse No. 1 in New York will be broadcast five times a week, Monday through Friday at 9:15 p.m. The program will consist of actual screen tests over the air, M-G-M selecting a singer, an embryonic dramatic actress or actor, or a young comedian.

A number of Loew Theatres cities are included in M-G-M's radio promotion plans with provisions being made to tie in local advertising with the programs.

## *Clark, Presidents Meet Next Week*

(Continued from page 1)

ences on negotiation of decree changes being deferred until next week when Clark will meet with company presidents.

Clark indicated that there were still a number of important points to be adjusted before the Department of Justice and distributors could be in agreement on any new decree.

The meetings next week will probably be held in New York. Clark said that he would set a date Monday or Tuesday after returning to Washington.

# Industry 5th Drive Executives Named

(Continued from page 1)

publicity manager of Interstate Circuit, Dallas, will be publicity director for the bond drive. He served in a similar capacity during the Third War Loan campaign.

Joseph Kinsky of Paramount's theatre department has been named campaign coordinator. Ned E. Depinet, president of RKO-Radio, will again head the distribution division.

Kenneth Thomson, president of the Hollywood Victory Committee, and Charles Feldman, HVC executive, will direct participation of all of Hollywood in the campaign.

Claude F. Lee, Paramount director of public relations, has the post of motion picture industry consultant to the Treasury Department.

Leonard Goldenson, Paramount vice-president in charge of theatre operations, and Henry Ginsberg, vice-president and general manager of the Paramount Hollywood studios, will head industry bond sales.

**Five Newsreels Pledge Aid to Campaign**

Newsreel heads pledged full cooperation during the forthcoming Fifth War Loan drive, June 12-July 8, at a meeting of the newsreel division of the War Activities Committee with R. J. O'Donnell, general chairman of the industry's campaign, at WAC headquarters at the weekend.

The five newsreels will maintain a steady flow of coverage of national events in connection with the industry's campaign and will present the War Loan message to theatre audiences throughout the country, it was said.

Attending the meeting were: Walton Ament, Pathe News, chairman of the division; A. J. Richard, Paramount; Edmund Reek, Movietone; M. D. Clofine, M-G-M, and Thomas Mead, Universal. The campaign staff was represented, in addition to O'Donnell, by R. M. Kennedy, John J. Friedl and Ray Beall.

**O'Donnell, Lee to Coast; Will Meet with HVC**

R. J. O'Donnell, general chairman of the industry's Fifth War Loan drive, left yesterday for Hollywood by plane, accompanied by Claude Lee, motion picture industry consultant to the War Finance Division.

They will spend four days on the Coast. Tomorrow they will meet with the Public Information Committee to discuss plans for the forthcoming campaign, June 12-July 8.

Ted R. Gamble, national director of the War Finance Division, will join O'Donnell and Lee at meetings with the Hollywood Victory Committee Wednesday night and Thursday at which participation of the HVC in the campaign will be discussed.

## *Arthur C. Brady Dies*

PELHAM, N. Y.—April 30.—Arthur C. Brady, 78, sales executive with a New York real estate film, died at the weekend of a heart attack on a suburban train bound for New York. Brady was formerly managing director of the Paramount Theatre Building in New York. He leaves a widow, Mrs. Bertha Brady, and four daughters.

# To Argue Momand Findings May 12 In Oklahoma City

(Continued from page 1)

petition. The resultant damages, the court held, are recoverable if ascertainable and held that a comparison of a standard of profits before and after occurrence of the illegal act would be a sufficient basis for determining damages.

Griffith Amusement Co. was cleared of overbuying, unlawful expansion and conspiracy charges in most instances but was held liable for damages totaling $2,300 in three instances of overbuying.

The court held that "from what has been determined it is apparent that where recovery of damages is indicated, it is for acts not a part of the generic conspiracy. It follows that there is a misjoinder of parties and causes of action. The misjoinder, however, is not fatal to recovery. The court may permit a separation of the several actions and will do so at an appropriate time and before entry of judgment."

**Individual Instances Found**

The court found a number of individual instances of unlawful combination in restraint of trade resulting from practices which have since been eliminated from the industry, such as operations of Film Board credit committees, minimum admissions requirements, the old arbitration clause of the standard license agreement and adoption of local uniform clearance and zoning. It held in virtually every instance, however, that no damage to plaintiffs resulted from the practices.

The Momand action sought triple damages of more than $5,500,000. It has been pending for several years and trial was held more than a year ago. Since then, Momand and other independent exhibitors in Oklahoma City have filed a new action against major distributors.

**Griffith Defendants Seek Jury Trial**

OKLAHOMA CITY, April 30.—Request for a jury trial was filed at the weekend in Federal District Court by Griffith Amusement Co., Griffith Southwestern Theatres and H. J. Griffith, defendants in a $606,000 triple-damage suit brought in February by a group of independent theatres.

Hearing on the case is scheduled for tomorrow before Judge Bower Broaddus. Oklahoma Theatres, Mystic Theatres and M. L. Riggs, Vinita, are listed as plaintiffs. Other parties involved are A. B. Momand of Shawnee, Okla., president of Oklahoma Theatres, and J. D. Wineland of the Mystic, Picher, Okla.

The plaintiffs allege in their original complaint against the distributors that the independent theatres were deprived of first-run pictures, thus allegedly creating a monopoly on the part of the distributors.

## *Therese Stone Honored*

Therese Stone, assistant to H. M. Richey, M-G-M exhibitor relations head, will be honor guest at the annual convention of the New York City Federation of Women's Clubs, to be held May 5 at the Hotel Astor.

# *E. L. Alperson Leaves RKO*

(Continued from page 1)

cipal RKO theatre companies, Keith-Albee-Orpheum and B. F. Keith Corp.

Alperson joined RKO in 1941 as head film buyer for the theatres, and was made general manager the following year. In the late 1930's he was head of the now defunct Grand National Films. Prior to that he was film buyer for Skouras Theatres and earlier served in numerous distribution posts.

**Tax Cuts KAO Net To $1,656,778**

Keith-Albee-Orpheum Corp. had a net profit of $1,656,778 for 1943, after a $1,333,600 provision for Federal taxes, according to the company's 16th annual report to stockholders, released at the weekend. In 1942 the net was $2,017,433 after a tax provision of $426,837. The increase of last year's tax over the year before was $906,763.

Theatre admissions rose from $15,847,304 in 1942 to $17,629,688 in 1943. Preferred stock dividends paid last year amount to $98,058, compared with $102,550 the year before; common stock dividends were $1,206,381, compared with $603,190.

**$1,806,826 Advance**

KAO's current assets at the end of 1943 stood at $4,706,882, an increase over the $2,900,056 of 1942; current liabilities were likewise higher; $2,193,999 over $942,853. Capital surplus on the past two annual balance sheets stood at practically identical figures: $9,648,608 last year and $9,655,884 the preceding year. Operating surplus was $3,254,967 in 1943 and $2,814,824 in 1942.

Other items on the 1943 balance sheet show capital assets of $18,255,241; investments in affiliated and other companies, $2,749,360; funded debt, $8,763,640; preferred stock, $1,357,200, and common stock, $1,357,200. The preferred seven per cent cumulative stock has been called for redemption on June 15 at $110 per share plus accrued dividends to that date of $1.46 per share.

## *Rank, Skouras Weigh Buying G-B Shares*

(Continued from page 1)

combined interests of 20th-Fox and Loew's in M. & B. Rank, however, would not agree to this and the drafting of the present new agreement ensued.

It is understood that on the outcome of these negotiations depends the entire British-American production and distribution arrangement between Rank and 20th-Fox.

The new proposal for the joint purchase would require the sanction of the British Treasury. It is unknown at present whether its approval would be granted or not.

## *RCA Stockholders Meet*

Annual meeting of Radio Corporation of America stockholders will be held tomorrow morning at National Broadcasting studio 6B here with Lt. Gen. J. G. Harboard, board chairman, presiding in the place of RCA president Col. David Sarnoff, who is now on active duty with the Army.

# WARNER BROS.' TRADE SHOWINGS OF

# JOHN GARFIELD • PAUL HENREID
# SYDNEY GREENSTREET • ELEANOR PARKER

in

# *"BETWEEN TWO WORLDS"*

with

Edmund Gwenn • George Tobias • George Coulouris • Fay Emerson

## MONDAY, MAY 8th, 1944

| CITY | PLACE OF SHOWING | ADDRESS | TIME |
|---|---|---|---|
| | | | Time |
| Albany | Warner Screening Room | 79 N. Pearl St. | 12:30 P.M. |
| Atlanta | RKO Screening Room | 191 Walton St. N.W. | 10:00 A.M. |
| Boston | RKO Screening Room | 122 Arlington St. | 2:00 P.M. |
| Buffalo | Paramount Sc. Room | 464 Franklin St. | 1:00 P.M. |
| Charlotte | 20th Century-Fox Sc. Rm. | 308 S. Church St. | 10:00 A.M. |
| Chicago | Warner Screening Room | 1307 So. Wabash Ave. | 1:30 P.M. |
| Cincinnati | RKO Screening Room | Palace Th. Bldg. E. 6th | 7:30 P.M. |
| Cleveland | Warner Screening Room | 2300 Payne Ave. | 8:00 P.M. |
| Dallas | Paramount Sc. Room | 412 S. Harwood | 2:00 P.M. |
| Denver | Paramount Sc. Room | 2100 Stout St. | 2:00 P.M. |
| Des Moines | 20th Century-Fox Sc. Rm. | 1300 High St. | 12:45 P.M. |
| Detroit | Film Exchange Bldg. | 2310 Cass Ave. | 1:30 P.M. |
| Indianapolis | Paramount Sc. Room | 116 W. Michigan | 10:00 A.M. |
| Kansas City | 20th Century-Fox Sc. Rm. | 1720 Wyandotte St. | 1:30 P.M. |
| Los Angeles | Vitagraph Sc. Room | 2025 S. Vermont Ave. | 2:00 P.M. |
| Memphis | Paramount Sc. Room | 362 S. Second St. | 1:30 P.M. |
| Milwaukee | Warner Th. Sc. Rm. | 212 W. Wisconsin Ave. | 2:00 P.M. |
| Minneapolis | 20th Century-Fox Sc. Rm. | 1015 Currie Ave. | 2:00 P.M. |
| New Haven | Warner Th. Proj. Room | 70 College St. | 11:00 A.M. |
| New Orleans | 20th Century-Fox Sc. Rm. | 200 S. Liberty St. | 10:00 A.M. |
| New York | Home Office | 321 W. 44th St. | 2:30 P.M. |
| Oklahoma | 20th Century-Fox Sc. Rm. | 10 North Lee Ave. | 10:00 A.M. |
| Omaha | 20th Century-Fox Sc. Rm. | 1502 Davenport St. | 1:00 P.M. |
| Philadelphia | Vine St. Sc. Room | 1220 Vine St. | 11:00 A.M. |
| Pittsburgh | 20th Century-Fox Sc. Rm. | 1715 Blvd. of Allies | 2:00 P.M. |
| Portland | Star Screening Room | 925 N. W. 19th Ave. | 1:30 P.M. |
| Salt Lake | 20th Century-Fox Sc. Rm. | 216 East 1st South | 2:00 P.M. |
| San Francisco | Republic Sc. Room | 221 Golden Gate Ave. | 1:30 P.M. |
| Seattle | Jewel Box Sc. Rm. | 2318 Second Ave. | 1:00 P.M. |
| St. Louis | S'renco Sc. Room | 3143 Olive St. | 1:00 P.M. |
| Washington | Earle Th. Bldg. | 13th & E Sts. N.W. | 9:30 A.M. |

*Theatre WAC Recruiting May 11-17. Cooperate!*


This is the LADY
who was loved by the MONSTER
Did DEATH hold the key to her heart?
REPUBLIC brings you a Box Office CHILLER!
"The Lady and the Monster"
with
VERA HRUBA RALSTON ★ RICHARD ARLEN ★ ERICH VON STROHEIM
HELEN VINSON ★ SIDNEY BLACKMER
GEORGE SHERMAN, Director
Screenplay by Dane Lussier ★ Frederick Kohner
Based on the novel "Donovan's Brain," by Curt Siodmak

First in Film and Radio News Brief, Accurate and Impartial

# MOTION PICTURE DAILY

Alert, Intelligent and Indispensable to the Motion Picture Industry

VOL. 55. NO. 86 NEW YORK, U. S. A., TUESDAY, MAY 2, 1944 TEN CENTS

FILE COPY DO NOT REMOVE

## Schwartz and Brennan in Alperson Post

### *RKO Divides Theatre Circuit Management*

General managership of RKO Theatres has been divided and given James M. Brennan, as general manager of Metropolitan New York theatres, and Sol A. Schwartz, promoted to general manager of RKO's out-of-town theatres, following the resignation last Saturday of Edward L. Alperson as circuit general manager.

Both Brennan and Schwartz have been with RKO for many years, Brennan moving up from the post of Eastern zone manager, over both New York and New Jersey, and Schwartz from the post of Western zone manager. They will have headquarters in the New York home office.

N. Peter Rathvon, RKO president, in disclosing the division of the cir-

(*Continued on page* 11)

## Projector Making May Move to N.Y.

Possibilities of placing the manufacture of lamphouses for projection equipment in the New York area were discussed at meetings here yesterday between Allen G. Smith, chief of the theatre equipment section of the War Production Board, and executives of International Projector.

Most of this equipment is now being manufactured in Chicago and Toledo, but both cities are in critical labor areas making it difficult to secure necessary workers. The labor

(*Continued on page* 10)

## See No Changes in Raw Stock Quota

WASHINGTON, May 1.—War Production Board officials and Army and Navy representatives today began discussion of military needs for raw stock for the third quarter, with indications that allocations for the industry will neither be expanded nor reduced.

Preliminary surveys of the raw stock situation, it is understood, have developed that there will be no difficulty in meeting military requirements and there is no fear that industry allowances will have to be cut. On the

(*Continued on page* 10)

### *Effect of British Ban On Travel Uncertain*

**British authorities in New York and Washington were uncertain at the weekend as to what effect the new travel ban from the British Isles will have on the departure for home of American film executives now in London, among whom is Spyros Skouras, president of 20th Century-Fox. The ban is in effect until after the start of the invasion.**

**All military and war-officers are exempt from the order, it was said. High-ranking British officials in New York said that "there is bound to be some latitude with regard to civilians whose work can be construed to be in connection with the war effort."**

## 'Cover Girl' Stays For Sixth Week; N. Y. Grosses Hold

Business at downtown New York first-run theatres continues satisfactory this week in the face of warm weather. Generally, returns are above average.

Radio City Music Hall is headed for $106,000 for its fifth week of "Cover Girl" and a stage show, registering $68,500 on the first four days. The bill will hold for a sixth week and possibly longer before making way for M-G-M's "The White Cliffs

(*Continued on page* 10)

## John Scully New 'U' District Head; Others Promoted

John J. Scully, former Universal Boston branch manager, has been promoted, effective May 8, to district manager for Albany, Boston, Buffalo and New Haven. He will be succeeded by Meyer Feltman, former Boston salesman.

Other "U" sales promotions also announced here yesterday by W. A. Scully, vice-president and general sales manager, include that of H. J. Martin, former Boston salesman, to sales manager there, and of J. V. Frew, former Cincinnati and Indianapolis salesman, to Charlotte branch manager.

At the same time the following transfers were effected: Barney Rose, former New England district supervisor, to San Francisco branch manager; Lon Hoss, former San Francisco branch manager, to Los Angeles sales manager; L. Brauer, former

(*Continued on page* 10)

## Quash Indicated in Suit of Momand

OKLAHOMA CITY, May 1.—Federal Judge Bower Broaddus indicated here today that he would sustain motions to quash made by five distributing companies, defendants in the new Momand et al $606,000 anti-trust suit. At the same time, the case filed by M. L. Riggs of Vinita, one of the plaintiffs in the action, was dismissed.

J. D. Wineland and A. B. Momand

(*Continued on page* 11)

## *Film Companies Silent on A T&T Television Offer*

American Telephone and Telegraph, which last month invited film companies, through a letter to Will H. Hays, to discuss availabilities of A. T. & T. coaxial cables for postwar television, and suggested exchanging television information with the film industry, has received "a good many expressions of general interest" from, but no signs of action by motion picture interests, according to Prescott Mabon, assistant vice-president.

However, representatives of the four other film companies with theatre affiliations are understood to have responded to an invitation of Ralph B.

(*Continued on page* 10)

### *Silverstone Heads United Newsreel*

Murray Silverstone, vice president in charge of foreign distribution for 20th Century-Fox, was yesterday elected president of the United Newsreel Corp., succeeding Joseph Seidelman of Universal.

United Newsreel consolidates newsreel material from M-G-M's "News of the Day," 20th Century-Fox's "Movietone News" and Paramount, Pathe and Universal newsreels for distribution in foreign countries and among the armed forces.

## Houses to Be Cool Despite A Freon Crisis

### *U. S. Control Extended To New F-12 Gas*

Despite the fact that Government war needs leave little, if any, freon gas available for theatre cooling systems this summer, indications are that patrons will get relief from the heat within theatres, although they may not be kept quite as cool as during previous seasons, according to first reports from MOTION PICTURE DAILY field correspondents.

**Meanwhile, in Washington, it is learned, the War Production Board erected "safeguards" against the substitution by exhibitors of one type of freon for another, placing the gas known as "F-22," a comparatively new kind used so far principally for experiments, under the same controls as have applied to F-12, the kind used in the-**

(*Continued on page* 10)

## 43 Houses in New Pittsburgh Combine

PITTSBURGH, May 1.—Co-operative Theatre Service Co., the new buying and booking combine headed by Bert M. Stearn, former United Artists Midwest district manager, started operations here today with 43 theatres signed and at least seven more expected during the next two weeks.

Members to date include: Beedle Brothers, Associated Theatres, Chateau Amusement, M. and W. Finkel, F. Panoplos, William Walker, A. A.

(*Continued on page* 11)

## Justice Dissolves FPC Injunction

TORONTO, May 1.—In a judgment at his weekly court session here, Mr. Justice Hogg has offered dissolution of the interim injunction secured by Famous Players Canadian Corp. restraining Hamilton United Theatres, Ltd., from proceeding with the sale of its physical assets, consisting of the Capitol and Palace Theatres in Hamilton, to Theatre Properties (Hamilton), Ltd. The judgment dismissed

(*Continued on page* 11)

# Personal Mention

Y FRANK FREEMAN is scheduled to leave for the Coast on Thursday.

•

POSTMASTER GENERAL FRANK C. WALKER and MRS. WALKER, have announced the engagement of their daughter, LAURA HALLIE, to CAPT. ROBERT LOUIS AMENO of the Army tank corps.

•

LT. NORMAN RETCHIN, son of LESTER RETCHIN, formerly owner of the Howard Theatre, Chicago, is reported to be a prisoner of war in Germany.

•

JACK PARVER, manager of the Quittner and Perakos Eastwood Theatre, East Hartford, Conn., has returned from Rochester, Minn.

•

ARTHUR PHILLIPS, Chicago salesman for Paramount, has returned to his desk after hospitalization.

•

BEN GOETZ, M-G-M studio managing director in London, is scheduled to return there next week, following a home office visit.

•

JOHN D. KALAFAT, president of Associated Theatres, Cleveland, has been appointed chairman of the Greek Relief theatre drive in that city.

•

JAMES R. GRAINGER, president of Republic Pictures, will return to New York tomorrow from Chicago and Hollywood.

•

JACK L. WARNER, Warner's vice-president in charge of production, has arrived in New York from Hollywood.

•

LEW ROSEN, vice-president and secretary of Royal Amusements, Hawaii, was a Chicago visitor recently.

•

ABE PLATT, B. & K. Chicago district manager, has returned from a vacation in Hollywood, Fla.

•

MAX FELLERMAN, sales representative for Banner Productions, has returned from Hollywood.

•

JULES ALBERTI, manager for CONSTANCE BENNETT, left yesterday for the Coast.

•

EDWARD L. HYMAN, Paramount Theatres Service Corp. executive, left for the Coast yesterday.

•

HAL WALLIS plans to leave New York for the Coast on Friday.

## Kane Replacing Erbb, Is Boston Report

BOSTON, May 1.—Al Kane, now Paramount branch manager here, will succeed William S. Erbb as district manager here, contingent upon Erbb's appointment as the company's Eastern sales manager, it is reported. In this event, John Moore will be elevated from office to branch manager, succeeding Kane.

## Republic's '44 Gain Largest in History

CHICAGO, May 1. — Republic's distribution during the first 16 weeks of 1944 has shown a general increase greater than at any other period in its history, board chairman H. J. Yates, Sr., reported today at the first session of the company's two-day Midwest sales conference at which he is presiding in the Drake Hotel here.

Emphasizing prestige gained for Roy Rogers productions, Yates said the prospects for continued distribution increases were borne out by reports of the branch managers present. He added that Republic planned to concentrate on improved product and on building the roster of talent personnel.

Rogers is scheduled to return to the studio May 25 to begin work on "San Fernando Valley," followed by "Lights of Old Monterey."

John Leroy Johnson, director of public relations, outlined plans for publicizing a galaxy of new Republic players.

J. R. Grainger, president and general sales manager, will preside at tomorrow's meeting. Among those present are Edward Walton, Midwestern district sales manager, Merritt Davis, Southern district sales manager, and branch managers Winfield Snelson, Atlanta; Harold Laird, Tampa; J. H. Dillon, Charlotte; L. V. Seicshnaydre, New Orleans; N. J. Colquhoun, Memphis; Lloyd Rust, Dallas; Glen Alt, Oklahoma City; William Baker, Chicago; William Feld, Des Moines; J. G. Frackman, Milwaukee; W. M. Grant, Minneapolis; Harry Lefholtz, Omaha; Nat E. Steinberg, St. Louis; and franchise holder R. F. Withers, Kansas City.

## N.Y. Cinema Lodge to Elect New Officers

New officers of New York Cinema Lodge No. 1366, B'nai B'rith will be elected at a meeting of the lodges at the Hotel Piccadilly here Thursday night. Other business scheduled to be transacted includes the election of delegates to the annual B'nai B'rith convention at Buffalo.

Adolph Schimel, Universal attorney, who is the outgoing president will deliver his annual report as will treasurer Max D. Blackman and secretary Julius M. Collins.

## Rawson Joins M-G-M Publicity Staff

Mitchell Rawson has joined the M-G-M home office publicity staff to handle special assignments, Howard Dietz, vice-president in charge of advertising and promotion announced yesterday. Rawson was formerly director of publicity for David O. Selznick and previously was Eastern publicity manager for Warners.

Betty Moisson, formerly of *Life* magazine, has joined the M-G-M publicity department as national magazine publicity contact.

## Mercury Up; Grosses Down in Boston

**Boston, May 1.—Business took a terrific drop in all downtown theatres here over the weekend, when the thermometer soared to 70 and sent hundreds of thousands to the beaches. This, coupled with the drop which came during the week due to the death of Cardinal O'Connell, hit theatres here the hardest blow in many weeks.**

**Business was off as much as 50 per cent in all of the larger downtown theatres and in the majority of the large neighborhood theatres, although today it showed decided evidence of picking up, with an East wind bringing cooling breezes.**

## E. K. O'Shea Host At Lunch Today

WASHINGTON, May 1.—Edward K. O'Shea, M-G-M Eastern and Southern division manager, tomorrow will be host at an informal luncheon in the Statler Hotel here, entertaining all Washington M-G-M exchange employes, the Loew's Theatres management and publicity executives and local "News of the Day" officials.

M-G-M's district sales manager Rudolph Berger, branch sales manager John S. Allen, and Loew's Eastern division manager, Carter Barron, will be among those also attending, as will District of Columbia commissioner chairman J. Russell Young and Senator James Meade.

## $10,000,000 Cagney Program Is Set

HOLLYWOOD, May 1.—William Cagney Productions today announced a $10,000,000 program of six films for United Artists release, with James Cagney to be starred in five of them: "Blood on the Sun," "Only the Valiant," "Port Royal," an untitled romantic murder mystery with a military background, and "Bugles in the Afternoon," Ernest Haycox novel which was purchased yesterday. The sixth production, Thorne Smith's "The Stray Lamb," will star an unnamed comedian.

"Blood on the Sun" is scheduled to start shortly after Cagney's return sometime this month from the European war theatre, where he has been touring Army camps.

## ITOA Is Opposed to Televising Films

The Independent Theatre Owners Association of New York "unalterably" opposes television reproduction of any Hollywood product, according to a resolution sent to producers and distributors.

The ITOA, in a weekend statement, said that television, for which no admission is charged, is in direct opposition to theatres and may, if given access to films, cause the closing of theatres.

## Beall Announces His Loan Drive Staff

Ray Beall, publicity director for the industry's participation in the Fifth War Loan drive, announced yesterday a staff of volunteer workers, who will assist him during the campaign, June 12-July 8, as follows:

Silas F. Seadler, Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer advertising manager and chairman of the Eastern division of the industry's Public Information Committee, will serve as advertising consultant and will be in charge of trade press advertising. Gil Golden, Warner Bros' national advertising manager, will handle sponsored newspaper advertising and will work with Seadler on trade press advertising.

Alfred Finestone of Paramount will handle trade press publicity and contacts; Martin Starr, United Artists' radio director, will be in charge of radio tie-ups during the drive and John Harkins, Vanguard's Eastern publicity representative, will handle syndicates.


NEW YORK THEATRES

RADIO CITY MUSIC HALL
50th St. & 6th Ave.
RITA HAYWORTH • GENE KELLY
"COVER GIRL"
in TECHNICOLOR . A Columbia Picture
Music by Jerome Kern
Lyrics by Ira Gershwin
Gala Stage Show . Symphony Orchestra
1st Mezzanine Seats Reserved. Circle 6-4600

Held Over 2nd Week
EXTRA! THE IRISH QUESTION
LATEST MARCH OF TIME
RELEASED BY 20th CENTURY-FOX
RADIO CITY MUSIC HALL

RKO PALACE B'WAY & 47th St.
A Jive Jamboree of Stars and 6 Great Bands!
"JAM SESSION"

PARAMOUNT'S
"LADY IN THE DARK"
In Technicolor
IN PERSON
XAVIER CUGAT And BAND
DEAN MURPHY
PARAMOUNT TIMES SQUARE

LOEW'S STATE B'WAY & 45
ON SCREEN
First N.Y. Showing
Donald O'Connor
SUSANNA FOSTER
in
'THIS IS THE LIFE'
IN PERSON
Mitch AYRES' ORCHESTRA
under the direction of
STELL SLAVIN
Extra! GUS VAN


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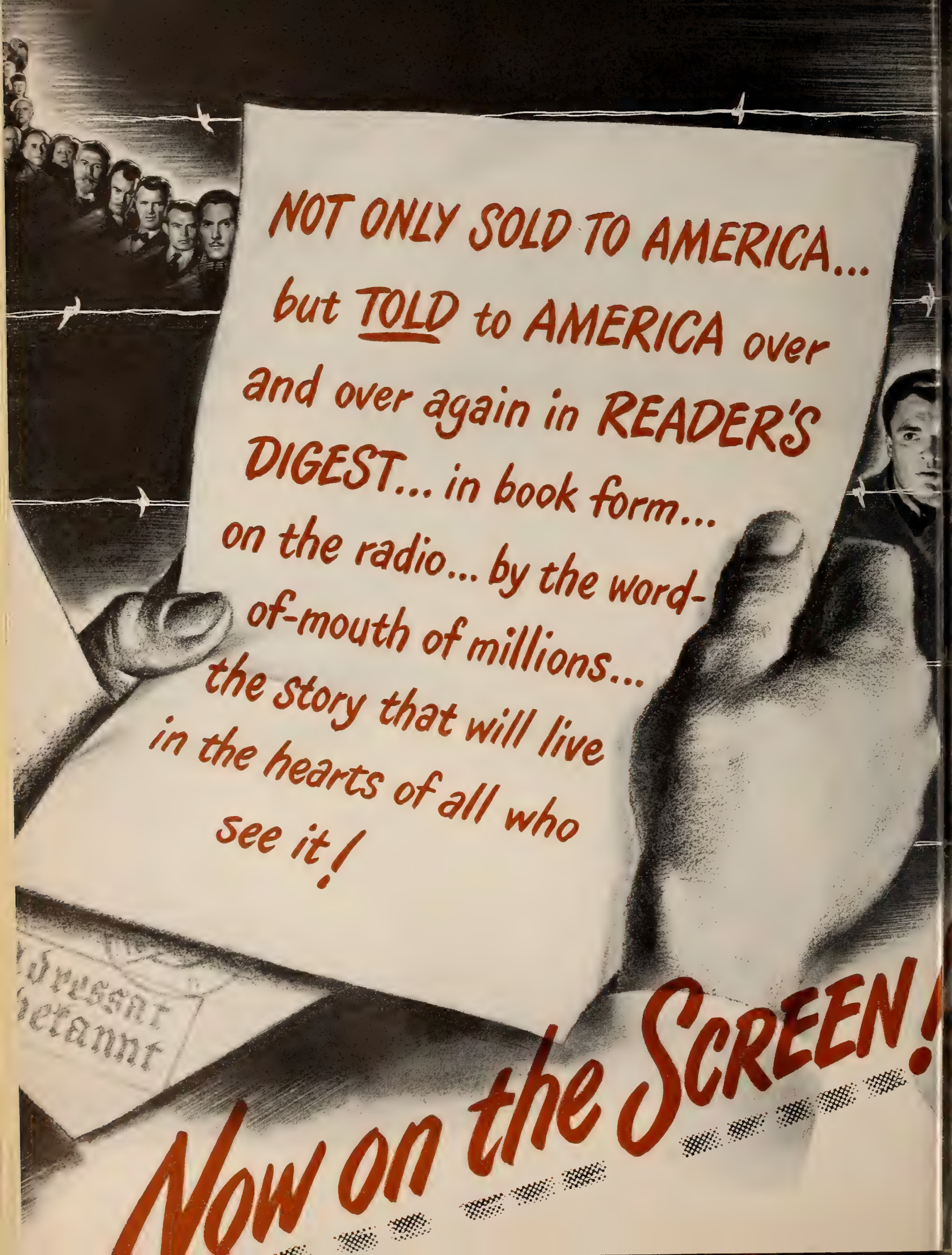
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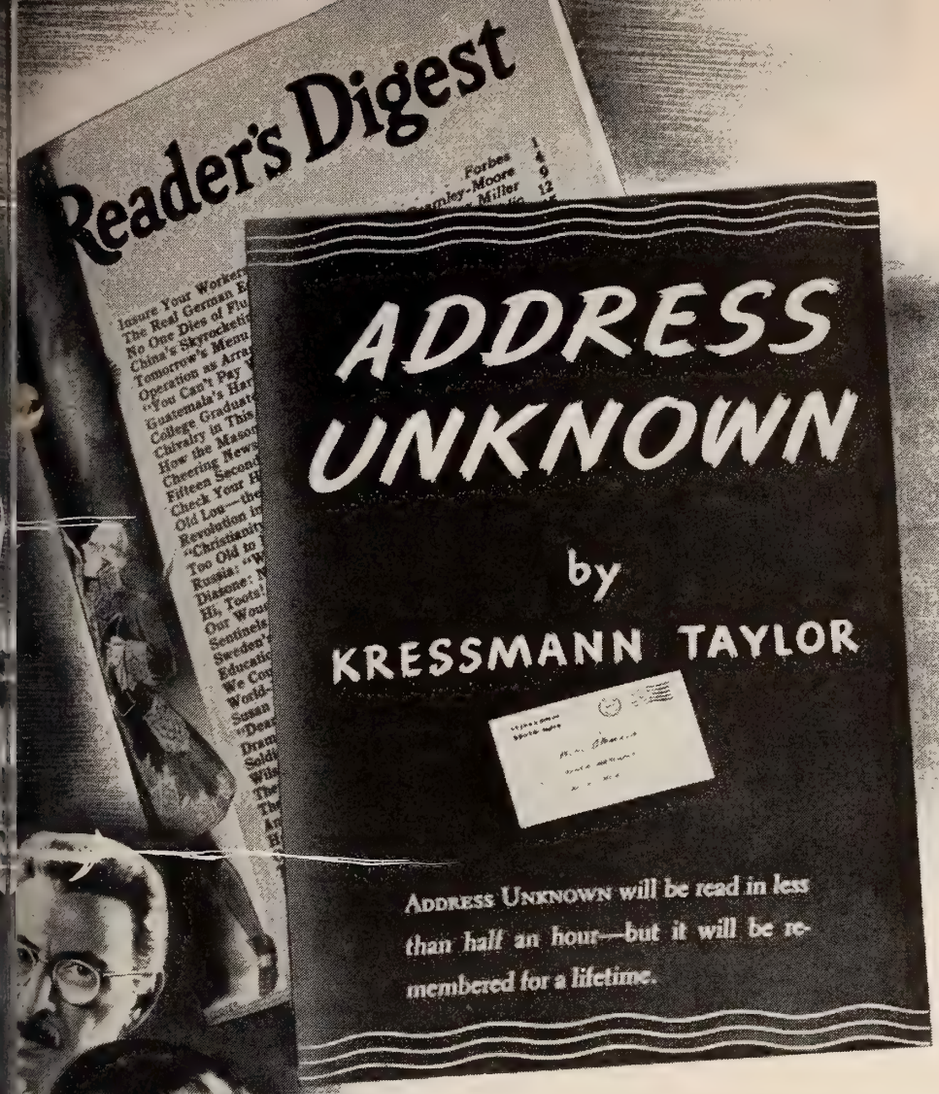
May 6th

Portland, Me.
Lawrence, Mass.
Providence
Sacramento
San Francisco
Stockton
Detroit
Boston
Springfield, Mass.
Gloucester, Mass.
Waterville, Me.
Greenfield, Mass.
Brattleboro, Vt.
Fall River
Buffalo
Lewiston, Me.
Augusta, Me.
Fitchburg, Mass.
Haverhill, Mass.
Manchester, N. H.
Nashua, N. H.
Claremont, N. H.
Keene, N. H.
St. Albans, Vt.
Rochester, N. H.
New Bedford, Mass.

Portsmouth, N. H.
Bellows Falls, Vt.
Hyannis, Mass.
Harwichport, Mass.
Chatham, Mass.
Milford, Mass.
Plymouth, N. H.
White River Jct., Vt.
Lebanon, N. H.
Hanover, N. H.
Dover, N. H.
Lowell
Burlington, Vt.
Presque Isle, Me.
Concord, N. H.
Sanford, Me.
Hartford
New Haven
Eureka, Cal.
Modesto, Cal.
Maysville, Cal.
Klamath Falls, Ore.
Fresno
Berkeley
Oakland




NOT ONLY SOLD TO AMERICA...
but TOLD to AMERICA over
and over again in READER'S
DIGEST... in book form...
on the radio... by the word-
of-mouth of millions...
the story that will live
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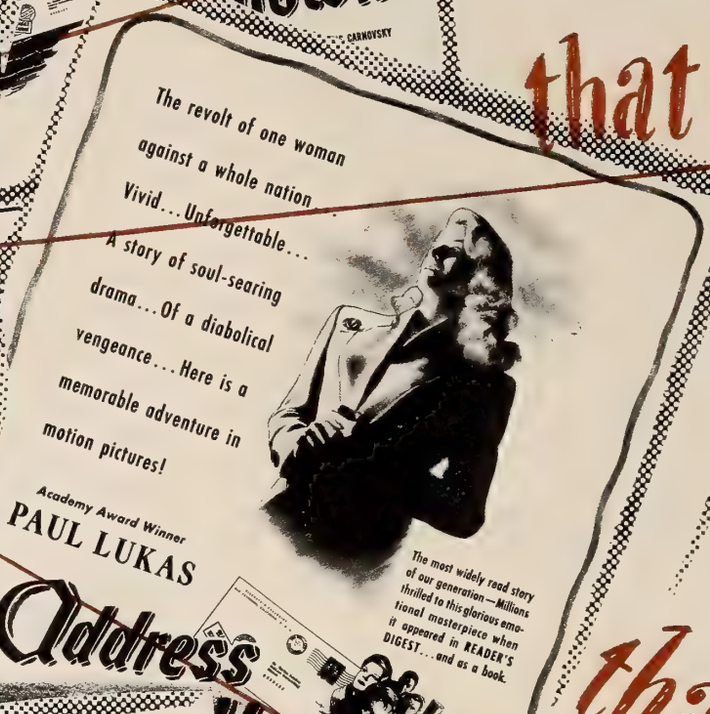
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COLUMBIA PICTURES

## Theatre Reports for Tax Records Only

A story on new admission tax regulations which appeared in MOTION PICTURE DAILY on April 10 inadvertently stated in quoting the text of section 101.32 of Regulation 43 that a sworn copy of theatre business reports should be attached to the theatre's "revenue return." This is incorrect. The sworn copy is to be attached to the theatre's records for the period and should be kept with them, for inspection by internal revenue officers, for the prescribed four-year period after the due date of the tax.

This inadvertent error was brought to the attention of MOTION PICTURE DAILY following the issuance of a bulletin by Allied States late last week which cited misleading statements concerning the new tax regulations in unnamed trade papers. Although the Allied bulletin covered other alleged misleading reports concerning the regulations in the trade press, MOTION PICTURE DAILY's account was in error in this particular only.

This explanation is printed in the interest of accuracy.

## Alperson to Attend Wac Meeting Today

Edward L. Alperson, general chairman for the Women's Army Corps recruiting week, May 11-17, will attend a Wac meeting with the Manhattan exhibitor committee today at Skouras Riverside Theatre, 96th Street and Broadway. Also attending will be Charles C. Moskowitz, Greater New York chairman for the drive, Harry Mandel, national publicity director, and Edward C. Dowden, New York City public relations chairman.

Alperson, whose resignation from the general managership of RKO Theatres was made known over the weekend, announced yesterday from his War Activities Committee headquarters that henceforth he will devote more of his time to aiding the industry's war efforts.

## Griffis to Europe on A Secret Mission

WASHINGTON, May 1.—Stanton Griffis, chief of the Office of War Information,, motion picture bureau, is absent from his post here on an indeterminate leave, having gone to Europe on a highly confidential mission. He has been away for some days, but full secrecy was maintained regarding his activities up to the end of last week.

OWI officials said they could not discuss Griffis' assignment but disclosed his trip was not on OWI business. George W. Healy, Jr., director of domestic operations, expressed the hope that he would soon return.

## Sam Forrest Dies at 74

Sam Forrest, 74, playwright and stage director once associated with George M. Cohan and Sam Harris, died at his home here at the weekend, following a month's illness.

## Bezahler Loses Daughter

Vicki Mae Bezahler, infant daughter of Joel Bezahler, assistant to Jack Flynn, M-G-M Western division manager, died recently. She was ten months old.

# Review

## "Three Men in White"

*(M-G-M)*

THE good-natured rivalry between Lionel Barrymore's two doctor assistants, Van Johnson and Keye Luke, each provided with an unusual medical case as a test of ability in the race to gain the coveted distinction of being selected by Dr. Gillespie as his sole assistant, provides the material for "Three Men in White," newest in the M-G-M "Dr. Gillespie" series. This entry is keyed to the formula of its predecessors and should give the customers 85 minutes of satisfactory screen entertainment. Marilyn Maxwell and Ava Gardner are featured along with "Rags" Ragland as the hospital ambulance driver, Walter Kingsford as Dr. Carew, Nell Craig as Nurse Parker and Alma Kruger as Dr. Gillespie's nurse aide.

The two cases in the original screen play by Martin Berkeley and Harry Ruskin, based on the Max Brand characters, deal with a hopelessly invalided arthritis victim who is enabled to walk again when it is discovered that the excruciating pain which has kept her motionless in a harness for years, is caused by the uneven length of her legs, caused by the arthritis; and a child victim of a serious allergic condition caused by a dietary deficiency. Luke really masters both cases and is headed for the coveted post when Dr. Gillespie worms out of his dilemma of having to make a decision by having Luke appointed a lieutenant in the Chinese Army, as the young doctor desires, but he is assigned to Dr. Gillespie. Johnson, holding up the less spectacular end, evades the advances of Miss Maxwell as the wealthy and attractive young social worker who has set her cap for him and frees Miss Gardner from having to minister constantly to her mother, the arthritis victim.

Performances of the principals under Willis Goldbeck's competent direction are appealing despite the familiarity of the material.

Running time, 85 minutes. "G."* Released in Block 7.

MILTON LIVINGSTON

*"G" denotes general classification.

## Col. Seeks Schine Trial Delay

BUFFALO, May 1.—A motion to postpone trial of the Government's anti-trust suit against the Schine Circuit and Columbia, United Artists and Universal from May 19 until next Fall, has been filed in Federal District court here by Louis D. Frohlich of Schwartz & Frohlich, New York counsel for Columbia. The motion is returnable next Monday.

Expiration on May 19 of the two-year standstill agreement between the Schine Circuit and the Government will permit the latter to press for trial of the action. The Columbia motion, it is understood, would endeavor to have trial set for the Fall at the earliest.

## G. W. Bitzer, 73, Dies; Veteran Camerman

LOS ANGELES, May 1.—G. W. (Billy) Bitzer, 73, one of the industry's pioneer camermen, died Saturday of a heart attack at St. Vincent's Hospital here, following an illness at the Motion Picture Country Home, where he had been in retirement.

Bitzer photographed Mary Pickford in an early feature, "Mender of the Nets." He was chief cameraman on such D. W. Griffith productions as "Birth of a Nation," "Intolerance," "Broken Blossoms," "Hearts of the World," "Way Down East" and "America."

Funeral arrangements await word from his widow in New York.

## Carr Host to Trade Press

Trem Carr, Monogram's executive vice-president in charge of production, Hollywood, will be host to the trade press at luncheon today in the Warwick Hotel.

## NLRB Curbs Iatse's Sopeg Challenge

The National Labor Relations Board's regional office here has refused to order a hearing on the petition of New York IATSE film exchange workers' Local F-51 which seeks a collective bargaining election of some 30 "white collarites" in the 20th Century-Fox New York exchange over whom Screen Office and Professional Employes Guild, Local 109, CIO, claims jurisdiction.

Only recourse now left to Local F-51 is an appeal to the NLRB in Washington but it is not considered likely that such action will be taken in view of the fact that SOPEG now has a case pending before the board in Washington involving these workers and others in New York exchanges on appeal by the companies from a recent War Labor Board ruling.

## Hearing This Week on New Pickwick Trial

NEW HAVEN, May 1.—Judge Carroll Hincks is scheduled to hear arguments in Federal District Court here this week on a new trial motion made by Prefect Theatres, Inc., operator of the Pickwick Theatre, Greenwich, in its unsuccessful anti-trust suit against eight distributing companies.

Saul Rogers, attorney for the plaintiffs, seeks to set aside the decision handed down to Judge Hincks on April 14, when he dismissed the $5,452,575 suit for triple damages over an alleged conspiracy to withhold product from the Pickwick. The case was taken from the jury at the completion of the plaintiffs' testimony. Rogers' motion has been made to lay the foundation for an appeal.

# Coast Flashes

*Hollywood, May 1*

BOB C. DONNELL and Claude F. Lee have arrived to conduct a series of campaign meetings for the Fifth War Loan drive. They will leave on Friday.

•

The University Religious Conference has announced the appointment of an honorary public relations council comprising Whitney Bolton, Harry Brand, Walter Compton and Bernie Kamine, all publicity directors. The conference seeks to foster democratic inter-faith education, a spokesman declared.

•

Hugo Haas, Czechoslovakian actor, has signed for a feature role in the Bob Hope starrer, "Sylvester the Great," produced by Samuel Goldwyn, to whom Haas will report upon completing his work in M-G-M's "Mrs. Parkington."

•

M-G-M has added "Brighton Beach" to Joe Pasternak's schedule. Kathryn Grayson and June Allyson will be starred. The story is set at the turn of the century and follows Pasternak's "Music for Millions."

•

Kent Taylor, featured in Monogram's "Alaska," has been granted a temporary stay of induction by his draft board. Taylor is now scheduled to report on June 1.

•

The Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences added 68 members in the first quarter of 1944, bringing its enrollment to over 700. Academy memberships are by invitation only.

•

Pine-Thomas will produce "Homesick Angel," an aviation story co-starring Johnny Weismuller and Robert Lowery.

•

Columbia has added "The Fighting Guardsman" to its production schedule. It is based on Alexander Dumas' "Companions of Jehu."

•

Buddy De Sylva has returned from his vacation in Mexico City.

•

Joseph M. Schenck has returned from New York.

## Argentine Exhibitors Reject Quota Demand

The Argentine Film Distributors' Association has informed the Argenthe government that it is rejecting a demand made by native producers that quotas be established to aid the exhibition of Argentine against foreign films, according to press dispatches received here from Montevideo.

The producers had petitioned the government to have first-runs exhibit native products to a minimum of 33 per cent of all screen time, and other houses to exhibit a smaller proportion, plus two Saturdays and Sundays monthly devoted to native films. The petition also asked that rentals of a minimum of 40 per cent be imposed for native films.

# 49 in Work on Coast; High For This Year

HOLLYWOOD, May 1.—Production stepped up to a 1944 high during the week with 12 new pictures placed in work and eight finished, to bring the total to 49. The previous week saw seven started and ten finished, totalling 45 in work. The production scene follows:

**Columbia**

*Started*: "Kansas City Kitty," with Joan Davis, Jane Frazee, Bob Crosby.
*Shooting*: "The Impatient Years," "Battleship Blues," "The Crime Doctor's Rendezvous."*

**M-G-M**

*Started*: "Ziegfeld Follies," with 25 M-G-M contract stars headed by Fred Astaire.
*Shooting*: "Lost in a Harem," "Maisie Goes to Reno," "Mrs. Parkington," "The Picture of Dorian Gray," "Thirty Seconds Over Tokyo," "Secrets in the Dark," "National Velvet."

**Monogram**

*Shooting*: "West of the Rio Grande," "Are These Our Parents?" "A Wave, a Wac and a Marine," "Alaska."
*Finished*: "Three of a Kind," "The Girl Next Door."

**Paramount**

*Started*: "Murder, He Says," with Fred MacMurray, Helen Walker, Jean Heather, Marjorie Main, Mabel Paige. "Two Years Before the Mast," with Alan Ladd, Brian Donlevy, William Bendix, Esther Fernandez, Darryl Hickman.
*Shooting*: "Dark Mountain" (Pine-Thomas).

**PRC**

*Started*: "Delinquent Daughters," with June Carlson, Judy Gibson, Johnny Duncan, Fifi Dorsay, Frank McGinn, Jr.

**RKO-Radio**

*Shooting*: "Tall in the Saddle," "That Hunter Girl," "None But the Lonely Heart," "Heavenly Days," "Belle of the Yukon" (International), "The Woman in the Window" (International), "Sylvester the Great" (Goldwyn).
*Finished*: "Mademoiselle Fifi," "Cocktails for Two."

**Republic**

*Started*: "Atlantic City," with Constance Moore, Bradford Taylor, Sophie Tucker, Belle Baker, Charles Grapewin, Jerry Colonna. "Bordertown Trails," with "Smiley" Burnette, Sunset Carson. "Three Little Sisters," with Mary Lee, Ruth Terry, Cheryl Walker, William Terry.
*Shooting*: "Haunted Harbor."
*Finished*: "Port of Forty Thieves," "Sing, Neighbor, Sing."

**20th Century-Fox**

*Started*: "Laura," with Gene Tierney, Dana Andrews, Vincent Price, Clifton Webb.
*Shooting*: "Something for the Boys," "Keys of the Kingdom," "Queen of the Flat-Tops" (formerly "Wing and a Prayer.")
*Finished*: "Irish Eyes Are Smiling."

**United Artists**

*Shooting*: "Story of G.I. Joe" (Cowan), "Abroad with Two Yanks" (Small), "Double Furlough" (Vanguard).

# Reviews

## "Pardon My Rhythm"

*(Universal)*

SO long as Gloria Jean and Marjorie Weaver are singing, and Bob Crosby and his orchestra are playing, Universal's "Pardon My Rhythm" is a moderately engaging musical. But the screenplay by Val Burton and Eugene Conrad, derived from a short story by Hurd Barrett, is of such fragility that interest is not always sustained.

The story is about a kid drummer, Mel Torme, who becomes the center of intrigue as band leader Bob Crosby tries to sign him up, while Gloria Jean, his erstwhile girl friend, attempts to save his talents for a young band that is competing in a national jazz contest. Mel has been charmed by Marjorie Weaver, Crosby's vocalist, into deserting the aggregation. Gloria employs her father, Patric Knowles, a playwright, to woo Miss Weaver, who is stage-struck, despite the fact that he has a fiancee, Evelyn Ankers, hovering in the background. The antidote works and Mel snaps out of it long enough to literally "beat" the band to victory.

Knowles and Miss Ankers are pleasant enough in their roles. Walter Catlett, Patsy O'Connor, Ethel Griffies and Jack Slattery complete the cast. "Do You Believe in Dreams" and "Shame on Me" are two engaging melodies sung, respectively, by Miss Weaver and Gloria Jean. Felix E. Feist directed, while Bernard W. Burton was associate producer.

Running time, 61 mins. "G".* Release date, May 19.

CHARLES RYWECK

## "Two-Man Submarine"

*(Columbia)*

THE plot of this picture is woven around two American scientists who are engaged in the production of penicillin, which is being sought by Axis agents. Its possibilities as a topical subject of widespread interest are not fully realized, due, principally, it would appear, to weaknesses in the script. In the cast are Tom Neal, Ann Savage and J. Carrol Naish. Jack Fier produced and Lew Landers directed. It shapes up as average program material, of interest primarily to action fans.

Neal, and his scientist pal, Robert Williams, with the aid of Miss Savage, who parachutes from a circling plane to relieve Neal, attempt to outwit the Nazis and Japs bent on stealing the penicillin formula. Williams is killed, Neal suspects the girl of being a traitor, and J. Carrol Naish, as the island's derelict doctor, struggles vainly to pull his role and the entire plot into line. In the end Neal and the girl triumph, with Naish's aid, when the latter goes to his death as a patriot who destroys the Nazi U-boat.

Running time, 62 minutes. "G."* Release date, March 16.

**"G" denotes general classification.*

## 'Twain' Preview Tonight

Among those who are scheduled to attend the Madison Square Boys Club press preview of Warners' "The Adventures of Mark Twain" tonight at the Hollywood Theatre here are Jesse L. Lasky, producer of the film; Mrs. and Mrs. Fredric March, and Mrs. Thomas A. Edison. The first public showing of the picture will be tomorrow, when it opens at the Hollywood.

**Universal**

*Started*: "San Diego, I Love," with Louise Allbritton, Jon Hall, Edward Everett Horton, Eric Blore, Florence Lake.
*Shooting*: "Pearl of Death," "See My Lawyer," "The Devil's Brood," "Reckless Age" (formerly "Make Way for Love").
*Finished*: "Boss of Boomtown."

**Warners**

*Started*: "Roughly Speaking," with Rosalind Russell, Jack Carson, Don Woods, William Prince, John Alvin, Barbara Brown. "Objective Burma," with Errol Flynn, James Brown, George Tobias, Henry Hull, John Ridgeley, William Prince, John Alvin.
*Shooting*: "The Very Thought of You," "To Have and Have Not," "The Doughgirls," "Give Me This Woman."

## Variety Gives $12,000 To Aid Sanitorium

CHICAGO, May 1.—A net of $12,000 was turned over to the La Rabida-Jackson Park Sanitarium from the stage show Sunday given by the local Variety Club at the Civic Opera House.

John J. Jones, Variety Club barker, was general chairman; John Balaban, executive chairman; Edwin Silverman, ticket chairman, and Nate Platt, show chairman. Norman Kassel was publicity director; Lester Stepner, program director, and Elmer Upton, treasurer.

## Legion Rates Eight, All Acceptable

The Legion of Decency this week passed on eight films, finding all acceptable. In Class A-1, unobjectionable for general patronage, were: "The Man from 'Frisco" and "Silent Partner," Republic, and "Three Men in White," M-G-M.

Five films rated Class A-2, unobjectionable for adults, were: "Cobra Woman," Universal; "Hot Rhythm," Monogram; "Seven Days Ashore" and "Show Business," RKO, and "This Is the Life," Universal.

## 'Four Jills', Pastor Good for $22,500

CINCINNATI, May 1.—"Four Jills in a Jeep" and a stage show featuring Tony Pastor's orchestra looks good for a $22,500 gross at the RKO Albee in a week in which other local houses are showing a considerable drop in receipts.

Estimated receipts for the week ending May 1-6:

**"Four Jills in a Jeep" (20th-Fox)**
RKO ALBEE—(3,300) (50c-60c-70c-85c-95c) 7 days, plus Saturday midnight show. Stage: Tony Pastor's orchestra, Helen Forrest, Hal Sherman, the Three Hearts. Gross: $22,500. (Average: $22,000).
**"Lady in the Dark" (Para.)**
RKO CAPITOL—(2,000) (44c-50c-60c-70c) 7 days, 4th week. Gross: $5,500. (Average: $10,000).
**"Cowboy Canteen" (Col.)**
**"Follow the Leader" (Mono.)**
RKO FAMILY—(1,000) (30c-40c) 4 days. Gross: $1,500. (Average: $1,600).
**"Yanks Ahoy!" (UA)**
**"Jeannie" (British)**
RKO FAMILY—(1,000) (30c-40c) 3 days. Gross: $800. (Average: $800).
**"Shine On, Harvest Moon" (WB)**
RKO GRAND—(1,500) (44c-50c-60c-70c) 7 days, plus Saturday midnight show. Gross: $6,500. (Average: $9,500).
**"Lady, Let's Dance" (Mono.)**
KEITH'S—(1,500) (44c-50c-60c-70c) 7 days. Gross: $5,500. (Average: $5,000).
**"The Lady and the Monster" (Rep.)**
**"The Curse of the Cat People" (RKO)**
RKO LYRIC—(1,400) (44c-50c-60c-70c) 5 days, plus Saturday midnight show. Gross: $4,500. (Average, 7 days: $5,500).
**"It Happened Tomorrow" (UA)**
RKO PALACE—(2,700) (44c-50c-60c-70c) 5 days, plus Saturday midnight show. Gross: $11,000. (Average, 7 days: $15,000).
**"Cover Girl" (Col.)**
RKO SHUBERT—(2,150) (44c-50c-60c-70c) 7 days, 3rd week following initial week at the Palace. Gross: $5,500. (Average: $5,000).

## 'Cover Girl', Show Do Substantial $20,000

BALTIMORE, May 1.—Biggest business of the week went to "Cover Girl," bolstered by a stage show at the Hippodrome, where the gross looks like $20,000. Substantial openings and capacity weekend crowds provided an excellent start for better than average returns.

Estimated receipts for the week ending May 4:

**"See Here, Private Hargrove" (M-G-M)**
CENTURY—(3,000) (35c-43c-55c and 60c) weekend) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $18,500. (Average: $17,500).
**"Ladies Courageous" (Univ.)**
KEITH'S—(2,406) (35c-40c-50c-60c) 7 days. Gross: $16,500. (Average: $15,000).
**"Buffalo Bill" (20th-Fox)**
NEW—(1,581) (30c-40c-60c) 7 days. Gross: $14,500. (Average: $13,000).
**"Passage to Marseille" (WB)**
STANLEY—(3,280) (35c-44c-55c-66c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $17,000. (Average: $18,000).
**"Cover Girl" (Col.)**
HIPPODROME—(2,205) (35c-44c-55c-65c) 7 days. Stage show: Terry and Ralph Rio, Ilene Woods, Danny Drayson, The Herzogs, Byrne Sisters. Gross: $20,000. (Average: $18,500).
**"Two-Man Submarine" (Col.)**
MAYFAIR—(1,000) (35c-54c) 7 days. Gross: $7,500. (Average: $7,000).
**"The Lady and the Monster" (Rep.)**
VALENCIA—(1,466) (35c-43c-55c and 60c weekends) 7 days. Gross: $7,000. (Average: $6,000).

## Howard Left $251,000

Leslie Howard, British film player missing since June 1, 1943, when the transport plane on which he was traveling was attacked by enemy planes between Lisbon and England, left an estate of $251,000, according to press dispatches from London at the weekend. The bulk of the estate will be held in trust for his widow, son and daughter.

# Hollywood

By JACK CARTWRIGHT

*Hollywood, May 1*

TOPPED by "Ziegfeld Follies," acclaimed as the greatest musical extravaganza in the studio's history by the M-G-M publicists, the studio is well launched on its biggest year of musical productions to date. It's going to be pretty heavily song-dance-and-sight entertainment on the stages at Culver City for a large part of 1944. "Follies" has something of a cast when one considers that 25 of the studio's name players will be on the roster, beginning with Fred Astaire. Additionally it will boast 23 huge production numbers.

•

*Other big musicals under way or in preparation at M-G-M include "Anchors Aweigh," with Gene Kelly, Kathryn Grayson and Frank Sinatra; "Holiday in Mexico," with Ray Bolger and a number of stars; "Weekend at the Waldorf," with Judy Garland and others; "Music for Millions," which has Jose Iturbi, Margaret O'Brien and Jimmy Durante cast; and almost an even dozen other musicals or comedies with music. Presently awaiting release are "Two Girls and a Sailor," "Bathing Beauty," and "Meet Me in St. Louis."*

•

**After seeing early rushes of her work in "Guest in the House," Hunt Stromberg signed Ruth Warrick to a five-year deal at one picture annually. . . . Producer Albert J. Cohen put "Atlantic City" before the cameras at Republic with Herbert J. Yates supervising the start. . . . Chili Williams, polka-dot scanty girl who won the title of "World's No. 1 Pin-up Girl" because of 40,000 requests for her picture after it appeared in *Life*, had her heart beats broadcast on the Homemakers' Club program over the Don Lee Mutual net. She's now in "Having Wonderful Crime."**

•

When Pine-Thomas complete "Dark Mountain," currently in work, they will have finished five of the six on their 1943-44 program for Paramount. They still have "Double Exposure" to produce and a special entitled "Storm." Their 1944-45 program also calls for six. . . . Universal is bringing the Carmen Amaya troupe, recently seen in "Follow the Boys," back for a specialty number in "See My Lawyer," Olsen and Johnson comedy presently before the cameras.

•

*Walter Thompson, executive assistant to William Goetz, is directing the "Bambuco" dance sequences for "Belle of the Yukon." Dan Loper is staging the dances. William Seiter has the principals at work on outdoor sequences for the musical. . . . Charles Coburn plays one of the top roles in "Czarina," which Ernest Lubitsch is producing and Otto Preminger directing at 20th Century-Fox. . . . Jack L. Warner has set Sydney Greenstreet and S. Z. Sakall in leads with Barbara Stanwyck in "Christmas in Connecticut." . . . 20th-Fox has changed the title of "A Wing and a Prayer" to "Queen of the Flat Tops." . . . Bob Hope and Danny Kaye will have time off from their acting chores to appear on "I Am an American" programs May 21 in San Francisco and Chicago, respectively.*


Paramount NEWS

AND NOTHING BUT THE NEWS



IN THIS MORNING'S MAIL:--
"DEAR BING: I THINK GOING MY WAY
IS THE GREATEST THING YOU HAVE
EVER DONE--CONGRATULATIONS!
...AND WHAT A PERFORMANCE
BARRY FITZGERALD GIVES."
SIGNED--"KATE SMITH"!
THANKS, KATE, YOU NEVER SAID A
TRUER WORD...AND WE'VE NEVER
MADE A GREATER PICTURE!


# Short Subject Reviews

## 'The Great Alaskan Mystery'

(*Universal-Serial*)

In "The Great Alaskan Mystery," Universal has a serial which starts out with more than the usual care and has staffed it with some well-known players, including Marjorie Weaver, Milburn Stone, Ralph Morgan, Edgar Kennedy, Fuzzy Knight and Samuel Hinds. It looks like superior work for this type.

The plot concerns a scientist's experiments to find a mineral necessary for the working of a ray-machine he is perfecting. His assistant is an enemy agent who seeks to obtain the secret of the machine. A young engineer, in love with the scientist's daughter, has apprised him of a mysterious substance in Alaska which might be the solution to his problem. A series of adventures follows including a shipwreck, several encounters with polar bears, the breaking up of ice floes, etc. Running time, 20 mins. per chapter.

## 'Jungle Jive'

(*Universal*)

A brand of music which has won much favor with the initiated "boogie-woogie" predominates in this Walt Lantz Swing Symphony in Technicolor. Some jungle natives who have salvaged some band instruments washed ashore, promptly swing into a jam session until a crab "crabs" the works when he takes over the piano keyboard for a solo. Running time, 7 mins.

## 'Foster's Canary College'

(*Universal*)

Here is an interesting short depicting such phenomena as a Canary College with highly-trained birds, a 103-year-old who has turned to flying, a unique ring collection from all over the world, and a hand-operated puppet opera. This is up to Universal's standard for the "Person-Oddity" series. Running time, 9 mins.

## Industry Seen as Aid To Postwar Planning

LOS ANGELES, May 1.—Business leaders can look to the motion picture industry as a "permanent structure engaged in foreign as well as domestic trade" in postwar employment planning, W. F. Bettis, chairman of Los Angeles National Foreign Trade Week, May 21-27, declared here at the weekend.

Bettis paid tribute to the industry for popularizing Hollywood styles, local products and scenery in foreign countries, and also as a major source of revenue to this area.

## 'Tale', 'Seabees' Shown

LONDON, May 1.—At the express invitation of Prime Minister Churchill, Michael Powell's "Canterbury Tale" was privately shown to Dominion Premiers here for a British Empire conference and earned lavish praise. "The Fighting Seebees" was shown at a premiere at the Regal to an audience composed exclusively of men from the American forces, likewise meeting with an enthusiastic reception.

# Films Silent On ATT Bid

(Continued from page 1)

Austrian, RKO television consultant, for a meeting to discuss industry policy on television. It is expected that some action will be mapped out at the meeting on the film industry's possible participation on the Radio Technical Planning Board which is studying frequency allocation recommendations for telecasting to be made to the Federal Communcations Commission.

As yet, however, A. T. & T. has not been approached with any definite plans for an information exchange, Mabon added. It is understood that the letter on the proposal, written by vice-president Keith S. McHugh to Hays, suggested the formation of a film-A. T. & T. committee.

### Delicate Question

The McHugh offer, according to an MPPDA spokesman, has been laid before distributor members, but no definite action has been taken as yet, it is understood. In some film circles the question of exchanging technical knowledge with A. T. & T. is said to be a delicate one, inasmuch as some motion picture companies have certain existing commitments for television in the postwar and it is not yet clear whether cable service for piping programs to theatres, which the telephone company can provide, will be needed. Also, General Electric contends that satisfactory transmission by air can be accomplished through the use of relay stations located at 16-mile intervals.

MPPDA officials are understood to hold that the matter concerns the film companies individually and, therefore, should not be a function of that office. The proposal was first presented to members at the last board meeting, it is understood.

## See No Changes in Raw Stock Quota

(Continued from page 1)

other hand, there is at the moment no indication that the studios will be able to get more film, although WPB officials have received no complaints that producers were under any hardship in getting along on what they now receive.

The studios' reports on lumber requirements for the next two quarters also are being studied, and while they have not been analyzed completely it is believed it will be possible to fill them fully despite the lumber shortage which is requiring cuts in consumption for shipping containers and many other purposes.

## Honor Taylor of Ascap

Deems Taylor, composer, radio commentator and president of Ascap, will receive an honorary degree of Doctor of Music at the 74th annual commencement of Syracuse University today.

## WB Tradeshow Change

Warners' "Make Your Own Bed," originally scheduled for national trade showing on May 8, will be screened May 15. "Between Two Worlds" will be shown May 8, as previously announced.

# Houses to Be Cool Despite U.S. Ban on Freon Gas

(Continued from page 1)

**atre cooling systems. Distribution of F-22 heretofore has been uncontrolled, and there were indications that the available reserves would be exhausted by its use as a substitute in stores and theatres. The new type normally operates at lower pressures but can be used with some success in F-12 systems, it was said.**

The field reports show that most houses have not adopted the ultra-modern freon cooling method and that a good many of those who did adopt it changed back to the "washed air" and other earlier systems sometime ago. Moreover, those theatres depending on freon are "nursing" a supply left over from last year and expect it to see them through the summer; theatre operators are checking to prevent possible leaks in machinery and are planning, if necessary, to shut it off for a few hours from time to time.

A minority of exhibitors, however, cite the fact that they have "put in orders" for a usual supply of freon and say they will be faced with an emergency if the orders are not filled. The Warner circuit in Pittsburgh hints that some of its neighborhood houses may be closed "if air conditioning is out."

### Some Have Wells

A number of small town theatres are more fortunate than those of the large cities, in that they have deep wells to cool the water for washing the air. Generally, though, the water has to be cooled by dry ice, which is expensive. Incidentally, several chemicals other than freon are in use.

Harry Moskowitz, in charge of maintenance for the Loew circuit, says most of their theatres use carbon-dioxide, and the same report comes from three first-run houses in Providence, and all those in downtown Detroit and elsewhere. Carrene is employed by the only gas-cooled house of Leo Brecher Theatrical Enterprises, New York, and by others including the M. & P. Allyn Theatre, Hartford, Conn., in which city Warners downtown Regal has a typhene system. There is said to be no shortage of any of these alternate gases.

The freezing of F-22 gas was a blow to N. S. Barger, the Rialto, Chicago, who had just completed converting his plant for the use of that gas when the Government's order banned it. In that city four Balaban and Katz first-run Loop houses, the State Lake, Garrick, Apollo and Chicago, are still depending on freon and are without reserve supplies. Five other downtown theatres, B. & K.'s Roosevelt and United Artists, the RKO Palace and Grand and the Oriental, have carbon dioxide equipment.

The New York check-up further disclosed that Al Naroff, maintenance head of Brandt Theatres, said, "We stored our freon from last year and we will definitely be able to start, but later we will have to shut our systems off if there is no relief from the Government. Philip Harling of Fabian Theatres has not completed a survey of his situation. J. J. Thompson said his Cocalis Enterprises houses, mainly in New Jersey, "will just use fans. We are not even interested in the freon situation," he added. Not interested for another reason was William Applegate, head of maintenance for Century Circuit. He said, "We have enough for the Summer and even beyond. I'm past that stage. Do you know where I can get some coal and oil?"

### Providence "in the Clear"

Providence claims to be "in the clear." In addition to the Strand, Loew's State and RKO-Albee, the city's carbon-dioxide houses, there is the Majestic, which manager Albert Clarke says has "the most modern freon system and therefore does not suffer from the usual leakage"; the Metropolitan and Playhouse of Associated Theatres; and the Carlton and Fay's theatres, none of which use freon; and the Empire, Park, Palace and Bijou, which, according to manager Herbert Copellman, have enough to start and will get through if not crippled by leakage.

*(This is the first of two round-ups of reports from* Motion Picture Daily *field correspondents on the theatre cooling situation throughout the country. The second round-up will appear in an early issue.)*

## Projector Making May Move to N. Y.

(Continued from page 1)

situation in the New York area is viewed as being sufficiently favorable to the manufacture of lamphouses required by theatres and possibly even to meeting the WPB approved plan for the manufacture of 340 "civilian" projectors in the third quarter of this year. The contemplation is to turn the manufacture of lamphouses over to plants making lamps in less critical labor areas with most of the manufacture of projection equipment also centralized in New York.

Smith returned to Washington last night after initial investigations.

## WE Promotes Collins

D. C. Collins has been advanced from the post of Eastern manager to manager of Western Electric's Electrical Research Products Division.

## John Scully New 'U' District Head

(Continued from page 1)

Charlotte office manager, to Atlanta branch manager; W. M. Richardson, former Atlanta branch manager, to New Orleans branch manager in place of N. Lamantia, who has been called by the Army; Eugene Vogel, former special representative, to Albany branch manager; Abe Weiner, former Buffalo branch manager, to Boston special representative, and Jerry Spandau, former Albany branch manager, to Buffalo office manager.

## Richards DuMont Officer

Albert J. Richards, Paramount News editor was elected assistant secretary of DuMont Television Laboratories at the company's annual stockholders meeting held in Passaic yesterday. All other officers and the board of directors were elected.

# 'Cover Girl' Stays For Sixth Week; N. Y. Grosses Hold

(Continued from page 1)

of Dover." "Buffalo Bill" and a stage show with Paul Whiteman and his orchestra, and Victor Borge and Joan Edwards will wind up a second week at the Roxy with $78,000. The combination will hold for a third and final week with the 20th Century-Fox-Betty Grable "Pin-Up Girl" set for May 10.

Third and final week of "Broadway Rhythm" and a stage show at the Capitol is expected to yield about $52,000 on the basis of the first four days' $40,000. M-G-M's "Gaslight" and a stage show featuring Phil Spitalny and his all-girl orchestra will open there on Thursday. Fourth and final week of "Uncertain Glory" and a Ted Lewis stage show at the Strand is expected to gross $31,000; weekend business hit $18,000. Warners' "Between Two Worlds" and the Coast Guard's "Tars and Spars" show featuring Victor Mature will open at the Strand Friday.

### 'Lady' Run Ending

"Lady in the Dark" will wind up its tenth week at the Paramount today with a gross of $50,000, giving the theatre almost $800,000 on the ten-week run of the film, teamed with a stage show headed by Xavier Cugat. Paramount's "Going My Way," starring Bing Crosby, will open there tomorrow, with Charlie Spivak's orchestra heading the stage show. Universal's "Follow the Boys" is registering substantially at the Criterion with a gross in excess of $40,000 for the first week, ending last night.

The 14th week of "The Song of Bernadette" at the Rivoli is expected to bring about $31,000; the first five days' gross was $23,500. "See Here, Private Hargrove" will have a sixth week's gross of $23,500 at the Astor, and the film will continue. The fourth week of the revival of "Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs" at the Manhattan brought almost $22,000 and the film will start a fifth week this morning. Gross for the final six days of the 11th week of "Passage to Marseille" at the Hollywood was $10,000. Warner's "The Adventures of Mark Twain" will open at the theatre tomorrow after a special benefit preview tonight.

### $12,000 at the Palace

A single week for "Seven Days Ashore" at the Palace is expected to bring about $12,000. Columbia's "Jam Session" will open at the Palace tomorrow with RKO's "Show Business" set for May 10. Second week of "Up in Mabel's Room" is expected to give the Gotham $11,700, and the picture will hold. "The Whistler" is expected to do about $10,000 on its initial week at the Rialto and it will hold. Third and final week of "Address Unknown" will give the Globe about $8,500; Paramount's "The Hitler Gang" will open Saturday. "Knickerbocker Holiday" will hold for a third and final week at the Victoria, after ending a second week today with more than $8,000. Paramount's "The Hour Before the Dawn" will open at the theatre on May 10.

## Perretz Quits Filmack

Chicago, May 1.—Al Perretz has resigned from Filmack Trailer.

# Mayer Honored for Los Angeles Aid

HOLLYWOOD, May 1.—Louis B. Mayer, in absentia, was presented with a testimonial, acknowledging his work on behalf of the Los Angeles community, last night at a dinner in the Ambassador Hotel given by the industry division of the United Jewish Welfare Fund. Mayer had not returned from New York in time to be present.

Under the chairmanship of Walter Wanger, the motion picture division is seeking to raise one-third of a minimum $2,000,000 quota this year, having contributed one-third of the $1,200,000 collected last year. The charity is concerned with overseas relief and rehabilitation, and also supports local and national activities.

About 450 at the dinner heard Rev. Barnett R. V. Birckner of Cleveland discuss his observations based on a 35,000 mile trip through Europe, North Africa, Palestine and China. He is a member of the three-man commission named by President Roosevelt to observe the morale of troops. A second speaker was Mrs. Waistill Hastings Sharp, who conducted Unitarian church services abroad with her husband.

## Quash Indicated in Suit of Momand

(Continued from page 1)

were given until June 15 to furnish a bill of particulars sought by the defendant distributors, Warner Brothers, Paramount, Universal and Vitaphone, which had made the motions to dismiss and to quash.

Judge Broaddus said he would give the defendants' counsel five days to read authorities before finally sustaining the quash motion. At the same time, he accepted, as routine, a request for a jury trial made by the Griffith Amusement Co., local circuit distributor in the case.

## Justice Dissolves FPC Injunction

(Continued from page 1)

the action with costs to be paid by the plaintiff.

President of Theatre Properties is Paul L. Nathanson, head of the Odeon Circuit, which operates the two theatres under a lease. The injunction action developed after Hamilton United shareholders voted against a higher cash offer from Famous Players for possession of the theatres. Representative of Famous Players contended a two-thirds majority of all Hamilton United shareholders had not been registered in voting on the sale, as required under the Ontario Companies Act.

## RKO Union Before SLRB

A further hearing on the attempt of the IATSE to separate cashiers and others from the jurisdiction of the newly-formed Motion Picture Theatre Operating Managers, Assistants and Cashiers Guild, embracing help in RKO New York theatres, was held at the office of the State Labor Relations Board here yesterday.

## WB to Reissue 'Army'

Warners' "This Is the Army" will be reissued nationally on June 24. The film was first released last August.

# Review

## "The Scarlet Claw"

(*Universal*)

*Hollywood, May 1*

IN "The Scarlet Claw," Sherlock Holmes, played by Basil Rathbone, and Dr. Watson, portrayed by Nigel Bruce, carry on the famous Sir Arthur Conan Doyle characters with the deft touch. Aided by chilling fog on the marshlands, a well-planted fear of the mysterious "monsters" among the villagers, the mystery builds suspense, capped by action, and touches of Dr. Watson's stuffy, whimsical humor in just the right dosages.

At Le Morte Rouge Holmes discovers that the murder of Lady Penrose, former actress, could not have been done by a monster in whom her husband, a student of the occult, believes, as do the natives. He and Watson track down the murderer, who proves to be an escaped actor-murderer, who had created several characters for himself among the villagers. Roy William Neill produced and directed from a screenplay written in collaboration with Edmund L. Hartmann from an original by Paul Gangelin and Brenda Weisberg. Gerald Hamer provides excellent menace as the slayer, while Paul Cavanaugh delivers well, and Kay Harding shows promise as the winsome daughter of the village innkeeper.

Running time, 74 minutes. "G."* Release date, not set.

JACK CARTWRIGHT

**"G" denotes general classification.*

## Negotiations Slated With Studio Guilds

Producer negotiations with studio guilds on new talent and other contract provisions covering wages, hours and working conditions are scheduled to be opened in Hollywood following the return there of Pat Casey, studio labor representative. Casey left New York for the Coast yesterday.

Initial negotiations probably will be with readers, cutters and editors, with directors and other guilds following.

## 1944 Catholic Charity Drive Is Under Way

The 1944 Appeal of New York Catholic Charities is under way and will continue through May 10. Alfred E. Smith is general chairman of the Archbishop's Committee of the Laity; John A. Coleman is executive chairman, Frank C. Walker is treasurer and George Schaefer is assistant treasurer. Co-chairman of the film industry's committee are John O'Connor and Bert Sanford.

## 43 Houses in New Pitsburgh Combine

(Continued from page 1)

Weiland, A. G. Neyland, Stephen Santa, Norman C. Huhn, J. W. Mercer, Harry Hendel, William Wheat, Bennett Amdur, Carl Poke, M. Winograd, H. Rachiele, Rachiele and Walker, Mervis and Barnholtz, Fineman and Shapiro, and R. Navarii.

## M-G-M Service Awards

CLEVELAND, May 1.—M-G-M held a dinner at the Statler Hotel here at the weekend when service awards were presented to 11 employes by John J. Maloney, Central States sales manager, and J. P. Byrne, district manager. Receiving 20-year service buttons were Steve Andrews, Effie Baxter, Charles C. Deardourff and Sara Sallew. Ten-year M-G-M employes honored were Jack Sogg, Jack Mundstuck, Ann Vickers, Native Roberts, Louise Jade, Gladys Nelson and Elsie Wilson.

## Bob Hope, Winner of PeabodyRadioAward

Bob Hope, six network programs, a regional program and a local station program are the 1943 winners of the George Foster Peabody radio awards administered by the National Association of Broadcasters with the cooperation of the University of Georgia.

Representing the majority opinion of "screening" groups besides Hope's award for camp tours, included Edward R. Murrow, CBS; Lux Radio Theatre, CBS; "Open Letter to the American People," CBS; Salt Lake Tabernacle Choir, CBS; "America's Town Meeting of the Air," Blue Network, and "Let's Pretend," CBS.

## RKO Sponsors NBC Sunday News Spot

Further expanding its use of radio as a promotion medium for new pictures, RKO has contracted to sponsor National Broadcasting's Sunday afternoon Ed Herlihy five-minute news program for the next 13 weeks. Contract with NBC carries options for renewal beyond the original 13 weeks.

The company has been sponsoring the 15-minute 11 p.m. news period on WEAF, New York NBC outlet on Saturdays for the past year and announced over the weekend that it will sponsor its "Hollywood Star Time" program on 177 stations of the Blue Network starting May 29 after an initial experiment on 20 Coast stations of the Blue since February 28.

## See Hochstein Trial Postponed Today

The trial of Harry Hochstein, former Chicago morals inspector, scheduled to start today before Federal Judge Alfred C. Coxe, is expected to be postponed. Hochstein is under indictment for allegedly perjuring himself before a special Federal Grand Jury probing alleged racketeering within the film industry.

Hochstein is specifically charged with swearing falsely before the Grand Jury when asked about an alleged conference among members of the Capone gang in his Riverside, Ill., home in 1934.

# Theatre Changes

### Widespread Shifts in RKO Circuit Personnel

Numerous shifts of RKO circuit personnel have been made in recent weeks to meet resignations and the drafting of managers and assistants. These changes include the shift of Irving Gold from the RKO Chester to the 8th Street Theatre as manager to replace Lee Koken, inducted; Charles Lyon, relief manager, has been assigned to the Chester; Raymond Gibbs and Maurice McGowan, assistant managers of the RKO Palace and Capitol, Cincinnati, respectively, have switched posts; John J. Thompson and Sam Rydell, managers of the RKO Franklin and Hamilton, New York, respectively, have also switched.

William L. Heiss has been appointed manager of the RKO-105th Street, Cleveland; Marvin Johnston, manager of the Orpheum, Champaign, Ill., has switched to the Orpheum, Kansas City, as assistant, replacing J. G. Thorp who has entered the Army; Frederick Stephans, assistant of the Virginia, Champaign, has been promoted to manage the Orpheum.

Also, Henry Laskowski, treasurer of the RKO Albee, Brooklyn, has been appointed to manager of the Greenpoint, replacing James McCarthy, resigned; John Thomas, assistant of the RKO Prospect, has taken over Laskowski's post at the Albee; Thomas Raab, relief assistant of the Prospect, was promoted to assistant manager; Arthur Koch has been promoted to acting manager of RKO Proctor's, Mt. Vernon, with Ethel Moore, secretary at RKO Keith's White Plains, taking over Koch's duties as assistant manager.

## Brennan, Schwartz Head RKO Theatres

(Continued from page 1)

cuit's management, yesterday, declared that the move is the result of a study which has been under way for some time and that the new alignment of RKO theatres into two groups recognizes the difference in operating problems. The New York-New Jersey houses are in a compact group, while the remaining theatres are widely scattered, he said.

Film buying for both divisions will remain with the home office buying staff under the direction of Harold Mirisch. Malcolm Kingsberg is executive vice-president of the two RKO theatre companies, Keith-Albee-Orpheum and B. F. Keith Corp.

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# TODAY, AS YESTERDAY

# Brilliant

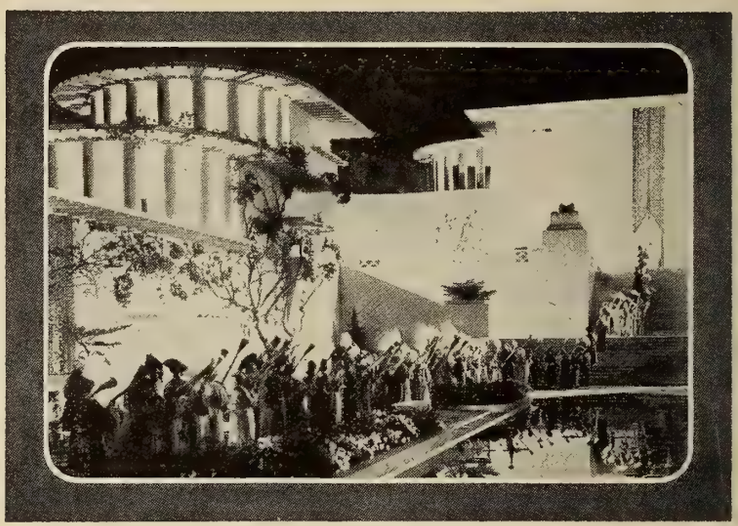
STILL A BRILLIANT FILM, audiences and critics agree, is Columbia's "Lost Horizon." Still brilliant, too, is the screen lighting from "National" Projector Carbons, whether the picture be the most recent release or a second or third run. Audiences enjoy virtually the same screen light today as when "Lost Horizon" was first shown.

This has been accomplished because National Carbon Company's background of research and manufacturing experience enabled it to redesign pre-war carbons promptly to war-time needs . . . and also because of the close technical cooperation of exhibitor, projectionist and lamp manufacturer.

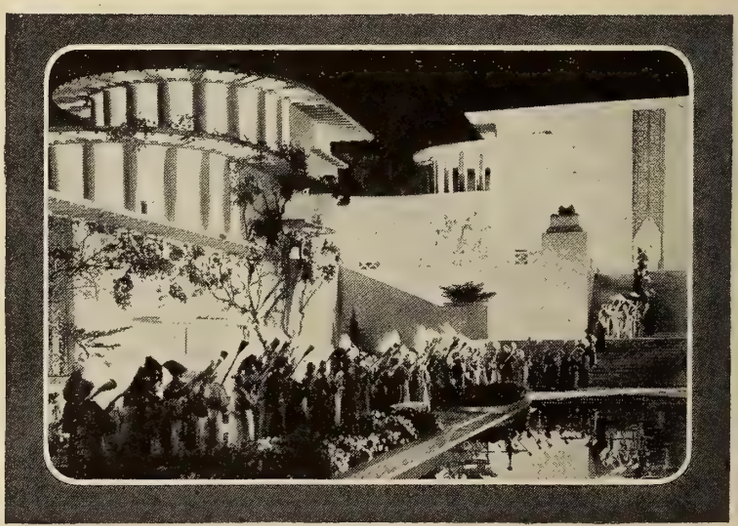
***Most important of all, however, is that enormous quantities of copper have been saved for the war effort,* through recovery of copper drippings and stripping of copper from carbon stubs.**

The best evidence that these efforts are successful is that motion picture patrons in ever increasing numbers are overflowing theatres everywhere for needed relaxation and worthwhile entertainment.

★ *BUY UNITED STATES WAR BONDS* ★



1937



1944

The trade-mark "National" distinguishes products of National Carbon Company, Inc.

## NATIONAL CARBON COMPANY, INC.

*Unit of Union Carbide and Carbon Corporation*

CARBON PRODUCTS DIVISION, Cleveland 1, Ohio UCC New York, Pittsburgh, Chicago, San Francisco

First in Film and Radio News Brief, Accurate and Impartial

# MOTION PICTURE DAILY

Alert, Intelligent and Indispensable to the Motion Picture Industry

VOL. 55. NO. 87 NEW YORK, U. S. A., WEDNESDAY, MAY 3, 1944 TEN CENTS

DO NOT COPY FOR PROMOTIONAL PURPOSES

## WPB Releases 675 New Projectors

### *Total to Be Produced In 2nd Half of Year*

WASHINGTON, May 2.—Authorizations for the manufacture of 340 projectors in the third quarter and 335 in the fourth quarter of this year for commercial usage have gone to manufacturers from the War Production Board, it was learned here today.

All of the projectors above the regular program of 100 per quarter will be produced in No. 2, 3 and 4 labor areas, and none will be made in No. 1 areas, where there is a severe labor shortage, but manufacturers in No. 2 areas have been warned that they can produce the machines for commercial use only if it does not

(*Continued on page 12*)

## *15 Regional Bond Rallies*

The industry will be rallied for "its mightiest war effort," the Fifth War Loan, at a series of 15 regional meetings, the first to be held at the Hotel Statler, Washington, on May 10, national chairman R. J. O'Donnell disclosed here yesterday through War Activities Committee headquarters. O'Donnell is now in Hollywood organizing production for the drive.

Other meetings are scheduled for Boston, May 11; New York, May 15;

(*Continued on page 12*)

## Managers, Salesmen Seek Unionization

CHICAGO, May 2.—The hub of a Midwest movement for the creation of a national theatre managers' union, under the wing of the American Federation of Labor, is developing here. Officials of circuits hereabouts, and Jack Kirsch, president of Allied Theatres of Illinois, learned this week that Gene Atkinson, business manager of projectionists local No. 110, IATSE-AFL, will make a formal plea for an AFL charter for a managers union at the convention of the "IA," opening in St. Louis on May 29.

Organizers of the CIO have been

(*Continued on page 11*)

### *Coast-to-New York Telecasts First*

**Hollywood, May 2.—Television will add to Hollywood's prestige as a fountainhead of entertainment origin, in the opinion of Frank E. Mullen, vice-president and general manager of NBC. The other focal point, he says, will be New York. "We may have television programs transmitted from Hollywood to New York long before the rest of the country has television," he said.**

## Monogram Will Not Cash-in Now: Carr

"Monogram is re-investing every possible dollar gained from the present period of box-office prosperity, to gain a stronger name and place for the company when this high prosperity subsides," Trem Carr, head of Monogram production, disclosed yesterday at a luncheon to 35 representatives of the trade press, at the Hotel Warwick here. Carr is in New York from Hollywood.



**Trem Carr**

Carr declared that the company had set a policy of "avoiding the temptation of cashing-in on these times," and with the intention of spend-

(*Continued on page 11*)

## House Action Today on Films Abroad

WASHINGTON, May 2.—The House Foreign Affairs Committee is expected to report favorably tomorrow on legislation authorizing the State Department to undertake in other parts of the world programs to promote mutual understanding and cooperation such as have been applied in Latin America by the Coordinator of Inter-American Affairs, including the substantial use of American motion pictures.

The legislation was asked by President Roosevelt in a message to Congress Feb. 29 and the bill was introduced by Representative Sol Bloom of New York, chairman of the committee. Later, in an outline of the Department's program submitted to the President by Acting Secretary of State E. R. Stettinius, Jr., considerable

(*Continued on page 11*)

## 3 Presidents West To Meet Petrillo

HOLLYWOOD, May 2.—Presidents Barney Balaban of Paramount, Nicholas M. Schenck of M-G-M and N. Peter Rathvon of RKO are expected here the middle of next week to discuss a new contract with James Caesar Petrillo and his American Federation of Musicians. Petrillo is scheduled to arrive a few days earlier to make a

(*Continued on page 12*)

## U.A. Problems Seen Near To a Solution

### *Raftery, Sears Confident Of Operating Changes*

"United Artists will have its house in order and will face its greatest opportunity in years if the meeting of its stockholders on Friday approves the resolutions covering amendments to the company's bylaws," Gradwell L. Sears, vice-president, said yesterday.



**Gradwell L. Sears**

Sears explained that the recent purchase by the company of Sir Alexander Korda's United Artists stock and the proposed changes in bylaws

(*Continued on page 12*)

## *Protests FWC War Building*

LOS ANGELES, May 2.—Independent Theatre Owners of Northern California has protested to R. W. Longstreth of the Office of Civilian Requirements, and to Tom Clark, Assistant U. S. Attorney General, over "reported plans" of a major circuit, unnamed but believed to be Fox West Coast, to erect eight new theatres in the San Francisco Bay area under the OCR. The independents charge "it appears

(*Continued on page 12*)

## Next Decree Meet In Washington

WASHINGTON, May 2.—Negotiations on revision of the consent decree are expected to resume in Washington rather than in New York but no date has yet been set for a meeting between Assistant U. S. Attorney General Tom C. Clark and decree company officials, it was learned today at the Department of Justice.

Following a brief discussion of the

(*Continued on page 12*)

## *'Adventures of Mark Twain'*

[*Warner Bros.*]

*Hollywood, May 2*

A GREAT deal has been heard in these parts about "The Adventures of Mark Twain." This is a prediction a great deal will be heard in other parts of America and elsewhere now that Warners, with care and fanfare, has taken this attraction out of the vaults for the public to see and to enjoy.

Here is a big-scale effort and a big-time show, executing with fidelity and conviction of accuracy the homespun characteristics of one of the most homespun of native sons—Samuel B. Clemens, or Mark Twain, as he was better known throughout the engirdled globe.

He was born when Halley's Comet streaked the sky and he died 75 years later when the comet, on celestial schedule, reappeared. Between boyhood days along the Mississippi, the then raw stretches of the unpeopled West and Twain's rise to domestic and international fame was a story of drama. This meant, of course, that Mark Twain passed through those variable experiences which make for happiness and sorrow. With him, however, there was the good fortune which a sense of

(*Continued on page 6*)

# Personal Mention

LOUIS B. MAYER, M-G-M vice-president in charge of production, accompanied by JACK POTTER, studio publicist, is scheduled to leave for the Coast on Monday.

•

EARLE W. SWEIGERT, Paramount Philadelphia district manager, was presented with a citation of merit for his accomplishments as chairman for the recent Red Cross drive.

•

JOE SHEA, William Cagney Productions Eastern publicity representative, will leave Polyclinic Hospital here Friday after an eight weeks' illness.

•

AL RENDELMAN, former treasurer of Warner's Earle, Philadelphia, has been discharged from the Army after being wounded in the South Pacific.

•

WILLIAM KEEGAN, general manager of William C. Hunt Theatres, Southern New Jersey, is back at his desk after recovering from illness.

•

H. S. MORRIS, Altec Service merchandise manager, has left New York on a tour of the Southeast and Middle West offices.

•

G. L. CARRINGTON, president of Altec Service Corp., has returned to Hollywood after three weeks in New York.

•

PHIL FOX, Columbia Buffalo branch manager, is in Detroit to meet with CARL SHALIT, district manager.

•

LLOYD RUST, Republic Pictures Dallas branch manager, is visiting in Chicago.

•

J. J. GRADY, 20th Century-Fox Cincinnati district manager, was in Buffalo this week.

•

EDWARD K. (TED) O'SHEA, M-G-M Eastern sales manager, will return to New York today.

## Eagle - Lion Sales Drive on in England

J. Arthur Rank's Eagle-Lion Distributors, Ltd., which recently concluded a three-day sales meeting in London, will launch immediately a sales drive in England on Noel Coward's "This Happy Breed" and the Powell-Pressburger film, "Canterbury Tales," the company announced here yesterday.

The American branch of Eagle-Lion, headed by Arthur Kelly, will shortly release in the U. S. "The Life and Death of Colonel Blimp," also produced by Powell-Pressburger.

## Dembow Sales Meeting

HOLLYWOOD, May 2.—George Dembow, vice president in charge of sales for National Screen Service, is presiding at the Western sales meeting of that company at the Ambassador Hotel here.

# Insider's Outlook

By RED KANN

*Hollywood, May 2*

THE nebulous and the indefinite are on the loose again. Once more, they leave marks of injury.

Comes to light now an editorial published in the San Bernardino (Cal.) *Sun*. Excerpts:

"Hollywood complains:

"Highly indoctrinated shock units of the totalitarian wrecking crew have shrewdly led the people of the United States to believe that Hollywood is a hotbed of sedition and subversion and that our industry is a battleground over which Communism is locked in death grips with Fascism. We intend to correct that erroneous impression immediately. . . .

"So at last Hollywood has discovered that chickens come home to roost.

"The only way Hollywood can convince a large number of people is for it to take the propaganda out of motion pictures and keep it out. Theatregoers pay for entertainment; in too many cases they have been handed propaganda. We suspect that, were not the people of the United States too deeply occupied with other matters of more importance at the moment, Hollywood would be hearing a lot of things.

"Amusement is not politics—either domestic or international—and Hollywood has manufactured a lot of other things than amusement."

■

Questions:

1.—Who in Hollywood is doing the complaining complained of? Who, when, where and under what circumstances?

2.—What propaganda and, in the most specific terms, in what pictures? If they exist, they have titles. If they have titles, they have producers, writers and actors. Circuitous approaches and generalities are never substitutes for facts.

3.—". . . Hollywood would be hearing a lot of things." A lot of things about what and about whom?

■

These attacks continue to be snide because their sponsorship dodges or consciously avoids the precisions of the issues themselves, if there are issues.

These attacks are damaging, dangerous and unfair because, in the irresponsible sweep of their embrace, they are damaging, dangerous and unfair to a *whole* industry.

If there is something to prove, let the evidence so demonstrate. Typewriters sniping away in inconclusive shadows are not enough.

■ ■

The M-G-M boys have been passing through a hectic time. It was on a very recent day when the town fairly blazed with reports that Louis B. Mayer (1) had resigned, (2) would resign. Here are the facts, available to anyone able to pick up a telephone:

Mayer made his second trip to New York in the short shrift of about four weeks because illness interrupted the first. He returned here, then returned there to complete his business with Nicholas M. Schenck. Chief reason for the second journey was to review and to ponder the British situation involving Loew's half ownership, along with 20th Century-Fox, in the Metropolitan and Bradford Trust which, in turn, owns 49 per cent of Gaumont-British. Spyros Skouras was in London, representing both partners.

Chief fact, however, was this one incontrovertible:

Mayer signed a new, four-year deal with M-G-M last fall.

■ ■

What happens now with "One World" remains to be seen. Natural queries went Fox-ward the day after Wisconsin collided with Wendell Willkie. Joe Schenck merely said, "It is still on our schedule," and rested. Harry Brand went beyond with:

"We don't kick people around the way they do in Wisconsin."

■ ■

One of those periodic Republic sales meetings was the on-surface reason for Jimmy Grainger's second visit here in three weeks. The real reason was something else. It cannot be told now beyond the approaches. The approaches, however, concern themselves with two, and maybe three, big production deals with extremely important directors.

These picture-makers would be on their own. Herb Yates would finance. Republic, of course, would release.

■ ■

They are remarking the UA situation is so complex it required a Philadelphia lawyer to figure it out. Therefore, Mary Pickford retained two—George Wharton Pepper and his partner, Isaac Pennypacker.

# Coast Flashes

*Hollywood, May 2*

HAROLD WILSON, assistant to B. G. De Sylva, Paramount studio executive producer, has been signed for two more years.

•

John Joseph, Universal director of advertising and publicity, left on the Superchief today for home office conferences with Maurice A. Bergman, Eastern advertising and publicity manager, with regard to Spring and Summer releases.

•

Jack Lait, editor of the New York *Daily Mirror*, is here to confer with Arthur Schwartz, producer of Warners' "Mr. Broadway," the Sime Silverman biographical story, which Lait is writing with Abel Green, editor of *Variety*.

•

George West, Monogram franchise holder for the St. Louis and Cincinnati territories, will visit the studio at the end of this month.

•

RKO today signed Jean Renoir to direct "Elizabeth Kenny." Dudley Nichols is producing.

•

Fred S. Meyer, director of industrial relations for 20th-Fox studios, has returned from New York.

•

William Perlberg will produce "White Collar Girl," starring Dorothy McGuire, 20th-Fox announced today.

•

Charles Skouras, president of National Theatres Corp., is due from the East at the weekend.

•

Paramount has assigned the production of "Our Hearts Were Growing Up" to Kenneth MacGowan.

## Circuit Heads Meet On Building Code

First general reactions of exhibitors to proposed revisions in the New York State building code for theatres and other places of public assembly were discussed by representatives of New York circuits, yesterday, in the offices of the Motion Picture Producers and Distributors of America. At the next meeting, scheduled for next Wednesday at the MPPDA, theatre representatives will present a written analysis of the proposed new code.

At yesterday's meeting Louis Lazar of Schine Theatres was elected chairman of the group. Others who attended were: Harry Moskowitz, F. Jung, Loew's; Henry Anderson, Charles Brouda, Paramount; John A. May, J. M. Sanford, Schine; James B. Zabin, Cinema Circuit; M. J. Fessler, Warners; Martin J. Tracey, William H. Applegate, Century Circuit; D. P. Canavan, E. Wandelman, RKO Theatres; Al Reid, Fabian Theatres and Al Maroff, Brandt Theatres.

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The Governments of the United States and Great Britain present "TUNISIAN VICTORY" • The Invasion and Liberation of North Africa • An Official Record Produced by British and American Service Film Units • Distributed by the British Ministry of Information

A Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer Release

## Many Absent from SWG Unity Meet

HOLLYWOOD, May 2.—Although 38 industry guilds, unions and other groups had joined the Screen Writers' Guild in its invitation to confer on an industry-wide program to investigate aims of the Motion Picture Alliance for the Preservation of American Ideals and to plan a program of industry-wide public relations at the Hollywood Roosevelt Hotel tonight, a survey disclosed that groups claiming to represent some 15,000 industry workers had not been invited or had refused to acknowledge invitations and attend the session.

Representatives of all unions and guilds which had previously announced endorsement of MPA's program of "preservation of American ideals and the American way of life" said they had not received invitations to attend.

Mary McCall, Jr., SWG president, presided at the meeting, held at a late hour; and it is understood that speakers included Robert Rossen, chairman of the Hollywood Writers' Mobilization, and others of that group, originally organized to provide writers from Hollywood in the war effort.

MPA, which met last Friday, pointedly referred to the SWG move as a "smear attempt" on the part of a Communist clique in the two writers' organizations.

## *Judge Away; Prefect Arguments Deferred*

Arguments on the motion for a new trial of the Prefect Theatres' Connecticut anti-trust suit against eight distributing companies have been postponed temporarily because of the absence from New Haven of Judge Carroll Hincks of the U. S. District Court there. It is understood that Judge Hincks has gone to Arizona, where his mother is ill.

Distributors' lawyers here, who do not expect the arguments to be heard until next week, said yesterday that the new trial motion holds that the judge "usurped the function of the jury and committed an error" in directing a verdict for the defendants in the $5,452,575 suit for triple damages over the alleged conspiracy to withhold product from the Pickwick Theatre, Greenwich.

## *'Twain' Has Benefit Premiere Here*

Warners' "The Adventures of Mark Twain" had a benefit and press preview-premiere under the auspices of the Madison Square Boys Club at the Hollywood Theatre here last night, climaxing an extensive advance promotion including airtime worth an estimated $250,000. The campaign was under the direction of Charles Einfeld and Mort Blumenstock.

The picture will run indefinitely at the Hollywood and also will open this week in 200 other situations, for one-week, advanced price engagements, returning later in the season for regular national release.

## *$29,000 for 'Arms'*

CHICAGO, May 2.—An all-time record of $29,000 for the Woods Theatre was reported today as the gross of the first week of the Midwest premiere of Goldwyn-RKO's "Up In Arms."

# *'Adventures of Mark Twain'*

(Continued from page 1)

humor imparts. Clemens, or Twain, had it as all and sundry are aware. The filmed story of his life has it and audiences are about to get it for their enjoyment and vast satisfaction.

THIS biography, drawn almost entirely from the factual, starts with Clemens' birth, carries him through happy childhood times on and along the Mississippi, but mostly on. It tells of the despair of his mother over his future, of his ambition to become a river pilot, which he achieves; of how he falls in love with a miniature of Alexis Smith whom he ultimately marries. It continues with his gold-seeking adventures in new country where he had repaired to roughen his honest edges with money he felt necessary before seeking the girl's hand and of how both of them travel down the pathways of renown to his finally established position in the world of American and world-wide letters.

The picture is long—132 minutes. Its earlier footage suggests brevity would have helped in the direction of a tighter unfoldment. But Jesse L. Lasky, producer, and Irving Rapper, director, had a long and crammed-full life to get across. They have done this exceedingly well, and with distinction. They have managed it always in absorbing manner from those first to the final days when Mark Twain, having published President Grant's memoirs and having gone broke in the doing, takes himself around the world on a lecture tour in order to recoup sufficiently to meet his debts. He does, and at an age when most men would have been retired or dead.

Fredric March is Twain. He bears a startling resemblance to popular portraits of the original and acts as Twain probably did. This is one of March's best performances and one that gyrates nicely and without effort into the area of the memorable. Supporting performances, all of competence, include Miss Smith, Donald Crisp, C. Aubrey Smith, Alan Hale, John Carradine, Bill Henry, Robert Barratt and Walter Hampden.

Out of a welter of source material, Alan Le May and Harold M. Sherman prepared the adaptation, later whipped into screenplay form by Le May acting in solo. Harry Chandlee wrote additional dialogue.

Running time, 132 minutes. "G."*. No release date.

RED KANN

*"G" denotes general classification.

## *Drop Charge Against Butane Gas Buyers*

LOS ANGELES, May 2.—Deputy U. S. Attorney James Harrington today said, "purchasers of butane gas-tank equipment for private cars, as named by Walter Zonker in his confession that he sold such equipment, will not be prosecuted because the U. S. War Frauds division here does not believe it has evidence which would prove they did so with full knowledge of the War Production Board regulation pertaining to such equipment."

A number of industry personalities had been named by Zonker, who pleaded guilty, but Federal Judge Pierson Hall had refused to sentence him demanding prosecution of the individual purchasers.

## *Will Report on UJA Campaign on May 11*

The film executive's committee assigned to study plans for participation of the industry in the United Jewish Appeal's 1944 fund-raising campaign will report to the full amusement industry committee at a luncheon at the Hotel Astor here on Thursday, May 11.

The special committee met yesterday at the Hotel Astor after similar meetings last Sunday and a week ago Thursday. Present at yesterday's meeting were David Bernstein, George J. Schaefer, Nate Spingold, Joseph H. Seidelman, Herman Robbins, Leopold Friedman, Louis Nizer, Arthur Israel Jr. and Sam Rinzler.

## *Grainger Budget Talk Ends Sales Meeting*

CHICAGO, May 2.—A discussion by president J. R. Grainger of Republic's 1944-45 record $17,750,000 production budget, plus consideration of forthcoming pictures, wound up the company's two-day Midwestern sales meeting at the Drake Hotel here today.

Among those present were H. J. Yates, Sr., chairman of the board; Edward Walton, Midwestern sales manager; Merritt Davis, Southern sales manager; John LeRoy Johnston, public relations director; Walter L. Titus, Jr., secretary, and several branch managers.

Yates and Grainger left for New York early this afternoon. Johnston will leave on Thursday for Hollywood.

The final sales meeting in the series is scheduled for New York May 10 and 11, when Yates and Grainger will meet with Central district sales manager Sam Seplowin and Eastern district sales manager Maxwell Gillis, heading a group of men from these areas.

## *Goldberg's Father Dies*

Herman Goldberg, Warner sales representative here, left yesterday for Chicago to attend the funeral of his father, Max Goldberg, who died there this week.

## *Halaby Killed in Action*

Lt. George Halaby, Jr., former chief of staff at Warner's New York Strand, was killed in action in New Guinea April 16, according to word received here.

# 'Hargrove' Nets Big $34,000 In Philadelphia

PHILADELPHIA, May 2.—"See Here, Private Hargrove" is expected to bring the Stanley $34,200 in addition to the $4,500 already in for the dual showing at the Earle.

Estimated receipts for the week ending May 3-5:

**"The Uninvited" (Para.)**
ALDINE—(900) (40c-45c-50c-65c-75c-85c) 7 days, 3rd week. Gross: $15,400. (Average: $14,600).

**"The Purple Heart" (20th-Fox)**
ARCADIA—(600) (40c-45c-50c-65c-75c) 7 days, 2nd run. Gross: $4,750. (Average: $4,000).

**"Cover Girl" (Col.)**
BOYD—(3,000) (40c-45c-50c-65c-75c-85c) 7 days, 4th week. Gross: $15,900. (Average: $18,000).

**"Her Primitive Man" (Univ.) (6 days) $29,800**

**"See Here, Private Hargrove" (M-G-M) (1 day) $4,500**
EARLE—(3,000) (50c-65c-85-95c) 6 days of vaudeville, including Lionel Hampton's orchestra, The Two Zephyrs and Billy & Evelyn Nightingale. Gross: $29,800. (Average: $27,800).

**"The Sullivans" (20th-Fox)**
FOX—(3,000) (40c-45c-50c-65c-75c-85c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $16,500. (Average: $20,500).

**"The Song of Bernadette" (20th-Fox)**
KARLTON — (1,000) (75c-$1.10) 7 days, 2nd week, 2nd run. Gross: $8,500. (Average: $6,600).

**"Rationing" (M-G-M)**
KEITH'S — (2,200) (40c-45c-50c-65c-75c-85c) 7 days, 2nd run. Gross: $5,000. (Average: $5,800).

**"Uncertain Glory" (WB)**
MASTBAUM — (4,700). (40c-45c-50c-65c-75c-85c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $18,900. (Average: $22,500).

**"See Here, Private Hargrove" (M-G-M)**
STANLEY—(3,000) (40c-45c-50c-65c-75c-85c) 7 days. Gross: $34,200. (Average: $20,000).

**"Frisco Kid" (WB)**
STANTON—(1,700) (40c-45c-50c-65c-75c-85c) 7 days, reissue. Gross: $15,700. (Average: $9,400).

## *Jennifer Jones May Face Contract Suit*

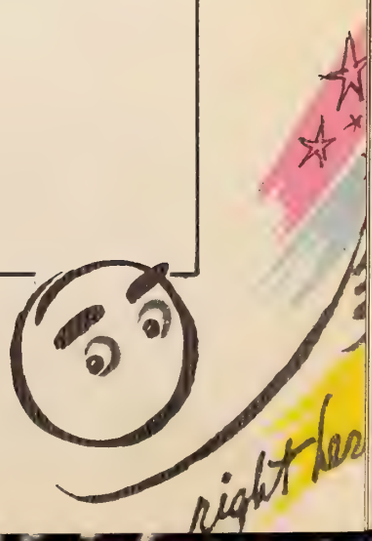
HOLLYWOOD, May 2.—Officials of 20th Century-Fox today confirmed reports that they "may take legal action" against Jennifer Jones, Academy acting award winner, charging her with failure to report for work on April 24 under a loanout agreement with Vanguard.

At the same time, Vanguard issued a statement to the effect that, under the agreement with 20th-Fox, they were to have approval of the roles offered the star. Neither Miss Jones, David O. Selznick, Vanguard president, nor Daniel T. O'Shea, executive director of the studio, were given a chance to read the script of "Laura," it was charged. O'Shea said, "20th-Fox has lost one picture with Jennifer Jones, and we cannot be certain whether it has lost the remaining pictures on the schedule until we examine our legal position."

## *Solomon Marks Dies*

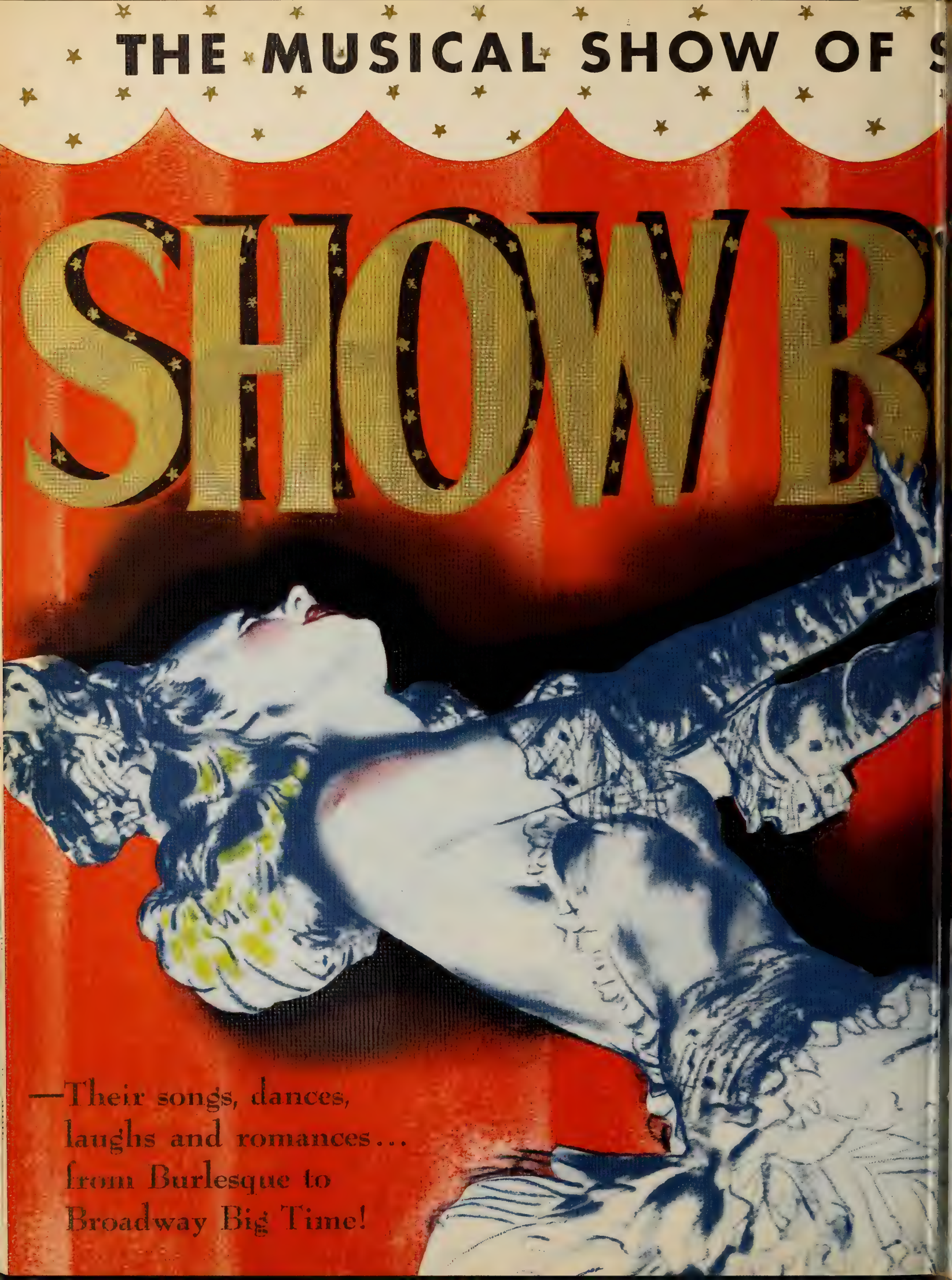
Solomon B. Marks, 68, once associated with his brother, Edward B. Marks, in the music publishing business and father-in-law of Bosley Crowthe, *New York Times'* film critic, died here recently after a long illness. Services will be held this morning in the Universal Chapel, Lexington Ave. and 52nd St. Besides Mrs. Crowther, Marks' survivors include a son and three brothers.

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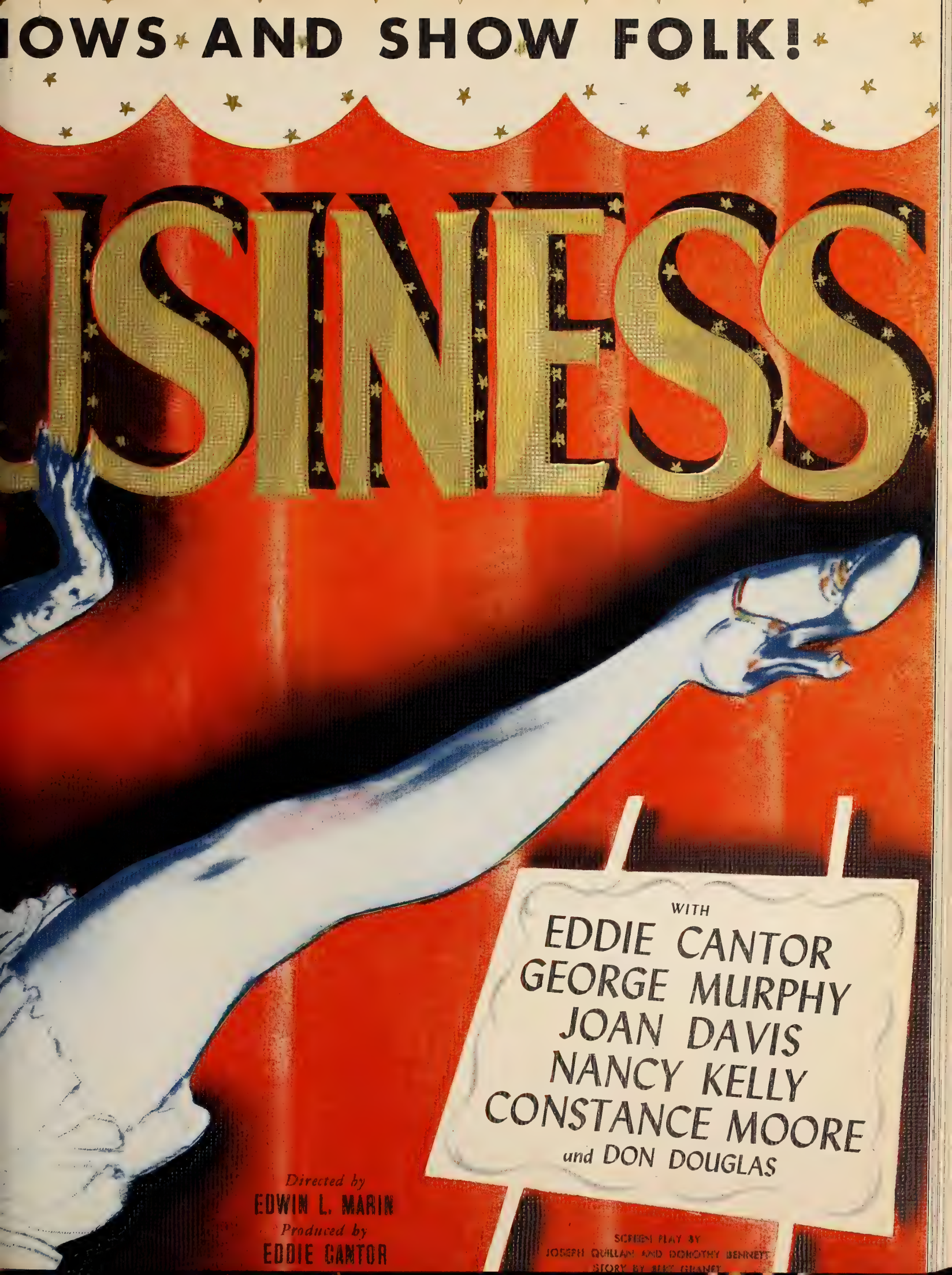
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STORY BY [illegible] GRANET

*. . . And the One Appropriate Spot in all the World for the Gala Opening . . .*

# THE PALACE

**WORLD PREMIERE ENGAGEMENT BEGINS**
**WEDNESDAY, MAY 10,**
~~**THURSDAY, MAY 11**~~, at New York's most famous theatre...storied mecca of show folk for generations...where an appearance was the zenith of success for more headline stars than any one person can remember!

DANCES!

GAGS!

GLAMOUR!

The stardusted story of American entertainment... told through the laughs, loves and adventures of the famous people in the world's maddest, funniest profession!






**SONGS YOU CAN'T FORGET:**
"It had to Be You" • "Whoopee" "I Don't Want to Get Well" "Dinah" • "I Want a Girl" • "Alabamy Bound" • "They're Wearing 'Em Higher in Hawaii" and that new hit "You May Not Remember"

RKO RADIO PICTURES

# RCA Three Months Net Is $2,401,000

RCA's net profit for the first three months of 1944, after taxes, was $2,401,000, a decrease of $194,000 from the same period last year despite a large gain in production volume, Lt. General J. G. Harbord, chairman of the board told the company's stockholders at their 25th annual meeting here yesterday.

RCA has developed for the armed forces more than 150 new electron tubes and approximately 300 types of apparatus not manufactured before the war, Harbord disclosed.

**Gain on Sale of Blue**

Responding to questions of stockholders, Niles Trammell, president of NBC, an RCA subsidiary, revealed the substantial gain made by RCA in selling the NBC Blue Network to Edward J. Noble for $8,000,000 last year when the Blue properties had an original book value of $1,980,000. RCA's payments through NBC to Broadcast Music Inc. and the company's contemplated pension plan for executives and others were also questioned by individual stockholders. Suggestions were also advanced for retiring some of the outstanding common stock of RCA.

Earnings per share of common stock before estimated Federal taxes for the first quarter of 1944 were 69.3 cents while earnings after tax deductions were 11.6 cents a share as compared to 58.6 cents per share before taxes and 12.9 per share after taxes for the same period in 1943. RCA's gross income for the first three months of 1944 was $78,809,000, compared with $67,284,000 for a similar period last year. Net profit before taxes amounted to $10,413,000 or 16.5 per cent above the same period in 1943.

# Monogram Will Not Cash-in Now: Carr

(*Continued from page* 1)

ing "a great deal more than ever before," without any set budget for next year, it will explore the market to determine how far the company can go. "And we will go that distance," he added.

Carr was introduced by Steve Broidy, vice-president in charge of Monogram distribution, who, pointing to product quality gains, revealed that "any number of persons would like to buy the company, including some exhibitors." In this connection Carr said that Monogram's improvement sent the company's ledger "into the black" even before "war prosperity" had set in at boxoffices.

Monogram's plans for advancing its position include the greater use of "new blood" in production and the grooming of younger personnel throughout other branches of the company, principally in sales.

Carr said that the company is adhering to a policy of obtaining the approval of its sales heads before undertaking the production of any story, and that the studio likewise first consults with the distribution branch on key talent for pictures contemplated. "Too many producers in Hollywood are prone to give their salesmen heavy underwear to sell in August," observed Carr.

# *Review*

## *"Allergic to Love"*

*(Universal)*

THE exaggerated effect which a romance between Noah Beery, Jr., and Martha O'Driscoll has upon the stock market fluctuations of the securities of the companies controlled by their respective parents, as well as Miss O'Driscoll's complicated allergy to Beery's shaving cream, is the basis for the action of "Allergic to Love," a mildly amusing effort. Associate-producer Warren Wilson and director Edward Lilley set the light entertainment in attractive settings, with a capable supporting cast including Franklin Pangborn, David Bruce, Fuzzy Knight and "Slapsie Maxie" Rosenbloom.

The screenplay, credited to Wilson from an original story upon which he collaborated with Jack Townley and John Larkin, has Beery and Miss O'Driscoll elope on the day before their scheduled wedding. Shaving cream supplied by Bruce, Beery's fraternity brother, during a honeymoon cruise to South America, hands the young couple a matrimonial headache, with Miss O'Driscoll plagued with hay fever symptoms until the cause of the allergy is finally isolated. Complications are caused by Bruce's innocent friendship with the bride as her physician and Pangborn's hectic attempts to stabilize the erratic movements of the securities by preventing an estrangement between the young couple.

Performances by the principals under Lilley's direction are appealing, providing the customers with an hour's satisfactory entertainment.

Running time, 66 mins. "G."* Release date, not set.

MILTON LIVINGSTON

**"G" denotes general classification.*

# Managers, Salesmen Seek Unionization

(*Continued from page* 1)

here from New York and have also contacted theatre managers with a view to arranging for CIO unionization, but it appears that the managers lean toward an AFL affiliation.

Also under way is a Midwest movement for a national union of film salesmen, started recently in Milwaukee, as previously reported. Oscar E. Olson, business manager of projectionists' Local No. 164, Milwaukee, who is understood to have been approached by film salesmen requesting unionization, has disclosed that salesmen from other cities in the Midwest have since evidenced interest, and the IATSE St. Louis convention will also be petitioned to issue a charter in behalf of salesmen.

Olson said there is "every possibility" that the film salesmen's labor movement will likewise become national in scope.

**1,000 Expected at IATSE Convention**

ST. LOUIS, May 2.—Approximately 1,000 delegates are expected to attend the national IATSE convention which will open on May 29 at the Hotel Jefferson here. Two local committees, one from projectionists' Local No. 143, headed by William Lee, Jr., and the other from stagehands' Local No. 6, headed by Elmer Moran, are now planning a program. Richard F. Walsh, IATSE president, will arrive here Friday to confer on arrangements.

## *Todd Incorporates*

Michael Todd, theatrical producer, has filed a certificate of incorporation at Albany for a new company whose purpose is listed as producing feature pictures. The new company will be known as Michael Todd Film Productions, with offices located at 250 West 52nd St., New York.

# 'Seven Days', Show, $29,000 in 'Frisco

SAN FRANCISCO, May 2.—"Seven Days Ashore," with Willie Howard and the King Sisters on the stage, led the way here with $29,500 at the Golden Gate. Also big was "Buffalo Bill" at the Fox, with a gross of $26,500 for its opening week. Weather was excellent.

Estimated receipts for the week ending May 1-4:

**"Up in Mabel's Room" (UA)**
**"Hat Check Honey" (Univ.)**
UNITED ARTISTS—(1,200) (45c-65c-85c) 7 days. Gross: $15,500. (Average: $11,000).
**"Devil and Miss Jones" (RKO)**
WARFIELD—(2,680) (45c-65c-85c) 7 days. Stage: vaudeville. Gross: $22,500. (Average: $21,800).
**"Seven Days Ashore" (RKO)**
GOLDEN GATE—(2,850) (45c-65c-85c) 7 days. Stage: vaudeville. Gross: $29,500. (Average: $25,000).
**"Buffalo Bill" (20th-Fox)**
FOX—(5,000) (45c-65c-85c) 7 days. Gross: $26,500. (Average: $24,000).
**"Standing Room Only" (Para.)**
**"You Can't Ration Love" (Para.)**
STATE—(2,306) (45c-65c-85c) 7 days, 2nd week, moveover from Fox. Gross: $13,900. (Average: $24,000).
**"Broadway Rhythm" (M-G-M)**
**"Tunisian Victory" (M-G-M-BMI)**
PARAMOUNT—(2,740) (45c-65c-85c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $17,800. (Average: $19,600).
**"Shine On, Harvest Moon" (WB)**
**"Navy Way" (Para.)**
ST. FRANCIS—(1,400) (45c-65c-85c) 7 days, 3rd week. Gross: $11,000. (Average: $11,600).
**"Cover Girl" (Col.)**
ORPHEUM—(2,440) (45c-65c-85c) 7 days, 4th week. Gross: $12,500. (Average: $14,800).

## *McManus Heads Guild*

BOSTON, May 2.—Francis W. McManus, M. & P. Theatres district manager, has been named president of the Catholic Motion Picture Guild here, succeeding William J. Doyle.

## *Riskin Seeks Talent*

Robert Riskin, head of the overseas film division of the OWI, will leave for the Coast Friday to line up talent and technical aides for his production organization here and in London.

# House Action Today on Films Abroad

(*Continued from page* 1)

emphasis was laid on the importance of motion pictures in developing closely-knit relations between countries. It was disclosed that films were sent to China last year under a program financed by a grant from the President's emergency fund to provide educational leaders and material.

"Motion pictures are the world language of today and serve to reach all classes of people in foreign countries with the story of the U. S.", Stettinius said. "During recent months documentary films procured in cooperation with the Office of the Coordinator of Inter-American Affairs have reached audiences totaling more than 2,000,000 persons monthly. Showings have been made through schools, universities, hospitals, Army and Navy officials, labor groups, Government officials, political clubs, professional men and other groups of adults and children."

Radio also is "an indispensable instrument for creating an understanding of the U. S.," he said.

While great stress was laid upon the value of films, there is nothing in the bill or Stettinius' explanation to indicate that Department officials have any plans for Governmental production of films.

The committee, which today began hearings on several State Department measures, is expected to reach the bill tomorrow, and will receive the Department's explanation of its plans from Assistant Secretary G. Howland Shaw.

## *'Song of Bernadette' Grosses Big $25,000*

CLEVELAND, May 2.—Box offices fell victim to the first real sunshine. However, "Bernadette" at road show prices hit $25,000 at the Hippodrome, and "Cover Girl" in its second week got $10,500 at the Allen.

Estimated receipts for the week ended May 3:

**"Cover Girl" (Col.)**
ALLEN—(3,000) (44c-55c-65c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $10,500. (Average: $8,500).
**"The Song of Bernadette" (20th-Fox)**
WARNERS' HIPPODROME — (3,500) (75c-$1.10) 7 days. Gross: $25,000. (Average, $22,100 at regular scale).
**"Passage to Marseille" (WB)**
WARNERS' LAKE—(714) (44c-55c-65c) 7 days, 3rd week. Gross: $3,200. (Average: $3,200).
**"Lady in the Dark" (Para.)**
LOEW'S OHIO—(1,268) (43c-65c) 7 days, 4th week. Gross: $5,000. (Average: $5,000).
**"Ladies Courageous" (Univ.)**
RKO PALACE—(3,300) (50c-60c-85c-95c) 7 days. Stage: Tommy Tucker band with Mitzi Green and Hal Le Roy. Gross: $20,000. (Average: $25,400).
**"The Uninvited" (Para.)**
LOEW'S STATE—(3,300) (43c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $16,000. (Average: $19,000)
**"Heavenly Body" (M-G-M)**
LOEW'S STILLMAN—(1,900) (43c-65c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $8,500. (Average: $10,000).

## *Connors to Resume Tour*

Tom Connors, 20th Century-Fox vice-president in charge of distribution, will meet the trade press at luncheon today at the Hotel Astor prior to resuming his tour of company offices.

# WPB Releases 675 New Projectors

(Continued from page 1)

necessitate the employment of additional labor or delay or hold up their military projector orders.

Under the program, developed and pushed through the WPB by Allen G. Smith, chief of the theatre equipment section, manufacturers will be able to produce the machines as they pick up ball bearings, fractional horse-power motors and electronic components available after military requirements have been met. These items are extremely short, and projectors authorized five and six months ago have been held up in production because of that situation.

It was explained, however, that the problem could best be met by securing authorization for production now, with manufacturers picking up the necessary components as they became available, rather than to wait until bearings, motors, etc., were in good supply and then starting a program through WPB, from scratch, with its attendant delays.

**Production May Shift**

While manufacturers have been advised regarding their part in the program they have been notified that the specific allocations of machines to be produced may be modified in the future if labor conditions change. Thus, if a now-easy area runs into a labor shortage, production may be shifted to some other area, and if a No. 1 area improves and is re-classified manufacturers in that section may be given an allocation, all in conformity with Smith's established policy of atempting to maintain normal competitive industrial relationship.

Because of the uncertainty regarding the procurement of component parts, no effort has been made to estimate when the expanded projector supply will reach the market, but it is not expected that the first of the machines will be available, under any circumstances, before close to the end of this year.

## Industry Meeting on Theatre Television

Film company television representatives met in the office of Ralph B. Austrian, RKO television consultant, yesterday to discuss film industry policy on seeking frequency allocations through the Radio Technical Planning Board for theatre telecasting.

The meeting marked the first formal get-together of representatives of the film companies to discuss the possible application of post-war television developments to theatres.

## 3 Presidents West To Meet Petrillo

(Continued from page 1)

study of the studios and their operating methods.

The inability of the film companies to close a deal with the musicians up to now is believed to stem from Petrillo's unfamiliarity with studio operations. As a result of his visit, negotiations are expected to proceed toward a new agreement.

# United Artists' Problems Seen Near to Solution

(Continued from page 1)

which, among other things, will dispense with the need for unanimous consent on all matters except the sale of company stock, are part of the design for bringing into being more efficient management and operating procedure.

For the past two months, Sears said, the company has held in abeyance action on all matters which require unanimous consent. Among such matters, he said, are the appointment of a new advertising-publicity director, a foreign manager, a managing director for Great Britain and action on certain deals with producers.

Mary Pickford has been advised by Isaac Pennypacker of Philadelphia, her attorney, that the six resolutions for amendment of the company's bylaws which will be acted upon at the meeting of United Artists stockholders in Wilmington on Friday can, under Delaware law, be adopted by a majority rather than a unanimous vote. It is generally assumed that Miss Pickford's and David O. Selznick's stock will be voted for the amendments, thereby providing a two-thirds majority which insures their adoption.

**Action May Be Challenged**

The possibility that the action will be challenged, or that some other legal maneuver may be undertaken by Charles Chaplin is admitted by United Artists officials. On the basis of legal advice in their possession, however, they appear confident that amendment of the bylaws of a majority will be sustained in court.

With the bylaws amended, a meeting of stockholders can be called on three days notice to elect the proposed nine directors of United Artists. The new directors then can proceed, by majority vote, to fill the several vacancies now existing in the company. The post of advertising-publicity director was left vacant when Paul Lazarus, Jr., entered the Army recently. That of head of foreign operations and managing director in Britain, by the resignations of Arthur W. Kelly and Teddy Carr, respectively.

Questioned concerning published reports of successors in these posts, Sears said: "We have considered a number of people but have approached no one yet."

Edward C. Raftery, United Artists president, said that the current activities "look to unity, not disunity, within the company. If the unanimous rule is maintained, we might go 40 years without an advertising-publicity head."

Raftery emphasized that there "are no differences" between Selznick and the company.

**Quells Rumors on Selznick**

Endeavoring to set at rest reports that Selznick, through Neil Agnew, Hugh Owen and possibly others to be added to the Vanguard Films' sales cabinet, is setting up a "sales organization within a sales organization," Sears said that Selznick's distribution contract with United Artists is the same as any other producer's, that his sales representative can approve or reject contracts but "cannot initiate sales" in the United States and Canada, Great Britain and Australasia. In reply to a question, Sears said that there can be no collaboration between the producer representatives and the United Artists sales organization.

Sears referred to Selznick's "Since You Went Away" as "the biggest picture of the year." Its final length will be determined by public reaction, he said, predicting that it probably will run between two and one-half and two and three-quarter hours when released.

Describing other forthcoming product of note on the company's schedule, Sears mentioned Jules Levey's "The Hairy Ape," Andrew Stone's "Sensations of 1945," Charles R. Roger's "Song of the Open Road" and Seymour Nebenzahl's "Summer Storm." Of the latter, he said the direction by Douglas Sirk was the "best in years" from Hollywood.

## Next Decree Meet In Washington

(Continued from page 1)

decree situation with company counsel in New York on April 27, Clark indicated that conferences with company officials might be held in New York this week. At his office today, however, it was said that Clark was awaiting advice from the companies as to when they would be ready for a meeting, and at this time explained that he has no immediate plans to return to New York. No indication has been given as to when the company representatives might come to Washington, but it is possible that they might "drop in" on the Department any time with only a few hours advance notice.

## MPA Will Meet Friday

New York Motion Picture Associates will hold a luncheon-meeting Friday at the Hotel Astor.

## Independents Protest FWC War Building

(Continued from page 1)

obvious it (the major circuit) hopes through the OCR to be able to circumvent the anti-expansion policy of the Department of Justice, as expressed in the Consent Decree."

ITO further stated that, "while we do not believe eight new theatres are needed here, if in the opinion of the OCR, any new theatres are necessary in this area, independent theatre owners already operating in this locality and not in violation of the anti-trust laws, are themselves ready, willing and financially able to provide additional facilities at any point or points requiring them."

The letter, signed by H. V. Harvey, president of ITO of Northern California, further asked cooperation of the OCR in making it possible for ITO members to file for any such new theatre construction permits.

# 15 Regional Bond Rallies

(Continued from page 1)

Cleveland, May 16; Indianapolis, May 17; St. Louis, May 18; Chicago, May 19; Minneapolis, May 20; Des Moines, May 22 (morning); Omaha, May 23 (afternoon); Denver, May 23; San Francisco, May 25; Los Angeles, May 26; Dallas, May 29, and Atlanta, May 31.

O'Donnell disclosed at the same time that Sam Pinanski, Boston circuit head, has accepted the chairmanship of the drive for New England and will preside at the Boston meeting in the Statler Hotel, assisted by A. M. Kane, New England distributor chairman.

The session in Washington will be presided over by Sidney Lust, District of Columbia chairman, and J. B. Brecheen, local area distributor chairman. Leading delegations to the capital from other areas will be chairmen Louis Rome, Baltimore; W. F. Crockett and Morton G. Thalmeier, Virginia; Lewis S. Black, Delaware; Milton Levine, West Virginia; Louis Finske, Philadelphia, and Ben Amsterdam, New Jersey.

**Depinet Will Speak**

Addresses at the opening rally will be delivered by Ned E. Depinet, national chairman of the WAC distributors' division and also national distributor leader for the drive; Richard M. Kennedy, campaign vice-chairman; John J. Friedl, campaign director, and Ray Beall, publicity director. National chairman O'Donnell will disclose the pattern of the nationwide effort at the Washington gathering.

Others scheduled to participate in the Washington session are Leon J. Bamberger, assistant distribution chairman; Si Fabian, WAC theatres division chairman; Joseph Kinsky, campaign coordinator; Francis Harmon, WAC executive vice-chairman; Walter Brown, his associate, and Claude F. Lee, industry consultant to the U. S. Treasury Department.

**O'Donnell Relies Upon Veteran Organization**

HOLLYWOOD, May 2.—Conferring with the industry's Public Information Committee here today, Robert J. O'Donnell, chairman of the Fifth War Loan committee, voiced confidence that the "veteran organization" set up in previous campaigns will meet its larger obligation successfully this time. He said the coming campaign will largely dispense with the report forms that have previously proven irksome to exhibitors.

Claude F. Lee, industry consultant to the U. S. Treasury Department, suggested that studio publicity heads link bond sales message with star publicity.

**C. C. Moskowitz to Head N. Y. Drive**

C. C. Moskowitz, vice-president of Loew's in charge of the New York circuit, yesterday accepted the industry general chairmanship of the Fifth War Loan for the New York area. Moskowitz will announce his aides and set up campaign offices at War Activities Committee headquarters next week.

First in Film and Radio News Brief, Accurate and Impartial

# MOTION PICTURE DAILY

Alert, Intelligent and Indispensable to the Motion Picture Industry

VOL. 55. NO. 88 NEW YORK, U. S. A., THURSDAY, MAY 4, 1944 TEN CENTS

COMPLIMENTARY COPY NOT FOR RESALE

## Set Procedure For Building New Theatres

### *Justice Dept. to Pass On OCR Applications*

WASHINGTON, May 3.—The Department of Justice and the Office of Civilian Requirements have reached a working agreement on the passing by the former of applications for new theatre construction in war centers, it was learned today.

**The pattern for the Department's procedure was set personally by U. S. Attorney General Francis Biddle, who requested Assistant Attorney General Tom C. Clark to pass on the applications submitted by the OCR, consulting with and securing the concurrence of Assistant Attorney General Wendell Berge, head of the anti-trust division.**

It was disclosed at the Department that several conversations have taken

(*Continued on page 12*)

## Form Unit to Meet Radicalism Charge

HOLLYWOOD, May 3. — The meeting called by the Screen Writers' Guild last night to set up an "industry - wide" public relations program to counter "unwarranted attacks upon the industry" resulted in the appointment of a provisional committee headed by Mary McCall, Jr., president of the SWG, to formulate a con-

(*Continued on page 9*)

## *Programs for Allied Meetings Are Set*

PHILADELPHIA, May 3.—The programs of the Allied Caravan and the National Allied board meetings to be held here at the Hotel Warwick, May 23rd to the 26th, have been set as follows: The Caravan will meet on the 23rd and 26th; the board sessions are scheduled for the 24th and 25th. On the evening of the 24th, there will be a local industry dinner, which will be preceded by a reception to be held by M-G-M. Allied of Eastern Pennsylvania will be host at the dinner. Between 25 and 30 Allied directors and others from other territories and several hundred local industry members at the dinner will observe the fifth anniversary of the local Allied unit.

## *Less Efficient Cooling Is Seen for This Summer*

Many theatres throughout the country, because of the War Production Board's ban on commercial use of freon gas, will not be as well cooled this summer as in former years, and some will not be cooled at all, according to additional reports from MOTION PICTURE DAILY field correspondents, who have been investigating the present and potential effect of the theatre refrigeration situation. In some isolated instances a return to the old practice of summer seasonal closings is forecast.

Houses having some freon left over from last year plan to slow down their systems during off hours. Those that have reconverted their systems to car-

(*Continued on page 12*)

## Steffes Heads 5th Loan in Minnesota

W. A. (Al) Steffes, veteran independent exhibitor leader of the Northwest, has come out of retirement to lead the industry's Fifth War Loan campaign in Minnesota, according to an announcement yesterday by R. J. O'Donnell, national chairman of the industry's campaign committee, issued through committee headquarters here; O'Donnell is now in Hollywood.



W. A. Steffes

For many years a leading independent exhibitor, Steffes is a for-

(*Continued on page 9*)

## Sales, Not Reports, Is O'Donnell Aim

HOLLYWOOD, May 3.—Elimination of practically all the reports which exhibitors found burdensome during previous bond campaigns were promised here today by R. J. O'Donnell, national industry chairman of the Fifth War Loan drive. Stressing the move as a means to facilitate greater selling effort, O'Donnell said, "We must appreciate the intense pace at

(*Continued on page 12*)

## Television Does Not Threaten Films Now, Connors Says

The belief that television still is "very much in its infancy and will have to grow a great deal before motion picture companies will go into it in any very important fashion" was expressed yesterday by Tom J. Connors, 20th Century - Fox vice - president and distribution head, during a luncheon discussion with trade press representatives at the Hotel Astor.



Tom J. Connors

Connors, who has held informal meetings with exhibitors in six exchange centers recently, and who will visit all remaining key cities in the near future, said that the subject of television and its possible effect on theatres was broached by exhibitors at the meetings more often than any other subject. His statements of yesterday were in the nature of a summary of the replies he had made to the exhibitors' queries at the

(*Continued on page 9*)

## Cooper to Produce, Star for Spitz-Goetz

HOLLYWOOD, May 3.—Gary Cooper is forming his own company to produce and star in a minimum of three pictures yearly for International Pictures, it was learned here today, when the Leo Spitz-William Goetz organization announced the star had been signed to a long-term exclusive producer-actor contract.

Cooper, who has just completed "Casanova Brown" for International, under Sam Wood's direction, is the fourth producer to join International, the others being Nunnally Johnson, Casey Robinson and David Lewis. Cooper's company, now in the formative stage, will start production before the end of Summer.

## Justice Dept. Will Press Schine Suit

### *Anti-Trust Prosecution Planned for May 19*

By JAMES F. SCHRADER

BUFFALO, May 3. — Federal Judge John Knight has been notified by the U. S. Department of Justice that the Government is planning to proceed with its anti-trust action against Schine Chain Theatres, Inc., on the adjourned trial date, May 19, it has been learned here by MOTION PICTURE DAILY.

Schwartz and Frohlich, representing Columbia, have filed a motion with court clerk May C. Sickmon for a postponement of the trial to next Fall. The motion will be argued before Judge Knight next Monday by Louis D. Frohlich, Columbia counsel.

In the meantime, the briefs filed by the Schine counsel remain in Judge Knight's possession, and he has not filed any opinion. The briefs ask for dismissal of the suit or, as an alternative, a modified order which would permit the theatre circuit to retain

(*Continued on page 9*)

## Wallis-Hazen Near Release Decision

Hal Wallis and Joseph Hazen, who have all but completed the formation of their own producing unit, are in the final stages of conferences here with Arthur Kelly, American representative of Eagle-Lion Films, Ltd., on a proposed releasing deal with the J. Arthur Rank company.

Eagle-Lion is understood to have made Wallis the most attractive offer to date, among several from large

(*Continued on page 12*)

## *Dividend Action on 'U' Common Likely*

Action to place Universal Pictures common stock on a regular dividend basis may be taken by the company's board of directors at its regular meeting scheduled for today, it was reported in downtown financial circles yesterday.

Reports are that an interim dividend following the close of the first half of the company's current fiscal year, May 1, in the amount of $1 per share may be authorized. This would suggest a $2 annual rate in the event the stock is placed on a regular dividend basis.

# Personal Mention

BARNEY BALABAN, Paramount president, is scheduled to leave for the Coast tomorrow. He plans to meet Y. FRANK FREEMAN, who will leave New York today, in Chicago on Saturday and the two will continue to the Coast from there.

•

PHIL REISMAN, RKO Radio vice-president in charge of foreign distribution, and RALPH DOYLE, Australasian manager, are expected here from the Coast tomorrow.

•

ALFRED W. SCHWALBERG, International Pictures Eastern representative, and ROBERT GOLDSTEIN, New York manager, will leave for the Coast May 12.

•

NED E. DEPINET, RKO Radio president, and S. BARRETT MCCORMICK, advertising and publicity director, will leave for Hollywood May 12.

•

MICHAEL HOFFAY, RKO Radio foreign publicity manager, will leave for Hollywood Monday to confer with Walt Disney studio officials.

•

JOHN HERTZ, JR., chairman of the board of Buchanan and Co., will leave for the Coast May 12.

•

WILLIAM LEVY, Walt Disney executive, will leave New York Tuesday for a month's stay in Hollywood.

•

NICHOLAS M. SCHENCK, president of Loew's, is scheduled to leave for the Coast next Tuesday.

•

CONSTANCE BENNETT, PRC producer, left yesterday for Washington on business.

## Coe Talks to Dallas Salesmen Today

DALLAS, May 3.—Charles Francis Coe of the Motion Picture Producers and Distributors will address the Dallas Salesmen's Club here tomorrow on "Midway in a Century of the Screen." Coe appeared on the radio here yesterday in a round-table discussion on 50 years of motion pictures.

On Friday Coe will address the Oklahoma City Chamber of Commerce on "A New Vision for a 50-Year Old Screen." On May 10 he will speak before the Kiwanis Club in Denver and on May 16 he will talk to the St. Louis Chamber of Commerce.

## Correction

A typographical error in a story on United Artists developments which appeared on page 12 of MOTION PICTURE DAILY yesterday made it appear that Gradwell L. Sears had said, in reply to a question, that there can be "no" collaboration between United Artists producers' representatives and the company's sales organization. Sears' reply to the question was that there could be collaboration between the two.

## FP-C Will Resume Annual Meetings

TORONTO, May 3.—Famous Players-Canadian Corp. has decided on resumption this year of its managers' convention for Eastern Canada, to be held early in June at Niagara Falls, Ont., where the last yearly meeting of the circuit was stagede in July, 1939.

The forthcoming gathering of the circuit managers, field representatives and home office executives will adhere closely to a program of key business items including plans for the postwar. FP-C's last convention was directed by the late N. L. Nathanson; the meeting this year will be directed by J. Fitzgibbons, FP-C president.

## Depinet Sales Drive Nearing an End

RKO's 1944 Ned Depinet Drive, closing May 18, last week scored its biggest week in dollars, according to drive captain Charles Boasberg. This was the first of two weeks designated in honor of Bob Mochrie, general sales manager.

Walter Branson's Western division is the first to go over its quota cumulatively for the period, with San Francisco, N. P. Jacobs, manager, jumping into first place, followed by Dallas, S. M. Sachs, manager; Los Angeles, H. C. Cohen, manager, and Charlotte, R. F. Branon, manager. Of the company's 11 districts, J. H. MacIntyre's Western district is currently in the lead, with Ben Y. Cammack's Southwestern district second.

## Crown Becomes Aide To Geo. Hirliman

Alfred Crown has arrived in New York from the Coast to join Film Classics as assistant to president George A. Hirliman.

Crown was formerly special representative of the film division for the Coordinator of Inter-American Affairs, sales representative for M-G-M in South America and more recently was with the Charles K. Feldman Agency handling both talent and production.

## Services for Bitzer On the Coast Today

HOLLYWOOD, May 3.—Funeral services for G. W. (Billy) Bitzer, pioneer film cameraman who died last Saturday, will be held this morning at the Church of the Blessed Sacrament here. Additional services will be held next Tuesday morning in the undertaking parlor of Edward Gordon & Son, 7 Columbus Ave., New York, followed by interment in Cedar Grove Cemetery, Flushing.

Lowell Thomas, an old friend of Bitzer, devoted a major portion of his Tuesday night broadcast over NBC to a eulogy of the cameraman.

## Stills via Microfilm

Warners is now sending stills to Europe via microfilm to speed pictorial material to foreign publications.

## Hospitals Get First Call on Star Time

**Hollywood, May 3.—Acting on a request of the U. S. War Department, the Hollywood Victory Committee today gave first call on the services of screen personalities to entertaining war wounded in 59 Army and 29 Navy hospitals in this country. The decision shifting the emphasis from overseas to hospital tours was underscored by the adoption of the slogan, "No wounded man shall be forgotten."**

## Saltonstall, Tobin Open 'Bernadette'

BOSTON, May 3.—Governor Everett Saltonstall and Boston's Mayor Daniel Tobin were among the guests here at the premiere of 20th Century-Fox's "The Song of Bernadette" tonight at the Majestic Theatre. Also in attendance were 125 New England exhibitors, guests of 20th-Fox's district manager E. X. Callahan and branch manager M. Grassgreen.

The pre-opening campaign featured a luncheon for newspapermen highlighted by a telephone call to author Franz Werfel in Beverly Hills, during which Werfel answered questions on the novel. Al Fowler of the company's field exploitation staff, assisted by Joe Ehrlich of the home office publicity department, conducted the campaign.

## First French Filming In Canada Planned

Work on what is said to be the first French feature film produced in Canada is expected to start about June 15 in Montreal, according to Charles Phillipp, general manager of the newly-formed Renaissance Films, Inc., press dispatches from that city reported here yesterday.

Phillipp said the first would be "Le Pere Chopin" (Father Chopin) and that Victor Francen and Annabella probably would be co-starred.

The actress is currently appearing here in the Theatre Guild's "Jacobowsky and the Colonel."

## Scully Plans Coast Sales Meeting

W. A. Scully, Universal vice-president and general sales manager, plans to leave for the Coast toward the end of the month to meet there with field sales executives. The group will discuss new season sales plans and view new product. Under the arrangements, which are still tentative, plans will be discussed for subsequent new season's sales meetings in the field.

## Olmstead Dies in Crash

OTTAWA, May 3.—Flight Officer Charles R. Olmstead, featured in Warners' "Captains of the Clouds," and a former stage player, a veteran of many air missions over Europe, died Tuesday in a plane accident at Bagotville, Que.

# Coming Events

**Tonight** — B'nai B'rith Cinema Lodge election, Hotel Piccadilly, New York.
**May 5**—Motion Picture Associates meeting, Hotel Astor, New York.
**May 7**—Theatrical organizations' testimonial dinner for Eddie Cantor, Hotel Astor, New York.
**May 10**—New York circuit representatives to meet on new building code, MPPDA headquarters, New York.
**May 10**—Film industry Fifth War Loan Regional meeting, Hotel Statler, Washington.
**May 11-17**—Film industry's recruiting campaign for Women's Army Corps.
**May 11-31** — Film industry Fifth War Loan Regional meetings in key cities.
**May 16**—RKO "War Bond" golf tournament, Westchester Country Club, New York.
**May 23-26**—National Allied Caravan meeting, Warwick Hotel, Philadelphia.
**May 24-25**—National Allied board meeting, Warwick Hotel, Philadelphia.
**May 29**—IATSE National convention, St. Louis.
**May 29**—PRC annual sales convention, Hollywood.
**June 12-July 8**—Fifth War Loan campaign.
**June 20**—Allied Theatre Owners of New Jersey's silver jubilee meeting, Hotel Chelsea, Atlantic City.

## RKO and Posa Films Will Co-Produce

HOLLYWOOD, May 3.—Charles W. Koerner, RKO-Radio vice-president, announced today that his company and Posa Films of Mexico have signed a co-production deal to make one English-speaking picture starring "Cantinflas," Mexican comedian. The joint enterprise is scheduled to start at RKO's Hollywood studio within three months.

MOTION PICTURE DAILY reported in a dispatch from Mexico City, on April 27, that the comedian, who in private life is Mario Moreno, vice-president of Posa, had been signed at $200,000, the deal being set for RKO by Phil Reisman, foreign distribution vice-president, and for Posa by Santiago Reachi, president. It was said at that time that the film would be made in Mexico.

Reisman is expected to reach New York Friday, having left here following conferences with Koerner.

## Larry Kent Detained

Larry Kent, executive assistant to Spyros Skouras, president of 20th Century-Fox, who was previously reported to have left London enroute to New York, has been detained in Ireland, it was learned here yesterday. Ban on the departure of civilians from the British Isles until after the invasion starts is understood to have forestalled his return home.

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## Says Films Helping Allies to Know U.S.

American motion pictures are furnishing a common meeting ground for a better understanding between our soldiers and the troops of the Chinese and British armies, according to Paulette Goddard, Paramount featured player, who has just returned from a 38,000-mile tour of combat zones in China, India and Burma.

Miss Goddard, in an interview with representatives of the press yesterday at USO headquarters, 8 West 40th St., reported that films are the only source of entertainment, excepting USO unit performances, in those areas. In explaining how much motion pictures mean to Army morale, Miss Goddard said, "The boys begin pouring into the outdoor film theatres two hours before shows start in order to get as close to the 16 mm screen as they can. Though the screens are weatherbeaten and projection is difficult, the bi-weekly film shows draw capacity audiences."

**First Actress in Area**

Miss Goddard, who left Feb. 11 with Keenan Wynn and William Gargan, film players, and Andy Arcari, accordionist, was the first female entertainer to tour the China-India-Burma circuit, having volunteered through the Hollywood Victory Committee. Her unit staged 130 regular camp shows, in addition to numerous hospital appearances. At one point she was within five miles of the Jap front lines.

The star will leave tomorrow for Hollywood to begin work in "Kitty," a new Paramount film, following which she intends to go on tour again.

## SOPEG, Para. Near Accord in Dispute

Paramount is understood to have reached agreement with the Screen Office and Professional Employes Guild, Local 109, CIO on 75 per cent of the job descriptions in the union's job classifications plan for some 400 home office "white collarites." A meeting between representatives of both sides will be held here today to resolve the controversy on remaining classifications.

Arbitration proceedings were adjourned two weeks ago to give both sides a chance to again attempt to reach an agreement.

## Ted O'Shea Awarded 48 Service Pins

On his return from a tour of Southern M-G-M exchanges, E. K. (Ted) O'Shea, Eastern sales manager, disclosed he distributed 48 pins to field employes who have been with the company ten years or more. Five employes received two-star pins for 20 years or more of service and 43 received one-star pins representing ten years or more. The pins were given out at luncheons held in New Orleans, Washington, Charlotte, Memphis and Atlanta.

## Carr Hosts Theatremen

Trem Carr, chief of Monogram production, was host yesterday to 50 theatre owners and film buyers at a reception held at the Warwick Hotel. Carr will return to Hollywood tomorrow.

# Review

## "The Whistler"

*(Columbia)*

MUCH of a highly salable nature presents itself to exhibitors in Columbia's adaptation of the CBS air mystery, "The Whistler." As a psychological drama, the film does not quite reach the mark, but as a real thriller, it is successful. The ponderous atmosphere achieved through settings and general background, rather than the actual story, sustains necessary suspense. Eric Taylor's screenplay, from J. Donald Wilson's story, is laden with seemingly unrelated events, but William Castle's deft direction weaves the many "ends" into a better-than-average mystery film.

Richard Dix, a successful manufacturer haunted with the belief that his wife had died at sea, hires Don Costello, professional murderer to kill him (Dix). When Dix hires Costello he does not disclose that he is the intended victim. Later, upon discovering that his wife is alive, Dix seeks to call off his "deal" with Costello, but learns that Costello has delegated his disposal to J. Carroll Naish, a student of necrophobia, defined here as an exaggerated fear of death. Naish pursues his victim relentlessly, seeking to literally scare him to death. When the killer's psychological methods seem unsuccessful, he decides to revert to the gun, just as Gloria Stuart, Dix's secretary, arrives, to prevent the murder. Naish is shot instead.

Dix, Miss Stuart, Naish and a supporting cast, headed by Alan Dinehart, Costello and Joan Woodbury, contribute fine performances. Rudolph Flothow produced.

Running time, 59 mins. "G."* Release date, March 20.

HELEN MCNAMARA

*"G" denotes general classification.

## Campus Theatre Files Clearance Complaint

George Bromley and Alec Mounce, operators of the Campus Theatre, Los Angeles, have filed a clearance complaint at the Los Angeles tribunal against the five decree companies, the American Arbitration Association reported here yesterday.

Plaintiffs state that the seven days' clearance held by the Hunleys Theatre over the Campus is unreasonable and they seek complete elimination of clearance. Complainant further requests that the Campus be permitted to exhibit pictures 49 days after Los Angeles' first-run closings at an admission price of 30 cents.

## Enlistment Reports Daily in Wac Drive

Local industry chairmen at all New York City and Westchester "Women's Army Corps Recruiting Week" meetings have instructed theatre managers to call their individual captains nightly during the drive and report the total number of applicants for the day. Local chairmen will report to the county chairman, who, in turn, will convey the totals to Charles C. Moskowitz, Metropolitan area chairman. Meetings to be held by local chairmen will be addressed by Wac officers.

## To Vote on Coast SOEG

HOLLYWOOD, May 3.—The National Labor Relations Board has ordered a Screen Office Employes Guild collective bargaining election at 20th Century-Fox studio. The local NLRB will confer with SOEG and 20th-Fox representatives later this week to set a date.

## Pearce, Adler Appointed

Hunter Publications, publishers of *Screenland, Silver Screen* and *Movie Show*, has named Ray Pearce Eastern advertising manager and Beatrice Adler promotion manager.

## Honor Joe E. Brown For Overseas Tour

HOLLYWOOD, May 3. — Industry, civic and military leaders were guests at a testimonial dinner given for Joe E. Brown tonight at the Ambassador Hotel here by the Independent Motion Picture Producers Association in recognition of the actor's services entertaining troops overseas.

The ceremonies, broadcast over 23 Coast stations of the Blue Network, included presentation of a scroll signed by I. E. Chadwick, IMMPA president, and the following officers: W. Ray Johnston, Leon Fromkess, Edward F. Finney, A. M. Hacke, Lindsley Parsons and Ray Young.

Walter Pidgeon was master of ceremonies, and an entertainment program featured Abbott and Costello and others. The guests included Mayor Fletcher Bowron, Charles W. Koerner, Walter Wanger and Henry Ginsberg.

## Jouvet in Mexican Film

MEXICO CITY, May 3.—Louis Jouvet, French film player who drew heavily in a season of stage drama at the government-owned National Theatre here, has signed with Film Mundiales for one production, to be in French. The producer has signed four scenarists to do story for Jouvet's film, which would be the first to be made here in French.

## Theatremen Protest Tax

READING, PA., May 3.—Local theatre owners, moving with other realty owners, were successful in their protest to the city real estate board against raising existing tax rates from 15 to 17 mills here.

## Margolies a Producer

Albert Margolies, motion picture publicist, will produce Whitfield Cook's "Violet," on Broadway this Fall. Patricia Hitchcock, daughter of Alfred Hitchcock, film producer-director, will play the title role.

# Coast Flashes

*Hollywood, May 3*

BOB HOPE today underwent a minor operation for an eye infection sustained on his overseas tour. He is expected to return to work on "Sylvester the Great" in three or four days.

•

Universal has scheduled seven pictures to start during the next month which, added to the four now shooting, will make 11 in work for May. The seven are: "Bowery to Broadway," "Merrily We Sing," "Trigger Trail," "House of Fear," "Riders of Ghost City," "Rodeo Cyclone" and "Can't Help Singing."

•

Sol Lesser, United Artists producer, will form a new stock company, members of which will be used in his forthcoming UA production, "Three's a Family." Bill Stephens, Lesser's casting director, recently returned from New York to look over potential talent.

•

Walter Wanger is now a trustee of the Los Angeles Philharmonic Orchestra. Others include George Cukor, Mrs. Ida Koverman, Mrs. Sol Lesser, Mrs. Edward G. Robinson, D. W. Thornburgh and Jack Warner.

•

Lou Weiner, former exploitation manager for United Artists in New England, has joined Warners' studio publicity staff in Burbank. He was recently honorably discharged from the Army Air Forces.

•

Humphrey Bogart has been selected to headline the "I Am an American Day" program at the Los Angeles Coliseum on May 21. Irene Manning will sing the national anthem at the ceremonies.

•

International Pictures has announced that "The Woman in the Window" is the new title of the Joan Bennett-Edward G. Robinson film, formerly called "Once Off Guard."

•

Johnnie Johnston, Paramount singing star who appears with Betty Rhodes in "You Can't Ration Love," leaves for a personal appearance tour of the East in a few weeks.

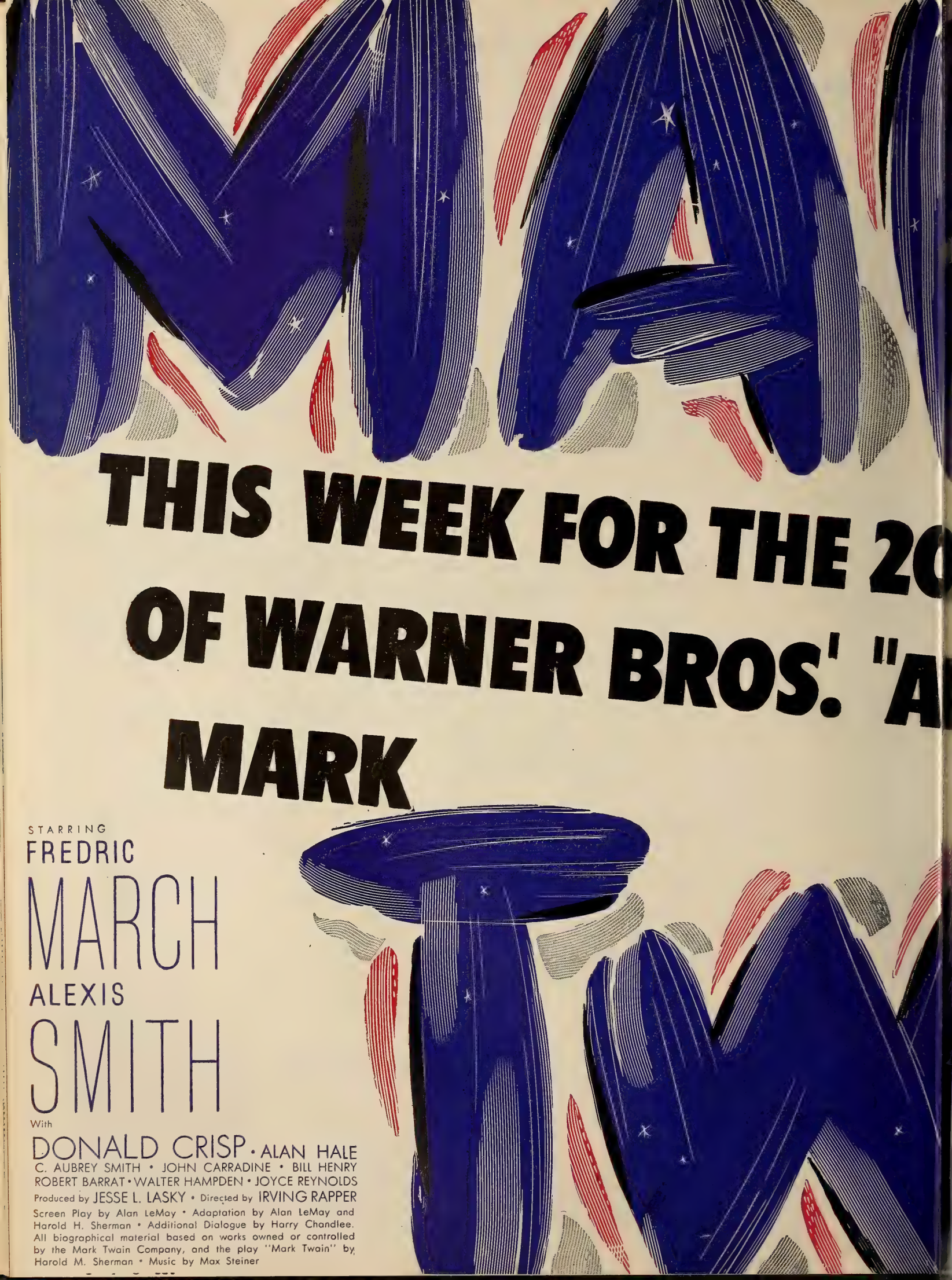
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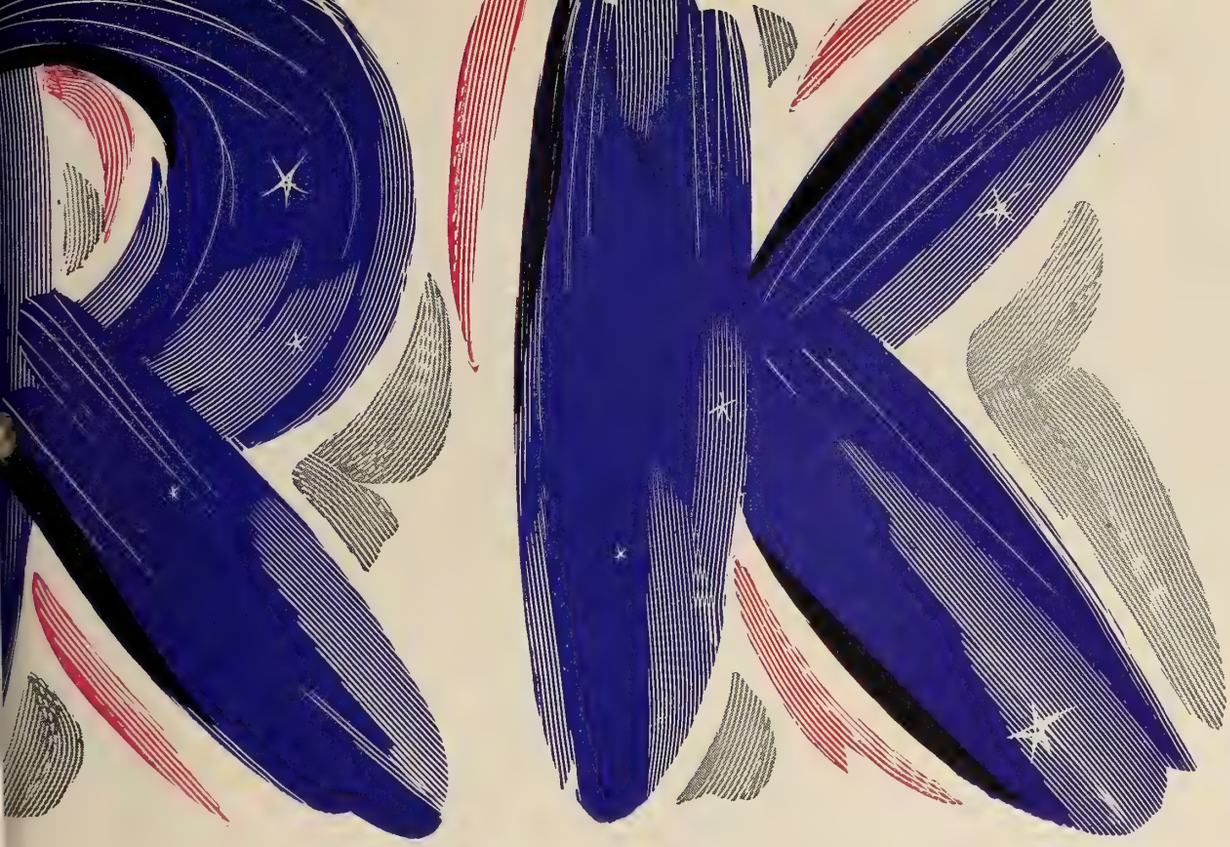
John Garfield has passed his pre-induction physical examination.

## U. S. Delays Union Filing to July 15

**Unions and guilds in the film and other industries who are now required to file annual statements with the Treasury Department under the Smith-Connally law have had the time for the first filing postponed from May 15 to July 15 and possibly later.**

**Reason for the granting of additional time is understood to be that the Treasury is planning to issue new regulations and revise the present form No. 990 under which the unions are required to file.**


THIS WEEK FOR THE 20
OF WARNER BROS.' "A
MARK
STARRING
FREDRIC
MARCH
ALEXIS
SMITH
With
DONALD CRISP • ALAN HALE
C. AUBREY SMITH • JOHN CARRADINE • BILL HENRY
ROBERT BARRAT • WALTER HAMPDEN • JOYCE REYNOLDS
Produced by JESSE L. LASKY • Directed by IRVING RAPPER
Screen Play by Alan LeMay • Adaptation by Alan LeMay and Harold H. Sherman • Additional Dialogue by Harry Chandlee. All biographical material based on works owned or controlled by the Mark Twain Company, and the play "Mark Twain" by Harold M. Sherman • Music by Max Steiner



# D ADVANCE SHOWINGS
# VENTURES OF



## 'Jane Eyre' Looking To Good $14,800

TORONTO, May 3.—"Jane Eyre" was leading here this week with an expected $14,800 at Shea's, while "A Guy Named Joe" continued a third week at Loew's with $9,700 in sight. "Memphis Belle" was added to the program at the Imperial Theatre for the second week of "The Lodger" and contributed toward an $11,800 gross.

Estimated receipts for the week ending May 4:

**"Lady, Let's Dance" (Mono.)**
**"Happy Land" (20th-Fox)**
EGLINTON—(1,086) (18c-30c-48c-60c) 6 days, 2nd week. Gross: $4,000. (Average: $4,000).
**"The Lodger" (20th-Fox)**
**"Memphis Belle" (Para.)**
IMPERIAL—(2,373) (18c-30c-42c-60c-90c) 6 days, 2nd week. Gross: $11,800. (Average: $12,800).
**"A Guy Named Joe" (M-G-M)**
LOEW'S—(2,074) (18c-30c-42c-60c-90c) 6 days, 3rd week. Gross: $9,700. (Average: $11,200).
**"Jane Eyre" (20th-Fox)**
SHEA'S—(2,480) (18c-30c-42c-60c-90c) 6 days. Gross: $14,800. (Average: $12,800).
**"Ali Baba and the Forty Thieves" (Univ.) Moveover**
**"Hi Ya, Sailor" (Univ.)**
TIVOLI—(1,434) (18c-30c-48c) 6 days. Gross: $4,900. (Average: $4,400).
**"The Fighting Seabees" (Rep.)**
**"Rosie the Riveter" (Rep.)**
UPTOWN—(2,761) (18c-30c-42c-60c-90c) 6 days. Gross: $9,800. (Average: $9,800).

## 'Buffalo' Dual Brings $35,000 in Boston

BOSTON, May 3. — Business was generally off here this week, but "Buffalo Bill," teamed with "You Can't Ration Love," got a very robust $35,000.

Estimated receipts for the week ending May 3:

**"Gung Ho" (Univ.)**
RKO BOSTON—(3,200) (44c-55c-65c-85c-$1.10). Plus stage show. Gross: $23,000. (Average: $25,800).
**"In Our Time" (WB)**
**"Tornado" (Para.)**
FENWAY—(1,373) (40c-55c-70c). Gross: $7,900. (Average: $8,800).
**"Up in Arms" (RKO-Goldwyn)**
**"Passport to Destiny" (RKO)**
KEITH MEMORIAL—(2,900) (40c-55c-65c-80c). Gross: $21,000. (Average: $24,800).
**"Buffalo Bill" (20th-Fox)**
**"You Can't Ration Love" (Para.)**
METROPOLITAN—(4,367) (40c-55c-65c-85c). Gross: $35,000. (Average: $26,800).
**"Bridge of San Luis Rey" (UA)**
**"Swing Fever" (M-G-M)**
LOEW'S ORPHEUM—(2,900) (40c-55c-65c-74c). Gross: $22,000. (Average: $23,800).
**"Bridge of San Luis Rey" (UA)**
**"Swing Fever" (M-G-M)**
LOEW'S STATE—(3,200) (44c-55c-65c-74c). Gross: $10,000. (Average: $14,500).
**"The Lady and the Monster" (Rep.)**
**"Chinese Cat" (Mono.)**
TRANSLUX — (908) (30c-40c-55c-74c). Gross: $6,700. (Average: $7,400).

## Flynn In on Profits

Warners Bros.' current "Uncertain Glory," starring Errol Flynn, is the company's first release of a Thompson Corp. production; the unit was set up some time ago by Errol Flynn to permit him to participate in the grosses of films in which he is featured, and possibly others.

## Jenkins to Memphis

Mark Jenkins, who recently succeeded Ken Prickett, now M-G-M exploitation representative in New Orleans, as head of the M-G-M "Show Builder" unit, will leave shortly for Memphis, where he will visit small town theatres in connection with promotion of M-G-M product.

# Reviews

## "Arizona Trail"

*(Universal)*

UNIVERSAL'S "Arizona Trail" is a fast little Western with all of the proper trimmings. Tex Ritter engages in some hard-hitting, hard-riding action in this neat and well-handled story; Johnny Bond and the Red River Valley Boys provide the music with frequent and well-timed renditions of prairie ballads, and Fuzzy Knight holds up the comedy end nicely. It is made to order for Western fans.

Tex Ritter, for many years at odds with his father, Erville Alderson, returns to the latter's ranch at the request of Alderson's doctor, Joseph Greene. Ritter finds his father seriously ill and the ranch run down as a result of periodic rustlers' raids. Greene, appearing innocent and anxious over the physical condition of Alderson, is actually conniving to hasten the old man's death so he can acquire the ranch. Tex, with Fuzzy and Dennis Moore, Alderson's foster-son, uncovers the plot in time.

Ritter, Knight, Alderson and Greene carry their roles with real enthusiasm, while satisfactory support is given by Moore, Janet Shaw and Jack Ingram. Vernon Keays directed from William Lively's original screenplay. Oliver Drake produced.

Running time, 57 mins. "G."* HELEN MCNAMARA

## "One Inch from Victory"

*(Scoop Productions)*

THE documentary, "One Inch from Victory," compiled by Scoop Productions, a new distributing company, from captured Nazi films, is a moderately interesting picture, interesting principally for its birdseye view of the Eastern Front as seen through enemy lenses. Inevitable duplication and sameness of material, despite the freshness of some of it, prevents this one from achieving the excitement of previous documentaries.

Quentin Reynolds, who wrote and delivered the commentary, makes clear that although the Nazis spilled across the boundless areas of Russia, they never won their three main objectives: Moscow, Leningrad and Stalingrad, having been beaten back when they were figuratively "One Inch from Victory." Maurice Lev supervised the film, Noel Meadow was in charge of production, and David Fine acted as technical adviser.

Running time, 67 mins. "G."* Release date, May 26.

CHARLES RYWECK

**"G" denotes general classification.*

## Anniversary's First Field Salute May 22

The first exhibitor group in the field to set a date for local observance of the 50th anniversary of commercial films is Mid-State Theatres, Clearfield, Pa. The circuit's houses, in nine Pennsylvania towns, have chosen the week of May 22, according to word received from Charles W. Williams of the Mid-State by MPPDA.

## Coston Buys Building

CHICAGO, May 3. — James E. Coston, Chicago zone general manager of Warner Theatres, has personally purchased the three-story building at the southeast corner of 79th St. and Ashland Ave. for $200,000 from the Chicago Title and Trust Company.

Warners' Highland Theatre is on the Northeast corner of the same intersection. The newly acquired building contains eight stores, offices and apartments.

## Arthur Back in St. Louis

ST. LOUIS, May 3.—Harry C. Arthur, Jr., general manager of Fanchon & Marco, has returned from New York where he discussed his new Exhibitors Distributing and Producing Corp. He will leave here for Hollywood shortly. Arthur's brother, David, is awaiting induction into the Marine Corps.

## 'Standing Room Only' $18,200 in Buffalo

BUFFALO, May 3.—Spring weather kept thousands outdoors and grosses declined somewhat. "Standing Room Only" will probably lead with about $18,200 at the Buffalo. "Ali Baba and the Forty Thieves" is expected to hit $15,700 in a dual at the Lafayette.

Estimated receipts for the week ending May 6:

**"Standing Room Only" (Para.)**
BUFFALO — (3,489) (40c-50c-60c-70c) 7 days. Gross: $18,200. (Average: $17,400).
**"Shine On, Harvest Moon" (WB)**
GREAT LAKES—(3,000) (40c-50c-60c-70c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $15,200. (Average: $16,600).
**"The Sullivans" (20th-Fox)**
**"You Can't Ration Love" (Para.)**
HIPPODROME—(2,100) (40c-50c-60c-70c) 7 days, 2nd week, moveover. Gross: $10,000. (Average: $9,700).
**"The Curse of the Cat People" (RKO)**
**"Rookies in Burma" (RKO)**
TWENTIETH CENTURY — (3,000) (40c-50c-60c-70c) 7 days. Gross: $9,500. (Average: $12,200).
**Ali Baba and the Forty Thieves" (Univ.)**
**"So's Your Uncle" (Univ.)**
LAFAYETTE—(3,000) (40c-50c-60c-70c) 7 days. Gross: $15,700. (Average: $12,400).

## 'Show Business' Premiere

RKO's "Show Business," produced by Eddie Cantor who also stars in the film, will have its world premiere at the RKO Palace here next Tuesday evening, before an invitation preview audience.

## Floods Fail to Stop 'Private Hargrove'

ST. LOUIS, May 3.—Rain and floods have cut into theatre grosses this week, but "See Here, Private Hargrove" at Loew's State looks like a big $23,000. Runner-up is "The Cobra Woman" at the Fox Theatre with $15,000 in sight.

Estimated receipts for the week ending May 3:

**"Uncertain Glory" (WB)**
**"Slightly Terrific" (Univ.)**
AMBASSADOR—(3,154) (40c-50c-60c) 7 days. Gross: $14,000. (Average: $15,700).
**"Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs" (RKO-Disney)**
MISSOURI—(3,514) (40c-50c-60c) 7 days. Gross: $13,000. (Average: $9,900).
**"See Here, Private Hargrove" (M-G-M)**
LOEW'S STATE—(3,162) (40c-50c-60c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $23,000. (Average: $18,900).
**"Cobra Woman" (Univ.)**
**"Is Everybody Happy?" (Col.)**
FOX—(5,038) (40c-50c-60c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $14,000. (Average: $18,700).
**"The Heavenly Body" (M-G-M)**
LOEW'S ORPHEUM—(1,900) (40c-50c-60c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $7,000. (Average: $7,100).
**"Buffalo Bill" (20th-Fox)**
**"Tarzan's Desert Mystery" (RKO)**
SHUBERT—(1,900) (40c-50c-60c) 7 days. Gross: $6,000. (Average: $6,100).
**"Ali Baba and the Forty Thieves" (Univ.)**
**"North Star" (RKO-Goldwyn)**
ST. LOUIS—(4,000) (45c-50c) 7 days. Gross: $6,000. (Average: $5,200).

## 'Uncertain Glory's' $29,250 High at 2

DENVER, May 3.—"Uncertain Glory" on a dual at the Denver and Esquire theatres led the money makers, taking, respectively, $22,500 and $6,750, while "Chip Off the Old Block" on a twin bill at the Paramount scored $16,275. The Aladdin doubled its average playing "Cover Girl."

Estimated receipts for the week ending May 1-3:

**"Cover Girl" (Col.)**
**"Memphis Belle" (WAC-Para.)**
ALADDIN—(1,400) (46c-74c). Moveover. Gross: $11,200. (Average: $5,600).
**"Buffalo Bill" (20th-Fox)**
BROADWAY—(1,040) (46c-74c) 7 days, moveover. Gross: $5,850. (Average: $3,900).
**"Lady in the Dark" (Para.)**
**"Henry Aldrich Plays Cupid" (Para.)**
DENHAM — (1,750) (35c-45c-70c) 4th week. Gross: $7,500. (Average: $9,000).
**"Uncertain Glory" (WB)**
**"Moon Over Las Vegas" (Univ.)**
DENVER—(2,600) (46c-74c) 7 days. Gross: $22,500. (Average: $15,000).
**"Uncertain Glory" (WB)**
**"Moon Over Las Vegas" (Univ.)**
ESQUIRE—(740) (46c-74c) 7 days. Gross: $6,750. (Average: $4,500).
**"Chip Off the Old Block" (Univ.)**
**"Weird Woman" (Univ.)**
PARAMOUNT—(2,200) (46c-74c) 7 days. Gross: $16,275. (Average: $9,300).
**"Buffalo Bill" (20th-Fox)**
RIALTO—(900) (46c-74c) 7 days, moveover. Gross: $8,750. (Average: $5,000).

## Mexican 'Heavies' Union

MEXICO CITY, May 3. — Mexican players who portray "heavies" have organized their own union, said to be the only one of its kind in the world, with Gen. Miguel Inclan, Army officer often in the films, as secretary general. The union has not yet declared itself in the present conflict between other film players and laborites.

## 'Heavenly' Gets $10,000

BUFFALO, May 3.—M-G-M's "The Heavenly Body" grossed $10,000 for the week ending April 29 at the Hippodrome here; a gross of $19,400 was previously reported.


M-G-M MAGNITUDE!
CHARLES
Boyer
INGRID
Bergman
JOSEPH
Cotten




CHARLES BOYER • INGRID BERGMAN • JOSEPH COTTEN *in* "GASLIGHT"

with Dame May Whitty • Angela Lansbury • Barbara Everest • Screen Play by John Van Druten, Walter Reisch and John L. Balderston • Based Upon the Play by Patrick Hamilton • Directed by GEORGE CUKOR • Produced by ARTHUR HORNBLOW, JR.

A GREAT ATTRACTION IN M-G-M's "SPRINGTIME 5"

## Form Unit to Meet Radicalism Charge

(*Continued from page* 1)

crete plan and report back to the parent group within two weeks.

Although spokesmen for the SWG's meeting stated that representatives of 38 industry groups attending the session were included on the provisional committee, they refused to divulge their names on the grounds that many must report back to the membership of their respective groups before they could be identified with the movement.

The session adopted a resolution renouncing the "irresponsible and unwarranted attacks on the industry" and resolved: "We are determined to defend the motion picture industry against such attacks and, be it finally resolved, we seek to organize the widest possible industry unity to publicize constructive achievements of the industry."

Miss McCall delivered the major talk of the session and outlined the history of alleged attacks on the industry.

Although 38 industry guilds, unions and other groups answered the SWG call, other groups, representing some 15,000 industry workers, had not been invited or had refused to attend, it was learned. Groups which had previously endorsed the program of the Motion Picture Alliance for the Preservation of American Ideals were not invited. SWG is pressing for an investigation of the motives behind the MPA.

## *Radio to Expand with Rockefeller Center*

Applications for more space for radio operations in Rockefeller Center here, which houses the studios and offices of NBC and the Blue Network, have had a bearing on plans for postwar expansion of the vast midtown commercial and amusement establishment, resulting in the acquisition of several strategic neighboring corners, it became known yesterday.

The projected sites are at the southeast and northwest corners of Sixth Ave. and 48th St., at the northeast corner of Sixth Ave. and 51st St. and in the middle of the block between Fifth and Sixth Avenues running through from 51st to 52nd St. at the head of Rockefeller Plaza.

## *More Women Bookers*

CHICAGO, May 3.—Women bookers in this area now include Eleanor Turner, Affiliated Theatres, Indianapolis; Loretta Byrnes, Ritz Theatre, Lowell, Ind.; Mrs. F. Kaiser, Virginia Theatre, Chatsworth; Mrs. E. O. Schmidt, Palace, Gilman, and Ann Remijas, Acadia and Gaelic Theatres, Chicago.

## *Peoria Papers Cut Ads*

PEORIA, Ill., May 3.—Motion picture and other display advertising will be excluded from Monday and Saturday editions of the Peoria *Star* and the *Journal-Transcript*. The nearby Elgin *Daily Courier-News* will continue to run all film advertising, despite a paper shortage.

## *Kelley to Cincinnati*

CINCINNATI, May 3.—J. H. Kelley of Albany. N. Y., has succeeded Herman Hunt as manager of the National Theatre Supply branch here. Hunt resigned due to ill health.

# *Off the Antenna*

ANY move to 'freeze' television standards at present levels will meet with his opposition, James L. Fly, chairman of the Federal Communications Commission reports in the New York *Times*. Fly excoriated manufacturers of television sets for hoping "to sell a lot of stuff" that would not give the best possible service. In doing so, he has all but supported the stand on television taken by Columbia Broadcasting, last week, saying that he thought the CBS announcement of policy "a useful statement." Asked by the press if he endorsed the CBS policy, he said that he might disagree only on the network's estimates of the time period involved in various phases of television development. Fly said he believed the commercial exploitation of television should be made on "a most optimum basis" with "the best we can get for the industry and for the public." . . .

With motion picture advertising in radio hitting new highs, WOR, Mutual's New York outlet, has already equaled its total 1943 film business. The 1943 total marked an all-time high for the station with 32 films advertised. In equalling the 1943 figure in the first quarter of this year, WOR has quadrupled the former high with every major film company using the station. . . . Paramount's purchase of $8,000 worth of radio time on WJZ to promote "The Hitler Gang" in the New York area for one week is claimed to be a record for the station. . . .

• • •

**Purely Personal:** *Thomas C. McCray has been named Eastern program manager of NBC, succeeding Wynn Wright who was recently promoted to the post of national production manager. . . . Harry G. Ommerle has been appointed head of the radio department of A. & S. Lyons agency. . . . F. A. (Ted) Long will head television activities of Batten, Barton, Durstine and Osborn. . . , Harold Rosenberg, formerly assistant chief of the special assignment division of the OWI radio section has been named chief of that division and Mrs. Betty W. Carter, formerly in charge of the division's Washington office has been advanced to assistant chief. . . . Slocum Chapin has transferred from the sales staff of WJZ, New York to that of the Blue Network. . . . Herbert Sanford has been appointed television director of N. W. Ayer. . . .*

• • •

**Program Notes: Eddie Cantor will launch the motion picture industry's drive for the Women's Army Corps on his NBC broadcast next Wednesday, devoting part of his hour to a salute to the Wac. . . . Katharine Hepburn in "The Philadelphia Story" will be presented on the NBC "Arthur Hopkins Presents" program next Wednesday. . . . Irene Dunne and Joseph Cotton will be featured in the CBS "Lux Radio Theatre" adaptation of "Penny Serenade" and Ronald Colman and Merle Oberon will appear in the CBS "Screen Guild Players" adaptation of "Dark Angel," both set for next Monday. . . . Warners' "The Adventures of Mark Twain" will receive air promotions on 250 stations through the medium of "The Parents' Forum" broadcast.**

## *DeForest Plans Tele. Station in Mexico*

MEXICO CITY, May 3.—A Mexican government franchise to establish a commercial television station here, as well as a laboratory for electronic investigations, is being sought by Joseph Mitchell, representative of Dr. Lee de Forest, who arrived in Mexico recently.

The station, according to Mitchell, will represent an estimated initial investment of $100,000 and will be opened in the near future. Mitchell also revealed that both he and de Forest intend to become permanent residents of Mexico.

## *Steffes Heads Fifth Loan in Minnesota*

(*Continued from page* 1)

mer president of National Allied and of Allied of the Northwest. In recent years he has been inactive because of ill health. He is Chief Barker of the Variety Club of Minneapolis.

In announcing Steffes' acceptance, O'Donnell said, "His emergence from retirement enforced by reasons of health to lead the drive in Minnesota exemplifies the solidarity of all elements in the industry in the effort everyone will have to put forth to meet the industry's obligation in the Fifth War Loan."

## *Three New Theatres Get WPB Approval*

WASHINGTON, May 3.—The War Production Board has given its approval to the construction of three new theatres in crowded war plant areas.

The Bancroft Theatre Building Corp. will erect a house in Omaha. It will be equipped by the Scott-Ballantyne Co. and leased to W. W. Troxell.

A Market Street building in San Francisco, once the site of the Portola Theatre, will be converted into a film house by the newly formed Premiere Theatre Co., of which the officials are Ellis W. Levy and Ben and Jesse Levin, Northern California Theatre operators.

In Dallas, P. G. Cameron, owner of the former Urban Theatre, recently destroyed by fire, will begin reconstruction in the fall.

## *CBS Dividend*

The board of directors of Columbia Broadcasting yesterday declared a dividend of 40 cents per share on the Class A and B stock of $2.50 par value. The dividend is payable on June 2 to stockholders of record on May 19.

## *World Closed by Fire*

The World Theatre on W. 49th St. here, damaged by fire early this week, will remain closed for at least 10 days for repairs. Scheduled to open there this week was "We've Come a Long, Long Way," Negro feature.

## Television Does Not Threaten Films Now, Connors Says

(*Continued from page* 1)

several meetings and were furnished the trade press representatives as a result of questions put to him.

"My answer to exhibitors," Connors said, "was that insofar as I have been able to determine no television sets are being made now and relatively few are in use in homes. Moreover, it is my impression that only four television stations are in operation in the entire country, with an effective radius of 25 miles each."

Connors intimated that for these reasons and because he foresees little possibility of practical commercial television being developed sooner than several years after the war, the matter of television's effect on theatres and the use of films for television remains an academic question today.

**Should Keep Way Clear**

Connors added, however, that the way to utilization of television within the industry should be kept clear so that, if and when it offers something of value, no promises made today will deprive the industry of its later values. He likened the situation to the development of sound pictures and left no doubt that the industry is watching television developments constantly.

The 20th-Fox distribution head said that the company would very likely increase its use of radio for picture exploitation and advertising and that consideration is being given to sponsorship of its own program.

Connors said that the company's production budget for the new season would very likely be at least as large as this year's $36,000,000 budget. He said that travel and hotel accommodations probably will make it necessary for the company to hold regional, instead of a national, sales meeting.

## Justice Dept. Will Press Schine Suit

(*Continued from page* 1)

10 of 16 theatres it had been ordered by the U. S. to sell but failed to dispose of, and to expand its circuit further without requiring the court's approval.

Schine asked the court if it might purchase the Liberty Theatre, Cumberland, Md., for $140,000. The deal has not been approved by Judge Knight, and neither has he acted on a Government request for appointment of trustees to operate and maintain the theatres named in the divestiture order, which are still in the possession of Schine.

The distributors seem destined to return to court, either on the trial date or immediately before. On May 19, 1942, Columbia stood ready to go to trial by itself, declaring that the court's two-year order deprived them of valuable contracts with Schine. The reference was to a section regarding continuance and making of new franchises.

Columbia, however, is the only distributor so far to come forward in advance of the adjourned trial date. The Government's two-year standstill agreement with Schine expires May 19, leaving the Government free to proceed with trial.



# the Whistler . . . A SLEEPER, IF EVER THERE WAS ONE!

**N. Y. DAILY NEWS:**
"A first-class thriller! It begins on a mysterious note and moves along its exciting and sinister way with an ever-increasing atmosphere of suspense . . . Enthralling suspense!"

**N. Y. DAILY MIRROR:**
"WHISTLER tops in suspense, thrills! Absolutely top-drawer in the suspense department!"

**N. Y. HERALD TRIBUNE:**
"THE WHISTLER looms large on the current cinema entertainment list. It should keep the Broadway Crime Club shuddering for weeks to come! The new Columbia mystery is right out of the top-drawer!"

**N. Y. JOURNAL-AMERICAN:**
"An intriguing dramatic plot features THE WHISTLER, a nerve-straining film. It hits a new high in high-class shockers!"

N. Y. POST:

"An off-the-beaten-path movie! . . . a neatly turned study of fear."

N. Y. WORLD-TELEGRAM:

"Tingling man-hunt thriller! Here is one of the year's most compact and movingly narrated man-hunt stories!"

SHOWMEN'S TRADE REVIEW:

"Has the edge-of-chair suspenseful quality that most adult audiences like . . . Swelled by the group of people who have been listening to this show on the radio, the audience for this mixed psychological and horror picture will add up to a substantial payoff."

EXHIBITOR:

"Suspenseful, well-made . . . has a pre-sold radio audience."

RICHARD **DIX** in

# the Whistler

with J. CARROL NAISH · GLORIA STUART
ALAN DINEHART · JOAN WOODBURY

Suggested by the CBS Radio Program entitled "The Whistler"
Screen Play by Eric Taylor · Directed by WILLIAM CASTLE
Produced by RUDOLPH C. FLOTHOW

A COLUMBIA PICTURE

# Set Procedure For Building New Theatres

(Continued from page 1)

place between Clark, Berge and George W. McMurphey, chief of the OCR recreation section, leading to the making of arrangements for handling all cases which may arise.

Under the arrangements worked out, the OCR will submit full information regarding the need for a theatre in the particular locality in question and pertinent facts regarding the applicant, including whether the applicant is a circuit, and information regarding the interest, or lack of it, displayed by the independents, who might also be in a position to build. Where it is shown that no competing applicants have appeared, particularly independents, no objection will be raised by the Department of Justice.

### Consider FWC First

The first major project to come up for consideration under this plan will be the eight-house program of Fox-West Coast Theatres, which, it is understood, has asked that some assurance be given by the Department that, if the applications are approved by the OCR and the War Production Board, no threat of anti-trust prosecutions shall hang over it.

The possibility that the Department of Justice might have an interest in some of the construction activities instigated by the OCR under its program to provide additional theatre facilities in war centers where present facilities were inadequate or entirely lacking was raised last month when representatives of Fox West Coast came to Washington to discuss their proposals for the construction of eight new houses.

After conferring with WPB and OCR officials, the theatre men went to the Department, where they discussed the matter with Clark with a view to getting his reaction to circuit expansions.

### Clark, Berge to Work Jointly

For a short time there was some confusion as to who in the Department would handle the matter, Clark taking the position that since the war construction had no relation to the pending decree negotiations it was a subject for Berge. The latter, in turn, although interested, felt that it should be handled in conjunction with other motion picture matters. This, however, was straightened out by the Attorney General's request that the two assistant Attorneys General deal with the matter jointly.

Conversations between Department officials and McMurphey were said today to have developed a "meeting-of-minds" on the question of changes in the competitive situation which might result from additional building, with the need of the war communities for additional recreational facilities accepted as paramount. The Department officials, however, are concerned that the war-time construction program not be used as a vehicle for furthering monopoly, and to that end will scrutinize all applications which might have a bearing on that angle.

# *Less Efficient Cooling Is Seen for This Seen for This Summer*

(Continued from page 1)

bon dioxide, washed air and other cooling substances are, of course, freed from the necessity to conserve but are not expecting the high cooling results that are claimed for freon.

MOTION PICTURE DAILY on May 2 reported on the situation in several territories; the nationwide checkup is concluded with the following field reports:

Charlotte's city theatres that offer "cool inside" to patrons are for the most part all set for the summer, but at least two air-conditioned houses are somewhat dubious about the chances of seeing the whole hot season through on present supplies of freon. In good shape are the Imperial and the Dilworth. But A. B. Craver, operator of local houses, is exploring the possibility of converting from freon to some other refrigerant. The Carolina, Charlotte's largest, uses carrene.

### Cincinnati Has Supply

In Cincinnati, most theatres using freon have enough to carry through the Summer, with care, and will avoid using substitutes because of their alleged tendency to damage cooling systems. Some circuit houses in that city still have carbon dioxide systems.

Des Moines theatres and Tri-States and Central States circuits outside that city expect present supplies of freon to run through the Summer. They have not considered possible substitutes. Operators checked cooling plants periodically throughout the Winter for leaks, in a freon conservation program.

### Machinery Adaptable

In Atlanta, the majority of theatres are equipped with air-conditioning machinery which is adaptable to fluids which are available. Only in a few isolated situations will theatres be forced to blow fans, or what ever else is available to keep their houses cool this Summer.

Most theatres in Denver have water-cooling systems, and the operators of the three or four that depend on freon are reluctant to discuss their supply. Executives of local Fox Intermountain Theatres, which has two or three freon houses, are among the reticent.

St. Louis exhibitors using freon are concerned over its restriction. Al Stetson, maintenance manager for Fanchon and Marco and St. Louis Amusement Co., is surveying for leaks. Rex Williams, manager of Loew's State and Orpheum, has succeeded in obtaining replacement parts for his systems, which do not need freon.

In Omaha, William Miskell, Tri-States Theatres district manager, reported enough freon available for the Orpheum, Paramount and Omaha, which, however, he said would not be quite as cool as in former years. "Pinky" McIlvaine of the Brandeis began conserving his supply last Summer and now plans to "baby the machine" by turning it on and off frequently.

### Blowers in Hartford

Straight blower systems, in Hartford, are used by the Lenox, Lyric, Central, Rialto and Princess, neighborhood houses, and by Loew's Poli and Palace, Warners' Strand and Lieberman's Proven Pictures, downtown theatres. All these who formerly depended on freon have abandoned it. The same is true in Kansas City, where no trouble is anticipated as a result. Nor is there a single freon house in the state of Washington, according to a Seattle report; the larger theatres there are water cooled, and the smaller ones employ fans and ice. Likewise, freon is needed for only a few houses in the Greater Cleveland area, where the announced lack of the gas is said to be causing "not even a ripple of concern."

The Southwest is similarly unworried, according to a Dallas report. Interstate Theatres there are expecting to get by on their normal allotment; the air is washed in all Robb and Rowley houses and also in a majority of the R. E. Griffith circuit, R. I. Payne, Griffith executive, reported. P. G. Cameron, who owns the Peak, Airway, Grove and Urban, Dallas neighborhood houses, changed over from freon a year ago.

## *Detroit Theatres 4 Degrees Warmer*

**Detroit, May 3.—Exhibitors here, faced with meeting the Government's ban on freon gas for theatres this summer, have agreed to postpone turning on their cooling systems until June 1. Thereafter they will keep their houses eight degrees below the outside temperature, instead of 12 degrees as in the past.**

## *Hicks House Quits Films*

BALTIMORE, May 3.—The Maryland Theatre, one of the Hicks' houses here, has been closed and will be converted into a burlesque house. During the past season the Maryland has housed vaudeville and pictures; legitimate road shows; a stock company and, finally, pictures alone.

## *Lima Here from Brazil*

Ary Lima, general manager for Warners in Brazil, has arrived here from Rio de Janeiro for conferences with Robert Schless, foreign manager, Joseph S. Hummell and other home office foreign executives. He will remain here 10 days.

## *WFA Cites WAC Short*

Marvin Jones, administrator of the War Food Administration, in a letter to John C. Flinn, coordinator of the War Activities Committee Hollywood Division, states that WFA officials expect the WAC short, "America's Hidden Weapon," to help obtain civilian cooperation necessary for an adequate food supply this year.

## *'Tank Patrol' to Classics*

Film Classics will distribute "Tank Patrol," short subject produced for British Information Services. "Target for Tonight" will be re-released, also through Film Classics.

# Sales, Not Reports, Is O'Donnell Aim

(Continued from page 1)

which theatre men have worked throughout the war and must give them every possible help, never adding to their burden, as they set out to top their own remarkable efforts," he added.

O'Donnell initiated four days of studio and talent meetings here by emphasizing the U. S. Treasury Department's new record goal of $6,000,000,000 in "E" bonds to be sold between June 12 and July 8. "A tremendous job was done by the industry under Charles P. Skouras in the Fourth War Loan, with the objective of a bond for each of the nation's 11,500,000 theatre seats surpassed by 500,000," he observed. "But the Fifth War Loan drive must set a far better record. Fortunately we have an organization perfected by experience, and with this organization the industry can do the job."

### Cites Response of Press

O'Donnell told leaders of Hollywood groups that the Fifth War Loan committee had received "magnificent response" in its first meetings with the trade press, newsreels and advertising managers in New York. "Distribution," he said, "is perfectly organized, with every film salesman mobilized, and we have the unfailing backing of the 16,000 theatre operators."

Accompanied by Claude F. Lee, industry war bond consultant to the Treasury Department, O'Donnell today discussed plans with executives of the Hollywood Victory Committee. Tomorrow, T. R. Gamble, national director of the War Finance Division of the Treasury, will join the group for a final meeting to set Hollywood's participation in the campaign.

# Wallis-Hazen Near Release Decision

(Continued from page 1)

companies. Regardless of their accepted affiliation, Wallis and Hazen will be together, as reported exclusively in MOTION PICTURE DAILY on April 14. A final decision on their distribution affiliation is expected within the next few days and prior to Wallis's scheduled departure for the Coast. Wallis is extending his stay here into next week.

Meanwhile, current Broadway reports are that Wallis is also discussing a possible deal with the Theatre Guild and Herman Shumlin under which he would be associated with these play producers in a film unit. First production of the partnership might be Lillian Hellman's "The Searching Wind," which Shumlin staged. Indications are that the Guild and Shumlin might prefer a deal of this kind to the outright sale of their properties to Hollywood.

## *Another for Seligman*

Leo Seligman has acquired distribution rights in the United States to the French and Italian versions of "The Men in Her Life," retitled "La Rose Blanche," and "Gli Uomini Nella Sua Vita," respectively, from Columbia Pictures.

# Hollywood

By JACK CARTWRIGHT

*Hollywood, May 3*

IN Hollywood, where story purchases and the methods of signing up originals mean a lot to scriveners, both in and out of the Screen Writers' Guild, the new deal which Darryl Zanuck just signed with Commando Kelly in conjunction with the *Saturday Evening Post* has created interest.

Zanuck and the *Post* jointly signed the war hero for his story. It's to be published as a serial and Zanuck plans to make it into a picture while both will cooperate in finding a publishing house to bring it into book form. It may presage a new trend in picture rights, combined with serialization and book publication, to achieve the utmost in promotional benefits through reader interest aroused prior to production.

•

*Associate-Producer Joan Harrison has signed Franchot Tone for the lead in "Dark Waters," which she will produce with Benedict Bogeaus for UA. The picture will start May 10 at General Service. . . . William Goetz has changed the title of International's "Once Off Guard," starring Edward G. Robinson and Joan Bennett, to "The Woman in the Window." Nunnally Johnson is producing from his own script. . . . Frank Seltzer has succeeded Len Simpson, resigned, as publicity director for Edward Small. This makes five in a row for Small in almost as many months.*

•

**RKO-Radio has six slated to get underway during the month which, with four others still on the stages will bring to ten the number in work at RKO. New ones include "Having Wonderful Crime," "Farewell My Lovely," directed by Edward Dmytryk, and "The Pumpkin Shell," directed by Alfred Werner which Adrian Scott produces under supervision of Sid Rogell; Frank Strayer's initial RKO production, "Girl Rush," a musical; "Betrayal from the East," with Herman Schlom producing, and Edward Golden's "The Master Race."**

•

Cheryl Walker, blonde starlet who registered in "Stage Door Canteen" and was later under contract to Warners, has obtained her release and is co-starred in Republic's "Three Little Sisters." . . . M-G-M hopes to do a great deal with Kathryn Grayson and June Allyson in Joe Pasternak's new production, "Brighton Beach." Miss Grayson will portray the part of an opera singer while Miss Allyson will portray a singer of popular songs with Henry Koster directing.

•

*Jack Conway will mark his 35th year in the motion picture industry by directing "The Clock" for producer Arthur Freed at M-G-M. In this one Judy Garland will have her first real dramatic role. . . Sponsored by the American Women's Voluntary Services, "Show Business" will have a benefit world premiere at Grauman's Chinese May 10. Proceeds will go to the wounded soldiers' fund of the new Birmingham General Hospital at Van Nuys, Cal.*


Paramount NEWS

AND NOTHING *BUT* THE NEWS



THIS WEEK'S "TIME" MAGAZINE SAYS THAT LEO MCCAREY'S **GOING MY WAY** WITH BING CROSBY IS "ONE OF THE YEAR'S TOP SURPRISES... IT POINTS THE WAY TO THE GREAT FILMS WHICH WILL BE POSSIBLE WHEN HOLLYWOOD BECOMES AWARE OF THE RICHNESS AND DELIGHT OF HUMAN CHARACTER OBSERVED FOR ITS OWN SAKE...BARRY FITZGERALD OFFERS THE FINEST, FUNNIEST AND MOST TOUCHING PORTRAYAL OF OLD AGE THAT HAS YET REACHED THE SCREEN!"


# 'Standing Room' Is $13,200 Over at Two in Los Angeles

LOS ANGELES, May 3.—Under kindly minstrations of the weather man, local grosses in general upped appreciably. "Standing Room Only" collected $44,500 at the two Paramounts, which average $31,300. "The Bridge of San Luis Rey" did $41,200 in the Egyptian-Los Angeles-Ritz triad where $33,300 is par.

Estimated receipts for the week ending May 3:

**"Up in Mabel's Room" (UA)**
**"The Woman of the Town" (UA)**
CARTHAY CIRCLE—(1,516) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 7 days. Gross: $9,800. (Average: $11,200).

**"Up in Mabel's Room" (UA)**
**"The Woman of the Town" (UA)**
CHINESE — (2,500) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 7 days. Gross: $13,700. (Average: $15,500).

**"The Bridge of San Luis Rey" (UA)**
**"Three Russian Girls" (UA)**
EGYPTIAN — (1,500) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 7 days. Gross: $11,200. (Average: $9,500).

**"Action in Arabia" (RKO)**
**"The Curse of the Cat People" (RKO)**
HAWAII—(1,000) (50c-60c-75c-80c) 7 days. Gross: $10,000. (Average: $6,200).

**"Cover Girl" (Col.) 3rd week**
**"Weekend Pass" (Univ.)**
HILLSTREET — (2,700) (50c - 60c - 80c). Gross: $17,000. (Average: $19,700).

**"Up in Mabel's Room" (UA)**
**"The Woman of the Town" (UA)**
LOEW'S STATE — (2,500) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 7 days. Gross: $28,500. (Average: $24,100).

**"The Bridge of San Luis Rey" (UA)**
**"Three Russian Girls" (UA)**
LOS ANGELES — (2,098) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 7 days. Gross: $19,000. (Average: $14,900).

**"Cover Girl" (Col.) 3rd week**
**"Weekend Pass" (Univ.)**
PANTAGES — (2,000) (50c-60c-80c-$1.00) 7 days. Gross: $16,000. (Average: $16,700).

**"Standing Room Only" (Para.)**
PARAMOUNT HOLLYWOOD—(50c-60c-80c-$1.00) 7 days. Gross: $15,500. (Average: $11,000).

**"Standing Room Only" (Para.)**
**"You Can't Ration Love" (Para.)**
PARAMOUNT DOWNTOWN—(50c-60c-80c-$1.00) 7 days. Gross: $29,000. (Average: $20,300).

**"The Bridge of San Luis Rey" (UA)**
**"Three Russian Girls" (UA)**
RITZ — (1,376) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 7 days. Gross: $11,600. (Average: $8,700).

**"Up in Mabel's Room" (UA)**
**"The Woman of the Town" (UA)**
UPTOWN — (1,716) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 7 days. Gross: $12,200. (Average: $10,500).

**"Shine On, Harvest Moon" (WB)**
WARNERS' HOLLYWOOD—(3,000) (50c-60c-80c-$1.00) 4th week. Gross: $10,545. (Average: $17,000)

**"Shine On, Harvest Moon" (WB)**
WARNERS' DOWNTOWN—(3,400) (50c-60c-80c-$1.00) 4th week. Gross: $13,175. (Average: $18,700).

**"Shine On, Harvest Moon" (WB)**
WARNERS' WILTERN—(2,200) (50c-60c-80c-$1.00) 4th week. Gross: $10,528. (Average: $15,200).

## *Mexicans Open South American Exchanges*

MEXICO CITY, May 3.—Clasa and Films Mundiales, two of Mexico's largest producers, are branching out in South America. Together they have established exchanges in Brazil, Peru, Colombia and Chile.

Striving to get Brazilian business, Mexican producers have just finished 14 films in Portuguese, Brazil's official language.

## *Mexicans Lose $200,000*

MEXICO CITY, May 3.—Mexican exhibitors lost an estimated $200,000 as a result of Mexico's May 1 Labor Day, most strictly observed holiday here, which closed the republic's 1,025 theatres. This was a higher loss than heretofore due to the increased popularity of films and higher admissions.

# MOTION PICTURE DAILY'S BOOKING CHART

| WEEK OF | COLUMBIA | M-G-M | MONO. | PARA. | PRC | REPUBLIC | RKO RADIO | 20TH-FOX | U. A. | UNIVERSAL | WARNERS |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| April 8 | COVER GIRL (Technicolor) Rita Hayworth Gene Kelly Phil Silvers Jinx Falkenburg M—107 mins. | (Sixth Block) SEE HERE, PRIVATE HARGROVE Robert Walker Donna Reed C—101 mins. (420) | | (Fourth Block) THE HOUR BEFORE THE DAWN Franchot Tone Veronica Lake D—75 mins. (4317) | GUNS OF THE LAW James Newill Tex O'Brien O | THE LARAMIE TRAIL Bob Livingston "Smiley" Burnette O—56 min. (355) OUTLAWS OF SANTA FE Don "Red" Barry O—56 min. (366) | (Block Four) TENDER COMRADE Ginger Rogers Robert Ryan D—102 mins. (416) | | IT HAPPENED TOMORROW Linda Darnell Dick Powell C—84 mins. | | SHINE ON, HARVEST MOON Ann Sheridan Dennis Morgan Irene Manning M—112 mins. (313) |
| April 15 | JAM SESSION Ann. Miller Jess Barker M—80 mins. | THE HEAVENLY BODY Hedy Lamarr William Powell D—95 mins. (421) | LADY, LET'S DANCE Belita James Ellison Frick & Frack M—84 mins. (301) | YOU CAN'T RATION LOVE Betty Rhodes Johnnie Johnston C—79 mins. (4318) | THE MONSTER MAKER D—62 mins. (419) | ROSIE, THE RIVETER Jane Frazee Frank Albertson Vera Vague C—75 mins. (313) | PASSPORT TO DESTINY Elsa Lanchester Gordon Oliver D—64 mins. (417) | | VOICE IN THE WIND Francis Lederer Sigrid Gurie D—85 mins. | WEIRD WOMAN Lon Chaney Anne Gwynne Evelyn Ankers D D—64 mins. (8027) | |
| April 22 | GIRL IN THE CASE Janice Carter Edmund Lowe—D WYOMING HURRICANE—O Russell Hayden | SWING FEVER Kay Kyser Marilyn Maxwell M—81 mins. (423) | HOT RHYTHM M—79 mins. Dona Drake Robert Lowery (314) | THE NAVY WAY Robert Lowery Jean Parker D—75 mins. (4316) | SHAKE HANDS WITH MURDER D—63 mins. (422) PINTO BANDIT O—(456) | OH SUSANNA Gene Autry (reissue) O—(3303) | THE CURSE OF THE CAT PEOPLE Simone Simon Kent Smith D—70 mins. (418) | | LUMBER JACK (Harry Sherman Production) William Boyd O—64 mins. | HER PRIMITIVE MAN Louise Albritton. Robert Paige D—79 mins. (8016) | UNCERTAIN GLORY Errol Flynn Paul Lukas D—102 mins. (314) |
| April 29 | THE BLACK PARACHUTE Larry Parks Jeanne Bates John Carradine Osa Massen D | RATIONING Wallace Beery Marjorie Main C—93 mins. (418) | OUTLAW TRAIL (Trailblazer) 53 mins. (364) O | (Special) LADY IN THE DARK (Technicolor) Ginger Rogers Ray Milland M—100 mins. (4336) | MEN OF THE SEA D—50 mins. (420) Wilfrid Lawson VALLEY OF VENGEANCE Buster Crabbe Al St. John O—(464) | TROCADERO Rosemary Lane Johnny Downs Bob Chester's Orch. M—74 mins. (314) | ESCAPE TO DANGER Eric Portman Ann Dvorak D—84 mins. (419) | | | MOON OVER LAS VEGAS Ann Gwynne David Bruce D—69 mins. (8037) | |
| May 6 | ONCE UPON A TIME Cary Grant Janet Blair James Gleason | BROADWAY RHYTHM Ginny Simms George Murphy M—114 mins. (419) (Color) | LAW MAN Johnny Mack Brown O—55 mins. (354) | | THE CONTENDER Buster Crabbe Arline Judge Julie Gibson O—(418) | JAMBOREE Ruth Terry George Byron M—71 mins. (316) | ACTION IN ARABIA George Sanders Virginia Bruce D—75 mins. (420) | (May Releases. No definite date set) PIN-UP GIRL Betty Grable John Harvey Martha Raye Joe E. Brown M—(427) (Color) | | SLIGHTLY TERRIFIC Leon Errol Anne Rooney Evelyn Ankers C—58 mins. (8036) | THE ADVENTURES OF MARK TWAIN Fredric March Alexis Smith Donald Crisp D—130 mins. (315) |
| May 13 | UNDERGROUND GUERILLAS (British) John Clements Mary Morris—D RIDIN' WEST Charles Starrett Shirley Patterson O | TUNISIAN VICTORY (Special Release) (466)—80 mins. (Documentary) | DETECTIVE KITTY O'DAY Jean Parker D—61 mins. (322) | (Fifth Block) AND THE ANGELS SING Dorothy Lamour Fred MacMurray Betty Hutton M | | TUCSON RAIDERS (Red Rider Series) "Wild Bill" Elliott George "Gabby" Hayes Bobby Blake O—55 mins. (3311) | UP IN ARMS (special release) Danny Kaye Dinah Shore (Technicolor) C—105 mins. (452) (Color) | | | COBRA WOMAN (Technicolor) Maria Montez Jon Hall Sabu | |
| May 20 | STARS ON PARADE Lynn Merrick Larry Parks Judy Clark M | (Seventh Block) ANDY HARDY'S BLONDE TROUBLE Mickey Rooney Lewis Stone C—107 mins. (424) | THE CHINESE CAT Sidney Toler D—64 mins. (320) | DOUBLE INDEMNITY Fred MacMurray Barbara Stanwyck Edward G. Robinson D | WATERFRONT John Carradine J. Carroll Naish D—(415) | COWBOY AND THE SENORITA Roy Rogers Mary Lee Dale Evans M—78 mins. | (Block Five) THE FALCON OUT WEST Tom Conway Barbara Hale D—64 mins. | BERMUDA MYSTERY Preston Foster Ann Rutherford D—(428) | | PARDON MY RHYTHM Gloria Jean Patric Knowles M | BETWEEN TWO WORLDS John Garfield Paul Henreid D—(316) |
| May 27 | ADDRESS UNKNOWN Paul Lukas K. T. Stevens D—72 mins. | GASLIGHT Ingrid Bergman Charles Boyer D—(425) | | THE HITLER GANG Robert Watson Victor Varconi D—(4320) | MINSTREL MAN Benny Fields Gladys George Roscoe Karns O—(404) | MELODY TRAIL (Reissue) Gene Autry O—(3304) | DAYS OF GLORY Tamara Touranova Gregory Peck D—86 mins. | | | THE SCARLET CLAW Basil Rathbone Nigel Bruce D—74 mins. (8019) | |
| June 3 | | MEET THE PEOPLE Dick Powell Lucille Ball M—100 mins. (426) | FOLLOW THE LEADER East Side Kids D | HENRY ALDRICH PLAYS CUPID Jimmy Lydon Diana Lynn Charles Smith | SPOOK TOWN (Texas Rangers) O—(457) | SILENT PARTNER Beverly Loyd William Henry Grant Withers O—(317) | THE YELLOW CANARY (British) Anna Neagle Richard Greene D | | | THIS IS THE LIFE Donald O'Connor Susanna Foster C—87 mins. (8012) | |
| June 10 | THEY LIVE IN FEAR Otto Kruger Pat Parrish Clifford Severn D | THREE MEN IN WHITE Lionel Barrymore Van Johnson D—(427) | SONORA STAGE COACH (Trailblazer) O—(365) | GAMBLER'S CHOICE Chester Morris Nancy Kelly | | | SEVEN DAYS ASHORE Wally Brown Gordon Oliver C | | | THE INVISIBLE MAN'S REVENGE Jon Hall Evelyn Ankers Alan Curtis D | MAKE YOUR OWN BED Jack Carson Jane Wyman Irene Manning C—(317) |
| June 17 | SECRET COMMAND Pat O'Brien Chester Morris Ruth Warrick D THE LAST HORSEMAN Russell Hayden Bob Wills "Dub" Taylor | TWO GIRLS AND A SAILOR Jimmy Durante Van Johnson C—(428) | | (Special release) MEMPHIS BELLE (Color) (Documentary) 41 mins. | | | SHOW BUSINESS Eddie Cantor Joan Davis George Murphy Constance Moore M—92 mins. | | | | |

First in Film and Radio News Brief, Accurate and Impartial

# MOTION PICTURE DAILY

Alert, Intelligent and Indispensable to the Motion Picture Industry

VOL. 55. NO. 89 NEW YORK, U.S.A., FRIDAY, MAY 5, 1944 TEN CENTS

## 'Honored 100' Tribute by U.S. on May 9

### *Secretary Morgenthau to Make the Awards*

***(The Honor Roll of the Honored Hundred theatre owners and managers who led in comparative sales in the industry's Fourth War Loan Drive appears* on Pages 10 and 11.)**

The United States Government on Tuesday, May 9, will formally pay tribute to the "Honored Hundred" motion picture theatre owners and managers who distinguished themselves by the high sales of "E" bonds in the industry's Fourth War Loan drive last Winter. On that date, in Washington, Secretary of the Treasury Henry Morgenthau, Jr., will bestow upon them the recognition of "America's great showmen and patriots."

The winners, in a contest which was participated in by 10,000 theatre

(*Continued on page 9*)

## Mass Induction Will Open 'Wac Week'

Times Square will be the scene of a public induction of 100 young women into the Women's Army Corps next Wednesday at 12:30 P.M. The ceremony will mark the opening of "Wac Recruiting Week," May 11-17, in the 16,000 motion picture theatres of the country, and will be conducted by a high-ranking officer, who will administer the oath from a specially constructed grandstand.

Charles C. Moskowitz, Metropolitan area chairman for the Wac campaign, will introduce Edward L. Al-

(*Continued on page 9*)

## *Universal Declares Dollar Dividend*

Universal's board of directors has declared a dividend of $1 per share on the company's common stock payable May 31, to stockholders of record of May 17, J. Cheever Cowdin, chairman of the board, disclosed here yesterday.

Cowdin stated that "the board expressed its intention of declaring any dividends in the future on a quarterly basis," adding that "the dividend just declared should be considered as representing dividends for the first two quarters of the current year."

## MPPDA Approves Plan for Film Emissaries Abroad

The plan of the indstry's foreign managers for the appointment of motion picture "ambassadors" in the important world capitals has been given the green light by the MPPDA board of directors at a meeting held here this week, it was learned yesterday.

The plan proposes the immediate appointment of industry representatives in five or six important world capitals and the appointment of others either after the war or as rapidly as practicable, and as world conditions

(*Continued on page 9*)

## *George Arthur Made Cagney Assistant*

HOLLYWOOD, May 4.—George Arthur, former Paramount producer, has been named general assistant to William Cagney, president of William Cagney Productions, it was disclosed here today.

Arthur, recently film editor for the company, will work with writers and production assistants on preparation of scripts and will be chief contact with talent and story agents.

# ELIMINATE 'LITTLE 3' FROM SCHINE CASE

## Name Proxies for UA Meet at Wilmington Today

United Artists owners, Mary Pickford, David O. Selznick and Charles Chaplin, all will be represented by proxy at the meeting of stockholders scheduled for this afternoon in Wilmington, Del.

Miss Pickford will be represented by Isaac Pennypacker, Philadelphia attorney; Selznick, by the New York law firm of White & Case, and Chaplin by Arthur W. Kelly. Chaplin's New York attorney, Charles Schwartz, is not scheduled to attend the meeting. Edward C. Raftery, United Artists president, and Harry J. Miller, treasurer, will also attend.

The meeting is regarded as of unusual importance in that proposed amendments to the company's bylaws designed to give greater freedom to operating management and to eliminate ownership intervention in rou-

(*Continued on page 9*)

## *Circuit Gets 6 Months to Dispose of 10 Houses; Liberty Purchase Granted*

Columbia, United Artists and Universal yesterday were unexpectedly and unreservedly eliminated by the Government as defendants in the Schine Theatres anti-trust suit, pending in Federal court at Buffalo.

**Judge John Knight yesterday gave Schine six months longer in which to dispose of 10 remaining houses under a divestiture order and also granted the circuit permission to purchase the Liberty Theatre, Cumberland, Md. See story on Page 8.**

Dismissal stipulations were handed to counsel for the three companies here yesterday morning by U. S. Assistant Attorney General Albert Boggess.

Counsel for the distributors, Louis Frohlich, representing Columbia; Edward Raftery, for United Artists, and

(*Continued on page 8*)

## *Marshal Forces for Fifth War Loan This Weekend*

One of the most important phases of the industry's nationwide participation in the Fifth War Loan drive, June 12 through July 8, will be launched this weekend when the distributors marshal their forces at meetings of all branch managers and salesmen in all exchange territories.



Ned E. Depinet

The meetings, called by the distribution chairmen of territorial War Activities Committees, at the request of Ned E. Depinet, national chairman of the distribution division, will be held on Saturday or as

(*Continued on page 9*)

## *Service Raise May Follow Pay Raises*

Increased charges for servicing theatre reproducers are expected to follow the granting of pay-raises to sound servicemen provided for in the new contract drawn by the service companies and IATSE representatives of the soundmen, according to authorities in that field. The contract has been drawn and will be signed by both parties within two weeks.

The contract provides for increases of approximately ten percent for the workers, raising the present minimum of $84 a week to $92; payment for overtime work; adjustments of hours in Metropolitan districts and other provisions. Sound men work an average of 48 hours weekly in Metropolitan areas and 54 hours on a four-week basis with allowances for time off in other areas.

## 'Gag' Rule Imposed On WPB Officials

WASHINGTON, May 4.—An ironclad "gag" rule has been imposed on all War Production Board officials having to do with motion pictures and theatres, it was learned today.

Assertedly distorted news stories regarding WPB activities are understood to have created a minor tempest

(*Continued on page 8*)

## *Gov't Curbs Political Films for Overseas*

WASHINGTON, May 4.—Rules designed to enforce strict impartiality in the dissemination of political information to servicemen overseas and involving films and radio broadcasts were today transmitted to all Army commanders throughout the world by the War Department.

The policies were laid down under the new Federal voting law, which is an amendment to the Hatch Act prohibiting the use of Federal funds or sponsorship to influence the armed forces in voting in Federal elections.

The instructions, laid down with

(*Continued on page 8*)

## 17 Films Selected For Spanish Fair

Seventeen films have been offered to the Spanish government by RKO, Warners, Paramount and Universal for showing at the International Fair to be held in Barcelona, Spain, between June 10 and 30.

Paramount will exhibit "Lady in the Dark" and "Going My Way," both in English; Universal has forwarded to its representative five films from which two will be selected; they are: "Phantom of the Opera," "Ali Baba and the 40 Thieves," "His Butler's Sister," "Phantom Lady" and "Flesh and Fantasy."

RKO has forwarded "Tom, Dick and Harry," with the second feature to be selected from prints now in Spain. Warners has shipped nine features, all superimposed Spanish versions, including: "All This and Heaven Too," "Now Voyager," "They Drive by Night," "Dark Victory," "Till We Meet Again," "Virginia City," "City for Conquest," "Million Dollar Baby" and "Sea Wolf." From these, two will be chosen.

Twentieth Century-Fox and Republic, it is understood, are giving further consideration before deciding to participate. Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer and United Artists will not be represented at the fair, it is reported.

Columbia has shipped one feature, "You Were Never Lovelier."

## *Columbia Heads Fete Capt. McCullough*

Captain Harry McCullough, formerly of Columbia, a war hero and veteran of more than 200 air battles in the South Pacific, was guest of honor at a luncheon given by the company at Gallagher's Steak House here yesterday.

Company executives and department heads were among the guests who attended including: Jack Cohn, Abe Schneider, A. Montague, Nate Spingold, Joseph McConville, L. J. Barbano, Samuel Briskin, Rube Jackter, Leo Jaffe, Mortimer Wormser, Lou Weinberg, Louis Astor, Max Weisfeldt, Frank Rosenberg, and others.

## *Leslie, 'M. P. Herald' Correspondent, Dies*

TAMPA, Fla., May 4.—Scott Leslie, 65, local correspondent for the *Motion Picture Herald,* died here recently. He was in the theatre supply business.

From 1912 to 1914, Leslie and his wife covered Florida making motion pictures of its beauty spots, animal life, jungles and Everglades. They shot over 100,000 feet of negative in the two years, said to be the first films to be taken in the state.

Leslie is survived by his widow.

## *Beddington Due Here*

Jack L. Beddington, director of the film division of the British Ministry of Information in London, is due here today or tomorrow. He will meet the trade press at the 21 Club here on Monday. He is expected to visit in Chicago on May 18 and will be in the United States for about a month.

# *Personal Mention*

N. PETER RATHVON, RKO president, is scheduled to leave for the Coast today.

•

WILLIAM C. GEHRING, 20th Century-Fox Western sales manager, returned yesterday to New York from Milwaukee.

•

W. A. SMITH, president of the Akron Independent Theatre Owners, is at St. Thomas' Hospital there recuperating from a recent heart attack.

•

EARL ROCKABRAND, Paramount Chicago salesman, has returned to work following minor injuries sustained in an automobile accident.

•

HOWARD WORDEN, formerly of Young and Rubicam, has joined the executive staff of Foote, Cone and Belding, New York.

•

PVT. RICHARD ROGERS, son of BUDD ROGERS, Eastern sales representative, has been assigned to the field artillery at Ft. Bragg, N. C.

•

HAROLD BUCQUET, M-G-M director, has returned to Hollywood from Chicago.

JOHN JOSEPH, Universal advertising-publicity director, will arrive from the Coast today.

•

AIR CADET GERALD SCHNITZER, son of EDWARD SCHNITZER, United Artists' sales executive, has been transferred from Courtlandt, Ala., to Santa Ana, Cal.

•

GEORGE B. WEST, Monogram St. Louis and Cincinnati franchise holder, will visit the company's studio late this month.

•

HAROLD SCHWARZ of Tower Pictures, Dallas, Tex., has arrived in New York on a business visit.

•

IRVING COHEN of Paramount's legal department, will return to New York from Buffalo Monday.

•

T. R. THOMPSON, United Artists Kansas City district manager, is visiting the home office.

•

DICK WRIGHT of the Warner Theatres Cleveland office, arrived in New York yesterday.

•

HAROLD WIRTHWEIN, Paramount Milwaukee branch manager, was visiting in Chicago this week.

## *'Locally Needed' for Cleveland Sought*

CLEVELAND, May 4.—Efforts to give film exchanges here a "locally needed" rating are under way and a favorable answer from Washington is expected. Morrison Orr, United Artists branch manager and distributor chairman of the local War Activities Committee here, who is handling the petition, states that indications point to a ruling similar to the one in effect in Pittsburgh and Philadelphia.

Distributors have filed for "locally needed" ratings in 13 additional exchange centers; they are: Chicago, New Haven, Los Angeles, Washington, Albany, Charlotte, Dallas, Milwaukee, New Orleans, Omaha, Oklahoma City, San Francisco and Seattle.

## *Reisman to Report On Mexican Sales*

Film company foreign distribution heads are expected to meet at the Motion Picture Producers and Distributors of America office here next Thursday or Friday to hear a report by Phil Reisman, RKO-Radio vice-president in charge of foreign distribution, on the distribution of American films in Mexico.

Reisman is due in New York today from the Coast where he stopped en route from Mexico.

## *Goldberg on Council*

PHILADELPHIA, May 4.—Harry Goldberg, national director of advertising for Warner Theatres, was re-elected to the board of directors of the Jewish Community Relations Council here at the council's annual meeting held at the Warwick Hotel yesterday.

## *Elect Senft Head of N. Y. Cinema Lodge*

Albert Senft of Sterling Sign Co., was elected president of the New York Cinema Lodge No. 1366, B'nai B'rith, at a meeting at the Hotel Piccadilly here last night. Senft succeeds Adolph Schimel, Universal attorney, and will serve for the coming year.

Four new vice-presidents were elected and seven other vice-presidents were reelected. Others reelected were: treasurer, Max D. Blackman; recording secretary, Julius Collins; corresponding secretary, Herman Levine, and monitor, Dr. Charles Goodman. The four new vice-presidents are Robert Wile, Universal; William Zimmerman, RKO; Bernard Goodman, Warners, and Louis Weber, Skouras.

Vice-presidents reelected were: S. Arthur Glixon, Leo Jaffee, Sam Lefkowitz, William Melnicker, Alvin T. Sapinsley, Norman Steinberg, and Robert Weitman. The officers will be installed on June 1. Delegates were also selected at the meeting to attend the annual district convention of B'nai B'rith at Buffalo from May 20-22.

## *Joseph, Bergman to Set 'U' Ad Drives*

John Joseph, Universal director of advertising and publicity, is expected to arrive here today from Hollywood to confer with Maurice Bergman, Eastern head of advertising and publicity, and complete details for the company's Spring and Summer exploitation campaign.

Extensive drives for "Christmas Holiday," "Ghost Catchers" and "The Invisible Man's Revenge" will be planned by Joseph and Bergman.

## *Brennan Promotes Hearns at RKO*

James M. Brennan, general manager of RKO New York Metropolitan theatres, has promoted John C. Hearns to division manager in charge of RKO theatres in Trenton and New Brunswick. Hearns has been with RKO for many years, and until the new assignment was a division manager under Louis Goldberg in Brooklyn and Queens. He will assume his new post immediately.


NEW YORK THEATRES

RADIO CITY MUSIC HALL
50th St. & 6th Ave.
RITA HAYWORTH • GENE KELLY
"COVER GIRL"
in TECHNICOLOR . A Columbia Picture
Music by Jerome Kern
Lyrics by Ira Gershwin
Gala Stage Show . Symphony Orchestra
1st Mezzanine Seats Reserved. Circle 6-4600

Held Over 3rd Week
EXTRA! THE IRISH QUESTION! LATEST MARCH OF TIME
RELEASED BY 20th CENTURY-FOX
RADIO CITY MUSIC HALL

RKO PALACE B'WAY & 47th St.
A Jive Jamboree of Stars and 6 Great Bands!
"JAM SESSION"

Paramount presents
"GOING MY WAY"
with BING CROSBY and RISE STEVENS
In Person CHARLES SPIVAK Tip tap & Toe
WESSON BROS.
PARAMOUNT Times Square

LOEW'S STATE B'WAY & 45
ON SCREEN First N. Y. Showing 'ANDY HARDY'S BLONDE TROUBLE' MICKEY ROONEY BONITA GRANVILLE
IN PERSON MILT BRITTON and BAND BENAY VENUTA

Joel McCrea - Maureen O'Hara - Linda Darnell
"BUFFALO BILL"
IN TECHNICOLOR
Plus on Stage—PAUL WHITEMAN and .ch.
VICTOR BORGE - JOAN EDWARDS
BUY MORE BONDS ROXY 7th Ave. & 50th St.

THE SONG OF BERNADETTE
20th CENTURY-FOX PICTURE
CONTINUOUS Doors Open 9:30 A.M. B'WAY & 49th ST. RIVOLI


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## War Films Bad For Public Morale: ITO

**Los Angeles, May 4.—Theatre attendance is declining in Southern California and Arizona due to "ever increasing numbers of war pictures," officials of Southern California Independent Theatre Operators Association disclosed here today, following a survey of several weeks.**

**The ITO expressed the view that "a certain number of war films must be produced because they are timely, but public disapproval is definitely made known by the decline in attendance." The organization urges the making of "more pictures to sustain the morale and relax and entertain the public."**

## 'John Doe' Appeal To Be Heard Today

Argument on the appeal by Robert Shurr and Pat A. Leonard, authors of the play, "The Stuffed Shirt," will be heard today in connection with dismissal of their plagiarism suit against Warners', Vitagraph, Jacob Wilk, Colonel Frank Capra and Robert Riskin, which was handed down by Federal Judge Vincent L. Leibell in New York last May.

The complainant had alleged that the play, which they submitted to Wilk, Warners' New York story editor, was copied and rewritten and then produced as a motion picture under the title, "Meet John Doe."

## Enjoin Bookings of 'Negro Soldier'

A temporary restraining order suspending further bookings of the War Department film, "The Negro Soldier," has been issued by Federal Judge Henry W. Goddard, effective as of April 28, in the suit of Negro Marches On, Inc., against the War Activities Committee and others.

Ned E. Depinet, WAC distributor chairman, in a wire to the exchanges handling the Army four-reeler, explained that the restraining order did not affect showings in progress, or bookings already taken.

## SLRB Hears '306' On Century Move

Testimony was heard yesterday by the State Labor Relations Board here on the IATSE N. Y. Projectionists' Local 306 petition asking to be named collective bargaining agent for some 100 projectionists employed in the 35 theatres of the Century Circuit in Brooklyn and Queens.

The meeting was adjourned until next Tuesday for a further hearing.

## Harry Anger Honored

WASHINGTON, May 4.—Harry Anger, managing director of Warners' Earle Theatre here has been awarded the Catholic University "Americana" prize for 1944, as the showman who has contributed most to the advancement of the American theatre. Official presentation will be made May 28 before screen, stage and radio personalities. Previous winners of the award include George M. Cohan and Eddie Dowling.

# Review

## "Between Two Worlds"

*(Warners)*

"BETWEEN TWO WORLDS" is a modernized production of "Outward Bound," the successful stage play first produced in London in 1923, and some eight years later as a motion picture. The story has not been tampered with in any vital respect. The time has been moved forward to the present, or at least to the time of World War II. Advances in production technique and improvements in production facilities over those which were at hand for the original filming of "Outward Bound" are apparent. They give a polish to the new version but they do little to enhance the dramatic properties at hand over the original. Those who enjoyed the latter production are sure to enjoy this one somewhat more. Others are likely to find it a unique, if somber, theatre experience.

Paul Henreid and Eleanor Parker are the lovers whose attempted suicides project the dramatic exploration of the hereafter, albeit in dreamlike fashion. Henreid, a former musician whose hands have been injured in the war, decides to take his life when unable to obtain passage from England to America aboard ship. Miss Parker, as his wife, refuses to live without him and remains with him as their small room fills with gas. In spirit, they find themselves aboard ship. Their fellow passengers they soon recognize as members of a group whom the girl had seen killed in a London air raid shortly before. They include John Garfield, as an American newspaper correspondent with a weakness for drink, provocative and long-winded speeches and obnoxious but juvenile mannerisms; Faye Emerson, as Garfield's actress-girl friend; George Coulouris, as a money-mad industrialist; Sara Allgood, as a simple charwoman; Dennis King as a minister; Gilbert Emery and Isobel Elsom, as an elderly society couple, the masculine half of which has shown greater fidelity to the marriage vows than the feminine half, and George Tobias as a merchant sailor.

Edmund Gwenn is the ship's steward who pilots the vessel to the nebulous shores, and Sydney Greenstreet is the admirable "examiner" who, with wisdom and justice that has the familiar qualities of the human for all of its striving for the divine, metes out to all his (and her) just deserts. That is, all but the lovers who took their own lives. They are left aboard the ship that plies eternally between two worlds. Then the dreamlike journey is completed. A bomb fragment has crashed into their flat in the air raid and admitted the air that brings the couple back to consciousness, presumably to begin life again with new courage.

Mark Hellinger produced and Edward A. Blatt directed from a screen play by Daniel Fuchs, based on the Sutton Vane play.

Running time, 112 minutes. Classification, "G."* Release date, May 20.

SHERWIN KANE

**"G" denotes general classification.*

## Screen 'Hitler Gang' For Diplomatic Corps

WASHINGTON, May 4.—"The Hitler Gang," Paramount's story of the rise of the Nazis to power, was screened at the Statler Hotel here this afternoon for the members of the diplomatic corps.

The showing was sponsored by the State Department correspondents' association. Guests included the ambassadors and ministers of 42 nations, the press attaches of 27 embassies and legations and 44 officials of the department. The film industry was represented by Joseph Sistrom who produced "The Hitler Gang."

## Canadian Loan Films

TORONTO, May 4.—Wolfe Cohen, Warners Canadian managing director, announced today that "The Shining Hour" and "The Fifth Christmas," Canadian Motion Pictures War Services Committee film contributions to the Sixth Victory Loan, have had 902 playoffs and 316 bookings, respectively, during a three-week period ending yesterday.

## 'Life' Plugs 'Twain'

Warners' "The Adventures of Mark Twain" will have an 11-page section in the current issue of *Life*, out May 8.

## Congressmen to See 'Twain' in Capitol

WASHINGTON, May 4.—Members of the Missouri delegation from the U. S. Senate and House of Representatives will attend the opening of Warners' "The Adventures of Mark Twain" at the Earle Theatre here tonight as a tribute to noted native sons of their state.

Vice-President Henry A. Wallace, Speaker Sam Rayburn of the House, WPB chairman Donald M. Nelson and Breckenridge Long of the State Department have been invited.

## Stewart Wins D. F. C.

Major James Stewart, former film star, has been awarded the Distinguished Flying Cross for leading an American raid on a Nazi aircraft plant near Brunswick, Germany, enabling the successful completion of the mission in the face of heavy anti-aircraft fire, according to a report from a U. S. Liberator base in England. Major Stewart already has the Air Medal with Oak Leaf clusters.

## Harry Rogers to Omaha

OMAHA, May 4.—Harry Rogers of Charlotte has been named manager of the PRC office here, succeeding Bernard Mariner, who is now in the Marine Corps.

# Coast Flashes

*Hollywood, May 4*

DR. HERBERT T. KALMUS, Technicolor president, left for New York on the Chief today.

•

Andrew Stone is planning to produce "Miss America," a Technicolor musical based on a nationwide exploitation contest. A beauty pageant winner from each state will have a part in the film, according to Stone, who will go East shortly to acquire new properties.

•

Mikhail Rasumny, who played the Spanish gypsy in "For Whom the Bell Tolls," has been cast by Paramount in a somewhat similar role in "A Medal for Benny," original screen story by John Steinbeck and Jack Wagner, with Paul Jones producing, Irvin Pichel directing and Dorothy Lamour starred.

•

Columbia has assigned Ted Richmond to produce "Hello Mom," film based on the "beds for buddies" canteens which provide over-night accommodations for servicemen.

•

Producer Lester Cowan has been given permission to depict Dan De Luce, Pulitzer prize-winning Associated Press correspondent, in United Artists' forthcoming "G. I. Joe."

•

M-G-M has taken an option to buy the film rights, before publication, to a novel by Booth Tarkington, now being written and as yet untitled, it was learned yesterday.

•

Al Jolson has left for the East to seek talent for his first production at Columbia, "Burlesque."

## CBS Resumes 'Live' Television Shows

CBS will resume telecasting "live" shows from its New York television station WCBW tonight with a two-hour program starting at 8 P. M. Initial program tonight will include a 15-minute illustrated news show; 15 minutes of variety; 30 minutes of war interviews with Navy men, and an hour visual quiz.

Present plans call for the telecasting of "live" shows for two hours every Friday night.

## 'U' to Ask Dismissal Of Gem Complaint

Universal will argue a motion on May 11 to dismiss the amended complaint filed by Gem Pictures, Inc., producers of "Goofytone Newsreels," and distributed by Universal.

Complainant seeks $4,500 damages, alleging that Universal breached the contract in making an extra print of a picture left with it, which it allegedly retained without knowledge or approval and without payment.

## Para. Pays Dividend

A regular quarterly dividend of 40 cents per share, payable July 1 to stockholders of record June 12, was announced yesterday following a meeting of the board of directors of Paramount Pictures, Inc.

SOME

# FACTS

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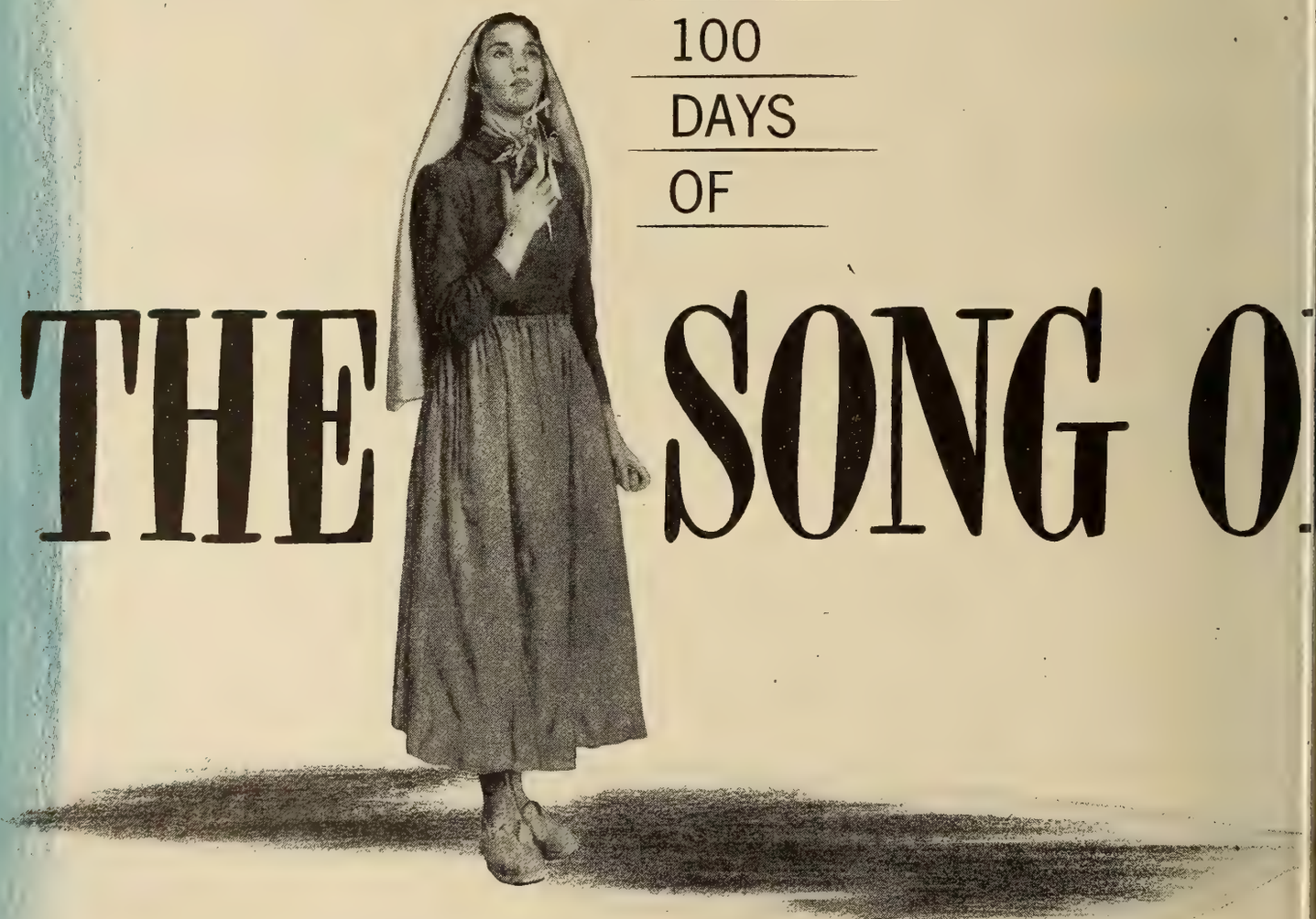
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DAYS

OF

# THE SONG O



ONE OF THE GREATEST BOX-OFFICE PICTURES OF

. . . 5,000,000 people have seen it in 120 openings!

. . . from coast to coast it has broken record after record!

. . . more than 600,000 admissions have already been paid at the Rivoli, New York— all-time attendance record!

. . . it has won five Academy Awards!

. . . currently in Detroit, it has more than doubled biggest previous 20th gross!

# BERNADETTE

27 weeks playing time in Los Angeles!

15 weeks in New York—and still going!

7 weeks in Baltimore, Philadelphia, Chicago!

4 weeks in St. Louis!

3 weeks in Denver, San Francisco, Milwaukee, Washington
...and many current engagements will set new long runs!

IME... *and of course from* 20th CENTURY-FOX

# 'Arms' $28,500 Sets Chicago House Record

CHICAGO, May 4. — Third week of "The Miracle of Morgan's Creek" and Lou Breese and band on the stage brought a gross of $40,000 to the Chicago Theatre. "Up in Arms" established an all-time record at the Woods, capturing $28,500, practically tripling average receipts.

Estimated receipts for the week ending May 5:

**"The Bride of San Luis Rey" (UA)**
**"Tunisian Victory" (M-G-M-BMI)**
APOLLO — (1,200) (55c-65c-95c) 7 days. Gross: $19,000. (Average: $11,400).
**"The Miracle of Morgan's Creek" (Para.)**
CHICAGO — (3,850) (55c-65c-95c) 7 days, 3rd week. Stage: Lou Breese and band. Gross: $40,000. (Average: $51,500).
**"Cry Havoc" (M-G-M)**
**"Memphis Belle" (WAC-Para.)**
GARRICK — (1,000) (55c-65c-95c) 7 days, 4th week. Gross: $9,000. (Average: $9,100).
**"Ali Baba and the Forty Thieves" (Univ.)**
**"Hi, Good Looking" (Univ.)**
GRAND — (1,250) (50c-60c-85c-95c) 7 days, 4th Loop week. Gross: $10,000. (Average: $9,100).
**"Rosie the Riveter" (Rep.)**
ORIENTAL — (3,200) (44c-55c-60c-80c-95c) 7 days. Stage: Lawrence Welk and orchestra. Gross: $26,000. (Average: $24,000).
**"Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs" (RKO)**
**"The Falcon Out West" (RKO)**
PALACE—(2,500) (50c-60c-85c-95c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $29,000. (Average, $24,000).
**"Shine On, Harvest Moon" (WB)**
ROOSEVELT—(1,500) (55c-65c-95c) 7 days, 4th week. Gross: $24,000. (Average: $24,000).
**"Lady in the Dark" (Para.)**
STATE-LAKE — (2,700) (55c-65c-95c) 7 days, 4th week. Gross: $29,000. (Average: $29,000).
**"A Guy Named Joe" (M-G-M)**
UNITED ARTISTS—(1,700) (55c-65c-95c) 7 days, 5th week. Gross: $19,000. (Average: $20,200).
**"Up in Arms" (RKO)**
WOODS—(1,200) (55c-65c-95c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $28,500. (Average: $10,000).

## *Associated British Has Pension Plan*

LONDON, May 4.—A pension fund for the employes of Associated British Pictures Corp. has been announced here by Eric Lightfoot of the board of directors. Male employes will be eligible at 65 years of age; women at 60. Pensions for men will range up to 50 percent of their retiring salary, according to length of service; for women, up to 37½ percent. The entire cost of the fund will be met by the company.

A provisional committee has been named to administer the fund, including Sir Philip Warter, a company director; J. H. McDonald, secretary, and Roland Lea, theatre department head.

## *Control of French Morocco Films Set*

WASHINGTON, May 4.—A government-owned film service, with a view to strict control of the industry in French Morocco, has been established there, it is reported by the U. S. Department of Commerce.

The new organization, Center Cinematographique Marocain, replaces the Groupement de l'Industrie Cinematographique in French Morocco. According to the report, American major companies apparently will not be affected by the new legislation.

# *Review*

## *"Gaslight"*

*(Metro-Goldywn-Mayer)*

PRESUMABLY restrictions will prevent exhibitors from telling their customers that the long-run current Broadway play "Angel Street" and "Gaslight," M-G-M's top-notch, splendidly-acted psychological melodrama of London in 1870 are both based on the same Patrick Hamilton play. But even this fact should not work to the disadvantage of the excellent box-office potentialities of this fine production turned out by producer Arthur Hornblow, Jr., starring Charles Boyer and Ingrid Bergman and featuring Joseph Cotten, Dame May Whitty and a capable supporting cast.

Fundamentally, "Gaslight" traces the diabolical attempt of Boyer, a nondescript pianist, to instill a feeling of insecurity and eventually insanity in the mind of Miss Bergman, his bride of a few months. It is all part of the pattern of an unsolved murder of ten years before, committed by Boyer to gain possession of the priceless jewels of Miss Bergman's aunt, a famous singer. In the screenplay by John Van Druten, Walter Reisch and John I. Balderson, considerable footage is expended in tracing Boyer's courtship of Miss Bergman in Italy, lessening some of the compactness and suspense of the story but highlighting the romantic nuances of their dramatic performances and handing director George Cukor the difficult task of maintaining gripping interest throughout the almost two hours which this film runs.

Cukor achieves a tense finale when Miss Bergman, apprised by Cotten, wily Scotland Yard detective, of her husband's machinations, denounces him but at the same time must have assurance that all the torment she has endured at his hands was all deliberate. So realistic are the performances of Miss Bergman and Boyer under Cukor's direction, especially in the latter sequences of the film, that an early morning audience at the Capitol Theatre in New York applauded when Boyer's successful campaign to undermine his wife's sanity received brief setbacks.

Dame May Whitty turns in a warm and appealing performance as the busybody neighbor of the newly-wedded couple; Angela Lansbury is properly sinister as their haughty Cockney maid; and Barbara Everest registers well as their sympathetic cook and housekeeper. Hornblow has encased the sombre action in a properly resplendent production faithful to the period, and Joseph Ruttenberg's swell photography lends added effectiveness to the proceedings. But the spotting of Bronislau Kaper's musical score to emphasize suspense is a little too obvious.

Running time, 114 minutes. "G."* Released in Block No. 7.

MILTON LIVINGSTON

**"G" denotes general classification.*

## *'Broadway Rhythm' Hits Good $14,000*

INDIANAPOLIS, May 4.—"Broadway Rhythm" will do $14,000 at Loew's this week to top box office receipts. The Circle, with "Shine On, Harvest Moon," and the Indiana, with "Up in Arms," are both expected to do $11,000.

Estimated receipts for the week ending May 2-4:

**"Shine On, Harvest Moon" (WB)**
CIRCLE—(2,800) (32c-55c) 7 days. Gross: $11,000. (Average: $11,800).
**"Up in Arms" (RKO-Goldwyn)**
INDIANA — (3,200). (32c-55c) 7 days. Gross: $11,000. (Average: $11,600).
**"Broadway Rhythm" (M-G-M)**
LOEW'S—(2,800) (32c-55c) 7 days. Gross: $14,000. (Average: $11,500).
**"Standing Room Only" (Para.)**
LYRIC—(2,000) (32c-55c) 7 days, move-over from Indiana. Gross: $5,000. (Average: $4,900).

## *5,580 from 'IA' in Services*

IATSE members in the armed forces now number 5,580, including projectionists, studio craft workers, stage hands, film exchange service workers and "white-collarites." IATSE's normal roster of 44,000 has been depleted by about 13 percent by the war.

## *Harold Wise to Mono.*

CHICAGO, May 4.—Harold Wise, booker here for Universal, has resigned to become head of Monogram's local booking staff, succeeding Vic Bernstein, now in service.

## *'Uncertain Glory' Is Milwaukee Leader*

MILWAUKEE, May 4. — "Uncertain Glory" and "Trocadero" at the Warner Theatre are shooting at $14,000. The rest of the situations here dipped below average.

Estimated receipts for the week ending May 5:

**"See Here, Private Hargrove" (M-G-M)**
WISCONSIN—(3,200) (40c-60c-80c) 7 days. Gross: $11,900. (Average: $14,500).
**"Lady in the Dark" (Para.)**
**"Memphis Belle" (WAC-Para.)**
PALACE—(2,400) (40c-60c-80c) 7 days, 3rd week. Gross: $7,000. (Average: $11,000).
**"The Heavenly Body" (M-G-M)**
**"Four Jills in a Jeep" (20th-Fox)**
STRAND—(1,400) (40c-60c-80c) 7 days, 2nd week downtown. Gross: $4,500. (Average: $5,500).
**"Uncertain Glory" (WB)**
**"Trocadero" (Univ.)**
WARNER—(2,400) (50c-72c) 7 days. Gross: $14,000. (Average: $14,000).
**"The Gorilla Man" (WB)**
**"The Return of the Vampire" (Univ.)**
ALHAMBRA — (1,960) (50c-72c). Gross: $9,000. (Average: $10,000).
**"It Happened Tomorrow"**
RIVERSIDE—(2,700) (65c-85c) 7 days. On stage: "Gay Nighties." Gross: $14,000. (Average: $15,500).

## *Sylvania Buying Colonial*

Sylvania Electric Products, Inc., is negotiating to purchase the capital stock of Colonial Radio Corp. of Buffalo, a joint announcement by the presidents of both companies reveals. Colonial's 1943 sales volume of $56,000,000 was made up entirely of radio equipment for the armed forces as compared to a 1942 volume of $14,000,000.

# *Hollywood*

By JACK CARTWRIGHT

*Hollywood, May 4*

LUSH boxoffice days of the present era haven't meant proportionate gains for producers of short subjects, particularly the producers of cartoon shorts, and they are giving this situation some careful study.

Speaking of the boxoffice boom Walter Lantz says, "The theatre attendance boom hasn't helped us a bit. Our costs have gone up just as have the costs of feature productions and yet we are still receiving approximately the same rentals for our product that we received when the box-office take wasn't nearly so high."

When asked what could be done about it, he said, "Well, an increase in flat rentals for short subjects would be one answer. We cannot sell our product on a percentage basis as is done with many features."

•

*B. G. DeSylva has signed Harold Wilson, his assistant, to a new two-year deal. Wilson has been with Paramount three-and-a-half years during which he produced the Technicolor musicals, "Louisiana Purchase" and "Happy-Go-Lucky," in addition to his executive duties. . . . King Brothers have borrowed William Castle from Columbia to direct "I Married a Stranger" for Monogram release. . . . "The Love of Madame Sand" is the new title for Columbia's Technicolor production, "The Song That Lived Forever," co-starring Paul Muni and Merle Oberon.*

•

**Dee Lowrance, Vanguard Films' magazine contact under publicity director Don King, has resigned to join her husband, Herbert Drake, at his East Coast Naval station . . . Walter Wanger has signed Emmett Lavery, of "Hitler's Children" and "Behind the Rising Sun", to a personal writing contract . . . George Brown has planned a special publicity and exploitation campaign for "I Love a Soldier", Mark Sandrich's Paramount production starring Paulette Goddard and Sonny Tufts.**

•

Jack L. Warner has signed Eve Arden to a term contract. She's presently working in "The Doughgirls." . . . Jeffery Bernerd is rushing production of his "They Shall Have Faith," story of infantile paralysis treatment, at Monogram in order to beat RKO-Radio to the punch with its "Sister Kenny." . . . Henny Youngman, currently in "A Wave, a Wac and a Marine," at Monogram, will open May 14 at Florentine Gardens with Belle Baker. . . . Walter Lantz is adding considerable studio space to his quarters at Universal to take care of expanded production due to Navy training films which he is producing in addition to his regular Universal releases.

•

*Anne Baxter will play the part of Tessa in "Sunday Dinner for a Soldier" at her home studio, 20th Century-Fox, after she finishes in "Guest in the House." She will be reunited with William Eyeth, whom she played opposite in "The Eve of St. Mark," now awaiting release. . . . RKO has signed June Duprez for one of the two feminine leads opposite Cary Grant in "None But the Lonely Heart."*

# SHORT AND TO THE POINT →




## Are you cashing in on M-G-M's "PATROLLING THE ETHER"

Launched with front page news! This timely 2-reel Special was selected as the first motion picture to have its World Premiere on Television from coast to coast. Book it while it's HOT!

## Did you see M-G-M's rating in BESA SHORT'S 10-YEAR SURVEY

The famed Chief of Interstate Circuit's Short Subject Department gives M-G-M top ranking over all companies for past 10 years.

## Have you heard about this one: PETE SMITH'S "GROOVIE MOVIE"



Here's real fun for the fans! They'll buy tickets when you book this fast-paced demonstration of the Jitterbug Joy Wave that's sweeping the country. Tops in the Pete Smith style.

# M·G·M...THE LONG AND SHORT OF IT!

) "Patriots! Help Recruit WACS! May 11th thru May 17th!"

# 'Little 3' Are Eliminated in US-Schine Case

(Continued from page 1)

Adolph Schimel, for Universal, had requested a conference with Boggess to discuss an adjournment of the Schine suit trial until next Fall, and it was for that purpose that they met with the Government attorney here yesterday. They were notified of their dismissal in the course of the meeting.

No reasons were given in the stipulation for the dismissal, but a spokesman for the film lawyers said that "the Government probably felt there was nothing to be gained by the prosecution of the 'Little Three'."

**To Prosecute 'Vigorously'**

The distributors' counsel are understood to have been told by the Government yesterday that the Department of Justice intends to prosecute its Schine action "vigorously," disclosing that the Government is ready to start trial on May 19 before Federal Judge John Knight in Buffalo. It was further revealed that the Government is prepared to take three or four months, even longer, with its prosecution. Judge Knight has been notified by the Justice Department that it is ready to proceed on the adjourned May 19 trial date, as reported yesterday in MOTION PICTURE DAILY. Date for start of the trial will be determined by Judge Knight in a few days.

Schwartz and Frohlich, counsel for Columbia, had previously filed a motion with court clerk May C. Sickmon in Buffalo for a postponement of the trial. The motion was to be argued on Monday before Judge Knight, by Frohlich.

**Dismissed in Crescent Suit**

Previously, Columbia and Universal had been dismissed as defendants in the Government suit against Crescent Amusement at Nashville, with United Artists having been held on a single point, which has been appealed. Five months ago, all three were dismissed from the Griffith-Oklahoma City case. The other distributors involved in the actions, Loew's, Paramount, 20th Century-Fox, RKO and Warners, were released as defendants when the consent decree in the New York action was entered here. The Little Three remain as defendants in the New York suit and, should no new decree be agreed upon, the Government would be free to reinstate the other five companies as defendants in any of the suits still pending, or could name them defendants if new suits are filed.

## Gov't Curbs Political Films for Overseas

(Continued from page 1)

regard to the distribution or presentation of material through the media of motion pictures or radio broadcasts both inside and outside the United States, provide that material which is entertainment must not contain political argument or political propaganda, and material which is coverage as news or information of public events and persons in public life must be impartial.

# Review

## "The Mummy's Ghost"

(*Universal*)

*Hollywood, May 4*

WITH the names of Lon Chaney, John Carradine, Robert Lowery, Barton MacLane and George Zucco to suggest to the customers what's in store for them, this second in Universal's series of mummy pictures ("The Mummy's Tomb" was the first) fits requirements snugly. Produced by Ben Pivar with adequate trappings and directed in a steady pace by Reginald LeBorg, the film is grooved to the wants of murder-mystery addicts.

Griffin Jay, Henry Sucher and Brenda Weisberg wrote the script from a story by Jay and Sucher which lays its incredible basis frankly before the audience in the first sequence and goes on from there to develop incidents of fright, furore and murder which follow readily enough after acceptance of the preliminary statement that Egypt's gods control mummies 3,000 years after mummification.

Lon Chaney, as the mummy, killed by fire in the first of the series and again by drowning in this, makes much of his role without resort to words. The supporting cast, in addition to those already named, includes Ramsay Ames, Frank Reicher, Harry Shannon, Emmett Vogan, Lester Sharpe, Claire Whitney and Oscar O'Shea.

Running time, 61 minutes. "G."* Release date, not set.

WILLIAM R. WEAVER

*"G" denotes general classification.

# Schine Offered Six Month's Extension

BUFFALO, May 4.—Judge John Knight in U. S. District Court here, late this afternoon, offered Schine Chain Theatres, Inc. an extension of six months in which to dispose of 10 remaining theatres under the divestiture section of the court's temporary order of May 19, 1942.

Judge Knight, in an opinion on briefs submitted by the Schine counsel, declared that if the circuit does not wish to take advantage of the extension, he will authorize appointment of trustees to operate and maintain the theatre properties affected until they are disposed of.

The extension of time, if accepted by Schine, will run from May 15, 1944. Pending the circuit's decision on what action it will take, Judge Knight denied a Government motion for the naming of trustees. He also denied a motion by Schine counsel that certain sections of the temporary order be voided.

Schine succeeded in one objective, however, when Judge Knight granted the circuit permission to purchase the Liberty Theatre in Cumberland, Md., declaring in his opinion that the transaction would not be contrary to the public interest.

## 'Gag' Rule Imposed On WPB Officials

(Continued from page 1)

in the WPB hierarchy with the matter reportedly reaching Chairman Donald M. Nelson who, however, threw it back into the laps of subordinate officials.

Under the rules in effect in WPB all officials are marooned in their ivory towers insulated against the press and all inquiries regarding matters coming under the several units having to deal with films and theatres must be submitted through the press relations staff.

# 'Cover Girl' Grosses Record $19,000

FITTSBURGH, May 4.—"Cover Girl" rolled toward a record at the Harris Theatre here, with a $19,000 gross in view to break the previous record, made by "Rosie O'Grady." Grosses continued correspondingly high at other downtown houses.

Estimated receipts for the week ending May 2-5:

**"The Sullivans" (20th-Fox)**
FULTON—(1,700) (35c-44c-65c) 7 days, 4th week. Gross: $6,100. (Average: $8,500).

**"Cover Girl" (Col.)**
HARRIS—(2,200) (35c-44c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $19,000. (Average: $10,100).

**"Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs" (RKO)**
PENN—(3,400) (35c-44c-65c) 7 days, reissue. Gross: $18,500. (Average: $21,700).

**"Lady in the Dark" (Para.)**
RITZ—(1,100) (35c-44c-65c) 7 days, 4th week, moveover after 2 weeks at Penn, 1 at Warner. Gross: $3,100. (Average: $3,600).

**"Swing Fever" (M-G-M)**
STANLEY—(3,800) (44c-68c-85c). On stage: 6 days of vaudeville with "Tars and Spars" revue. Gross: $26,000. (Average: $20,000).

**"Shine On, Harvest Moon" (WB)**
WARNER—(2,000) (35c-44c-65c) 7 days, 2nd week, moveover from Penn. Gross: $10,000. (Average: $9,350).

## John Farrow Decorated

HOLLYWOOD, May 4.—John Farrow, director of "The Hitler Gang" and now at work on Paramount's "Two Years Before the Mast," has just received the Atlantic Battle Star and the Canadian Volunteer Medal for his services as a commander in the Royal Canadian Navy. He was second in command of a large anti-submarine vessel before contracting typhus and being invalided home to Hollywood in 1943.

## To Build in New York

The James Feigen-Leo Silver syndicate has purchased a four-story building at the Southwest corner of Sixth Ave. at 55th St., New York, where a 600-seat film theatre will be erected.

# Short Subject Reviews

## "Varga and His Beauties"

(*Universal*)

This "Popular Personoddities" release features Joaquin Vargas, creator of the *Esquire* Varga girls. Others shown are Fred Treeselt, goldfarmer, and Bill Zmerzel, blind golfer. Interesting film fare but not up to standards previously set for this series. Running time, 9 mins.

## "Fraud by Mail"

(*Universal*)

Here is an interesting treatment of frauds perpetrated through the mails. The American public is robbed of about $15,000,000 annually by racketeers, who work this channel and some of the most outstanding hoaxes are depicted. Handled in an interesting fashion, this unusual subject is enlightening as well as entertaining. Running time, 9 mins.

## "Aviation Expert, Donald Douglas"

(*Universal*)

Donald Douglas, president of Douglas Aircraft, is featured in this "Popular Personoddity." Douglas builds boats in his spare time. Latest in this series is no better than routine, because of a lack of really interesting material. Running time, 9 mins.

## "Stars and Violins"

(*Universal*)

Jack Teagarden's orchestra and the Pied Pipers in Universal's new musical subject will delight the swing fans and prove satisfactory to all. Vocalists featured are Jimmy Cash and Lillian Cornell. Some of the songs include "Stars and Violins," "Let's Love Again" and "A Dream Ago." Running time, 15 mins.

# 'Arms,' 'Lady' Lead Kansas City Pace

KANSAS CITY, May 4.—In spite of two fourth-week runs, "Up in Arms" at the Orpheum and "Lady in the Dark" at the Newman, maintained their respective pace with $14,000 and $12,500. The Tower with "Women in Bondage" and "Mine Sweeper" totaled about $11,000.

Estimated receipts for the week ending May 3-May 6:

**"Ladies Courageous" (Univ.)**
ESQUIRE—(800) (45c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $6,000. (Average: $6,000).

**"None Shall Escape" (Col.)**
**"Hey, Rookie" (Col.)**
MIDLAND—(3,600) (40c-60c) 7 days. Gross: $15,000. (Average: $14,000).

**"Lady in the Dark" (Para.)**
**"The Memphis Belle" (WAC-Para.)**
NEWMAN—(1,900) (46c-65c) 7 days, 4th week. Gross: $12,500. (Average: $11,000).

**"Up in Arms" (RKO-Goldwyn)**
**"Murder on the Waterfront" (WB)**
ORPHEUM—(1,900) (45c-65c) 7 days, 4th week. Gross: $14,000. (Average: $10,000).

**"Women in Bondage" (Mono.)**
**"Mine Sweeper" (Para.)**
TOWER—(2,200) (40c-60c) 7 days. Gross: $11,000. (Average: $9,400).

**"Ladies Courageous" (Univ.)**
UPTOWN—(2,000) (45c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $5,000. (Average: $5,600).

**"Ladies Courageous" (Univ.)**
FAIRWAY—(700) (45c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $1,500. (Average: $1,600).

# MPPDA Approves Plan for Film Emissaries Abroad

(*Continued from page* 1)

permit. The representatives of the industry would collaborate with U. S. State Department officials in their respective localities on all matters pertaining to motion pictures. Action on the plan followed discussions over a long period of time between industry officials and members of the State Department's division of telecommunications in charge of film affairs.

The action is regarded as a step in the direction of perfecting State Department assistance for the industry in its far-flung foreign operations, and is designed to give the American industry the same interested aid, or a reasonable facsimile of it, that is accorded by other governments to their film industries.

One or more representatives may be sent to Latin American posts. Moscow and Italy or North Africa are other likely assignments to be made and there is a possibility that industry emmissaries may be stationed in China and Australia, it is reported. Other appointments would be made later. Fayette W. Allport of the MPPDA would remain the industry representative in London, it is said.

The plan developed by the foreign managers has been in progress for several months. It was referred to the annual meeting of the MPPDA board in March, but action on it was held up until this week.

# Mass Induction Will Open 'Wac Week'

(*Continued from page* 1)

person, general chairman, who, after a brief address, will present the Wac officers.

Many important Army, civic and industry leaders will attend, in addition to screen, stage and radio personalities headed by Frank Sinatra, who, accompanied by Pvt. Frank Loesser at the piano, will introduce the latter's new song, "One Little Wac." Miss Jane Powell, 14-year-old singing starlet of the Charlie McCarthy radio show, will sing "The Star Spangled Banner," accompanied by the Wac Band.

The induction ceremonies will be preceded by a breakfast at the Hotel Astor at which Moskowitz will be host to a group of Wac officers and stars of screen, stage and radio.

Following breakfast, the Wac officers will be escorted to 31st Street and Seventh Ave., from which point, at noon, they will lead a parade consisting of the women recruits to be inducted, the Wac band, a battalion of soldiers equipped for overseas duty, a regular Army band, and an American Women's Voluntary Service group. A cordon of mounted police will escort the marchers, who will proceed up Seventh Ave. to the grandstand at 43rd Street and Broadway.

## *Agustin Fink Dies*

MEXICO CITY, May 4.—Agustin J. Fink, 44, president of Films Mundiales, died here Wednesday.

# *Morgenthau Will Pay U.S. Tribute to 'Honored 100'*

(*Continued from page* 1)

managers of every state, Alaska and Hawaii, and served to stimulate "E" bond sales to an unprecedented total will assemble at the Hotel Statler to serve on a special advisory committee for the Fifth War Loan drive, June 12-July 8. All will be Government guests. At the Statler the "Honored Hundred" will receive a letter of commendation from the Secretary of the Treasury; an illuminated scroll of tribute signed by Morgenthau, Ted R. Gamble, national director of the Treasury's War Finance Committee; Charles Skouras, national industry chairman of the drive; F. H. Ricketson, Jr., national vice-chairman; B. V. Sturdivant, campaign director, and S. H. Fabian, chairman of the War Activities Committee theatre division.

### Additional Awards

The scroll will bear the legend: "More Than a Bond for Every Seat." In addition, each of the "Honored Hundred" showmen will receive a citation signed by Morgenthau and Skouras, an honorary medallion, a special page in the official report of the industry's activities; and a Treasury Minute-Man button for each member of the staffs of the winning theatres.

Winners of the bond-selling contest were determined by the following procedure: All "E" bonds sold from Jan. 1 through Feb. 29 were counted, which sales had to be substantiated by Treasury bond-application blanks. Each state's nominees to the "Honored Hundred" were made by the State War Activities chairman and the War Finance Committee chairman. These nominees included the state winner as well as the ten state winners in each of the five classifications of population. Official contest judges, Walter D. Fuller, president, Curtis Publishing Co., Philadelphia; Palmer Hoyt, publisher, Portland *Oregonian*, Portland, Ore., and Dr. Peter Odegard, professor of science and government, Amherst College, Amherst, Mass., and the accounting firm of Lybrand, Ross Bros., Montgomery, New York, determined the winners on the basis of the percentage ratio of "E" bonds sold to the number of seats in the theatre.

### Others Invited

Industry members who have been invited to the Capital ceremonies, in addition to Morgenthau, Gamble and Skouras, are: R. J. O'Donnell, Ricketson, Sturdivant, John J. Friedl, Fabian, F. S. Harmon, R. M. Kennedy, Ray Beall, Ned Depinet, Leon Bamberger, Claude Lee, Walter Brown, Arthur Mayer, Herman Gluckman and Sam Shain.

The following will be in charge of arrangements: Carter Barron, John Payette, Frank La Falce and Anthony Muto.

In his notification to each winner, Skouras said: "Our Fourth War Loan campaign was an outstanding success due largely to the splendid effort and cooperation of men like you, who have dedicated themselves to patriotic toil and endeavor here at home, with the realization that whatever we do is insignificant to the sacrifices of our heroic fighting men, suffering and dying for our country on the far-flung battlefronts of the world.

"May the experience, enthusiasm and results of your efforts during the Fourth War Loan be carried wholeheartedly into the Fifth."

## *Bearded Bondsman Averages 13 Sales*

**Ralph Batschelet of the Bluebird Theatre, Denver, believes in doing a job, the WAC reports. He achieved one of the high standings among the "Honored Hundred" by setting a goal, difficult, but attainable. Batschelet vowed not to shave until he had sold an "E" bond for every seat in his theatre. Two days after the inception of the Fourth War Loan, he attained this objective. But Batschelet had only stubble on his face. So he set himself the task of selling a bond for every whisker and had the backing of the East Denver Board of Trade, of which he is president. His final total averaged 13 bonds per seat.**

## *'Harvest Moon' Tops Slow Minneapolis*

MINNEAPOLIS, May 4.—A week of sporadic but heavy rains played tricks with grosses here. Despite the weather, however, "Shine On, Harvest Moon" at the Radio City took $17,000.

Estimated receipts for the week ending May 4:

**"Shine On, Harvest Moon" (WB)**
RADIO CITY—(4,000) (44c-60c). Gross: $17,000. (Average: $15,000).
**"The Uninvited" (Para.)**
STATE—(2,300) (44c-60c). Gross: $10,000. (Average: $12,400).
**"Four Jills in a Jeep" (20th-Fox)**
ORPHEUM—(2,800) (44c-60c) 7 days. Gross: $9,000. (Average: $13,900).
**"A Guy Named Joe" (M-G-M)**
LYRIC—(1,250) (44c-60c) 7 days, 4th week. Gross: $5,000. (Average: $5,600).
**"See Here, Private Hargrove" (M-G-M)**
CENTURY—(1,600) (44c-60c) 7 days. Gross: $7,500. (Average: $7,400).
**"Hey, Rookie" (Col.)**
**"Memphis Belle" (Para.-WAC)**
GOPHER—(998) (40c). Gross: $3,900. (Average: $3,700).
**"Tender Comrade" (RKO)**
WORLD—(350) (44c-55c-60c-80c). Gross: $2,300. (Average: $2,400).
**"The Whistler" (Col.)**
**"Beautiful but Broke" (Col.)**
ASTER—(900) (25c-35c) 6 days. Gross: $2,800. (Average: $2,600).

## *'Dwarfs' Equals 1st Run*

RKO's "Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs" has started its fifth week at the Manhattan theatre here equalling its original run at Radio City Music Hall, it was announced here yesterday.

## *T.L.Baldwin Is Promoted*

T. L. Baldwin, Columbia Kansas City salesman, has been promoted to branch manager of that office, succeeding B. C. Marcus, recently named Midwest division manager. Baldwin has been with Columbia for 13 years.

# Marshal Forces for Fifth War Loan At Weekend Meets

(*Continued from page* 1)

near that date as possible. At these sessions, the chairmen and their committees of exchange managers will allocate the territories for individual managers and salesmen.

Suggestions for setting up of the machinery are contained in the first instructions on the campaign sent by Depinet to all distributor chairmen. In his letter, he said: "The motion picture industry is about ready to embark upon its greatest effort—participation in the raising of our Government's Fifth War Loan of $16,000,000,000. You will be called upon to personally play a vital role in this all-out endeavor as well as to bring into action the enthusiastic support of every manager and salesman in your territory."

Depinet disclosed that John J. Friedl of Minneapolis, national campaign director, "who has been a very successful exhibitor chairman in his territory for many drives," has suggested a territorial break-up plan which has worked out most advantageously in the Northwest. The Friedl plan breaks down the territories by zones, with a designated branch manager and salesmen responsible for each. Depinet suggested that this plan be put into effect unless a plan is already in use which the territorial committees feel is better.

### Bamberger Assisting

Depinet is being assisted by Leon J. Bamberger, who is his assistant also as national chairman of the distributors' division of the War Activities Committee.

All distribution heads have been asked by Depinet to instruct all managers and salesmen to attend one of the 15 all-industry regional meetings. In event the meeting is held outside the city, the territorial distribution chairmen and district distribution chairmen have been asked to attend.

The first regional meeting, to be held at the Statler Hotel in Washington next Wednesday, will be attended by all district and branch managers from Washington and Philadelphia, as well as salesmen of the Washington exchanges.

### Mass Loan Drive Meet Planned in Boston

BOSTON, May 4.—Samuel Pinanski, Massachusetts chairman of the War Activities Committee, today announced in the absence of Harry Browning, public relations head, who is currently in New York on business, a mass meeting of all local motion picture officials, employes and associates to be held in the Hotel Statler here, May 11, to outline plans for the Fifth War Loan drive.

## *Proxies Set for UA Meeting Today*

(*Continued from page* 1)

tine company affairs are expected to be adopted. The amendments, among other things, provide for elimination of the requirement for unanimous consent on all corporate action except the sale of United Artists stock, and for the election of a board of directors of nine members, instead of the present four.

# The Honored Hundred

## —theatre owners and managers who led in comparative sales in the industry's 4th War Loan Drive

★ ★ ★

*ALABAMA*

*Foreman A. Rogers*, Macon Theatre, Tuskegee*

*ALASKA*

*B. E. Abegglen*, Revilla Theatre, Ketchikan*

*ARIZONA*

*Ewald Stein*, Wickenburg Theatre, Wickenburg*

*ARKANSAS*

*James J. Sharum*, Sharum, Walnut Ridge*

*CALIFORNIA*

*W. G. Allen, Sunset, Riverdale*
*Homer Gill, Fox, Bakersfield*
*Frank Hayward, Delmar, San Leandro*
*Harry E. Creasey, Golden State, Riverside*
*Bert Kennerson*, State, San Jose*
*Irving Levin, Coliseum, San Francisco*
*Allan R. Marten*, Golden Gate, Los Angeles*
*J. D. Richardson, Ritz, South Pasadena*
*Dale Smiley, Grand, North Sacramento*
*Harvey W. Smith, Roseville, Roseville*
*T. F. Woods, Telenews, San Francisco*

*COLORADO*

*Ralph J. Batschelet*, Bluebird, Denver*
*Wilbur Williams, Isis, Boulder*
*Robert Wilson, Fox, Walsenburg*

*CONNECTICUT*

*Albert M. Pickus*, Stratford, Stratford*
*Joseph B. Samartano, Palace, Meriden*

*DELAWARE*

*Edgar J. Doob*, Aldine, Wilmington*

*DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA*

*Jack L. Foxe*, Columbia, Washington*

*FLORIDA*

*Malcolm H. Millar*, Prince, Pahokee*

*GEORGIA*

*Cecil D. Crummey*, Rochelle, Rochelle*

*HAWAII*

*Adam Gomez*, Queen, Honolulu*

*IDAHO*

*Walter Lee Casey, Jr.*, Rex, Bonners Ferry*

*ILLINOIS*

*Louis St. Pierre*, Coronado, Rockford*

*INDIANA*

*Harlan Croy, Roxy, Frankfort*
*Harry Rubin, Tivoli, Michigan City*
*Leonard Sowar*, Rivoli, Muncie*

*IOWA*

*R. J. Baker*, Majestic, Centerville*

*KANSAS*

*Violet Cadle, Chief, Hiawatha*
*J. E. DeLong, Ute, Mankato*
*Ted Irwin*, Dreamland, Herington*
*Roy Dunnick, Madrid, Atchison*
*Barnes Perdue, Uptown and Katy, Parsons*
*L. B. Sponsler, Liberty, Fort Scott*

*KENTUCKY*

*W. B. Aspley*, Plaza, Glasgow*

*LOUISIANA*

*Miss Rosa Hart*, Paramount, Lake Charles*

*MAINE*

*Fred M. Eugley*, Star, Westbrook*

*MARYLAND*

*R. P. Ashcroft*, Broadway, Baltimore*

*MASSACHUSETTS*

*H. W. Beals, Brockton, Brockton*
*W. S. Canning*, Empire, Fall River*
*Arthur J. Keenan, Merrimac, Lowell*

*MICHIGAN*

*J. R. Denniston, Monroe, Monroe*
*Thomas H. Ealand*, Ferndale, Ferndale*

*MINNESOTA*

*Charles A. Zinn*, Century, Minneapolis*

*MISSISSIPPI*

*W. J. Ilsley*, Marion, Columbia*

*MISSOURI*

*Norris B. Cresswell, Lee, Clinton*
*P. A. Delahunty*, Valencia, Macon*

** Denotes state winners.*

★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★

# The Honored Hundred

## —theatre owners and managers who led in comparative sales in the industry's 4th War Loan Drive

★ ★ ★

*MONTANA*

*E. M. Jackson*, Orpheum, Plentywood*

*NEBRASKA*

*A. G. Miller*, Lyric, Atkinson*
*James L. Redmond, Rivoli, Falls City*

*NEVADA*

*Kenneth E. Wright*, American, Winnemucca*

*NEW HAMPSHIRE*

*Melvin Morrison*, Strand, Dover*

*NEW JERSEY*

*Fred Cross, Teaneck, Teaneck*
*Dan C. Neagley*, Criterion, Bridgeton*

*NEW MEXICO*

*Russell Hardwick*, State, Clovis*

*NEW YORK*

*Harold deGraw*, Oneonta, Oneonta*
*Louise Leonard, Astor, New York*
*Betty Margarido*, Forest Hills, Forest Hills*
*Paul Raisler, Utopia, Queens*

*NORTH CAROLINA*

*James Blackwell, State, Newton*
*George D. Carpenter*, Colonial, Valdese*

*NORTH DAKOTA*

*A. E. Ableson*, Hollywood, Devils Lake*
*O. K. Engen, Lyric, Rugby*

*OHIO*

*Wm. M. Tallman*, Ceramic, East Liverpool*

*OKLAHOMA*

*Robert Browning*, Poncan, Ponca City*

*OREGON*

*Eino Hemmila, Criterion, Medford*
*Jack Matlack, Broadway, Portland*
*Edward C. Niemann*, 30th Avenue, Portland*
*Zollie M. Volchok, Paramount, Portland*

*PENNSYLVANIA*

*Charles Bitterfield, New Colonial, Philadelphia*
*Clifford S. Brown, Temple, Kane*
*Mrs. Dorothy M. Brown, Orpheum, Franklin*
*Henry Eytinge, Vernon, Philadelphia*
*F. R. Jackson, St. Mary's, St. Mary*
*Reuben Porit*, Temple, Philadelphia*
*Roy Robbins, Aldine, Philadelphia*
*Larry Woodin, Arcadia, Wellsboro*

*RHODE ISLAND*

*P. J. Crawley*, Bellevue, Central Falls*

*SOUTH CAROLINA*

*J. B. Harvey*, Carolina, Clover*

*SOUTH DAKOTA*

*Ken Peters, State, Pierre*
*Leo Peterson*, State, Rapid City*

*TENNESSEE*

*Abe H. Borisky*, Capitol, Chattanooga*

*TEXAS*

*James Allard*, Vernon, Vernon*
*A. L. Clary, Ritz, Killeen*
*H. A. Daniels, Palace, Sequin*
*John D. Jones, Texas, San Angelo*
*J. Y. Robb, Ritz, Bib Spring*
*W. M. Shieldes, Tyler, Tyler*
*F. W. Zimmerman, Palace, San Marcos*

*UTAH*

*Ross Glasmann*, Orpheum, Ogden*

*VERMONT*

*Eugene C. Keenan*, Burns, Newport*

*VIRGINIA*

*C. C. Helms*, Liberty, Hot Springs*

*WASHINGTON*

*L. Parmentier*, Liberty, Walla Walla*

*WEST VIRGINIA*

*Emmett M. Barnes*, Virginia, Wheeling*

*WISCONSIN*

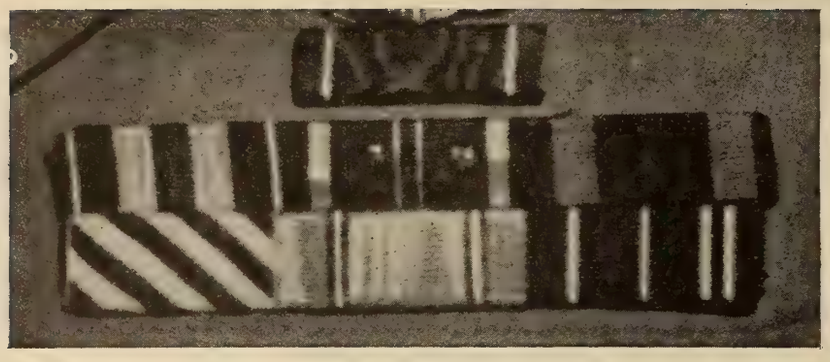
*C. L. Baldwin, New Gem, Gillett*
*T. M. Ellis, Jr..* Rex and State, Beloit*
*M. A. Neuman, Fox, Stevens Point*

*WYOMING*

*Wilford Williams*, Victory, Kemmerer*

** Denotes state winners.*

★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★



We can't all wear these!

We can all proudly wear this in our lobby for folks to see!

WAR DEPARTMENT CITATION

WOMEN'S ARMY CORPS RECRUITING WEEK
IN MOTION PICTURE THEATRES
MAY 11 Thru 17

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*Sponsored by War Activities Committee of Motion Picture Industry, 1501 Broadway, N. Y. C.*

First in Film and Radio News Brief, Accurate and Impartial

# MOTION PICTURE DAILY

Alert, Intelligent and Indispensable to the Motion Picture Industry

VOL. 55. NO. 90 NEW YORK, U.S.A., MONDAY, MAY 8, 1944 TEN CENTS

## 'U' Key Meet at Studio Instead Of Nationally

### *Scully Calls Sessions For Coast June 5*

Universal Pictures for the first time will conduct a seasonal sales meeting of its key executives at the studio at Universal City, it was disclosed here at the weekend by William A. Scully, vice-president and general sales manager, who said that the business meetings will be held at the Ambassador Hotel, starting Monday, June 5, and will be held in place of the usual sales convention, which was heretofore held in



William A. Scully

(*Continued on page 7*)

## Paramount's Debt Cut $13,000,000

Interest-bearing indebtedness of Paramount Pictures and consolidated subsidiaries was reduced during 1943 by approximately $13,000,000, the company's annual report, released at the weekend by president Barney Balaban, disclosed. After giving effect to this reduction, on Jan. 1, 1944, the total funded debt amounted to $18,037,362.

The financial report showed actual 1943 earnings of $16,140,821, compared with $16,077,000 shown on a statement

(*Continued on page 6*)

## 20th Asks $613,600 Of Jennifer Jones

LOS ANGELES, May 7.—Suit was filed against Jennifer Jones by 20th Century-Fox in Superior Court here at the weekend, alleging breach of contract and asking damages totaling $613,600 and costs. The complaint charges the studio starred her in "The Song of Bernadette" with the agreement that she would make four other pictures.

The action alleges that "on three occasions the actress refused to report

(*Continued on page 6*)

### *Selig to Capital For 'Honored 100'*

**Washington, May 7.—Robert W. Selig, assistant national campaign director of the industry's Fourth War Loan Drive, who managed the "Honored 100" contest and who guided state chairmen in the direction of the compilation of the "Honored 100" winners, has arrived here from Denver to supervise the industry's activities in connection with the presentation of the "Honored 100" winners to Secretary of the Treasury Henry Morgenthau, Jr., on Tuesday.**

## *'100' to Lead 5th Campaign*

The "Honored 100" showmen who led the industry as "E" bond salesmen in the Fourth War Loan will become spearheads of the industry's campaign in the Fifth War Loan in a ceremony in Washington, Wednesday morning. The event will open the first all-industry regional mass meeting called by R. J. O'Donnell, national chairman of the campaign, to present the industry's over-all plans for the drive.

Before assembled exhibitors, distributors, Fifth War Loan chairmen and national leaders, other industry mem-

(*Continued on page 6*)

## *U. S. Delays FWC Action*

WASHINGTON, May 7.—Determination of the Department of Justice's position with respect to the proposed eight-house new-theatre expansion by Fox West Coast in the San Francisco Bay war area is expected to be delayed until at least the end of this month in order that independent exhibitors who are opposing the construction may have an opportunity to present their arguments against it.

Slated for meetings with officials of the Department and the Office of Civilian Requirements on May 24, Robert Poole and Hugh Bruen of the Pacific Coast Conference of Independent Theatre Owners are expected to protest the building of new circuit houses on the Coast.

Such a protest already has been filed by the ITO of Northern California, which challenged the contention that there is need for new theatres and asserted that, if there were any need, independent exhibitors are ready and able to meet the demand.

### *Sol Schwartz Names Howard as Aide*

Sol Schwartz, general manager for RKO's out-of-town theatres has appointed William W. Howard to be his assistant.

Howard who has long headed the stage show department for RKO Theatres will retain that post in addition to his new duties.

## *Will Call International Film Talks Before End of War*

WASHINGTON, May 7.—International conferences on the postwar treatment of motion pictures will not be called for some months but are planned to get under way before the end of the war, it was learned from the State Department at the weekend. Much groundwork must be done before the first of these meetings can be called, and it probably will be Fall before arrangements are perfected.

Currently, the Telecommunications Division, under Francis C. De Wolfe, is securing reports on current industry conditions in such countries as can be reached. Several have been secured from Latin America showing a highly satisfactory situation with respect to U. S. films. A comprehensive survey of the English situation also has been received from London, and another came in from Saudi

(*Continued on page 6*)

### *Clark, Hazen Meet Today on Decree*

**Washington, May 7.—Joseph H. Hazen, legal liaison for Loew's, Paramount, RKO Radio and 20th Century-Fox in current consent decree discussions with the Department of Justice, is scheduled to meet here tomorrow with Assistant U. S. Attorney General Tom C. Clark, as a result of a weekend telephone conference between the two.**

**The meeting of Clark and Hazen will be a preliminary to the proposed conference to be held later this week with officials of the five decree companies and their attorneys.**

## Skouras-Rank Deal for M&B Nears Closing

### *Approval by British Treasury is Needed*

LONDON, May 7.—Formal closing of the agreement by which J. Arthur Rank and Spyros Skouras, the latter representing 20th Century-Fox, would purchase jointly Loew's stock in Metropolis and Bradford Trust Co., holding company for Gaumont-British, now awaits only the sanction of the British Treasury Department, which must first be obtained. Treasury approval is expected momentarily.

The Rank-Skouras agreement gives the sanction of 20th-Fox to the purchase by Rank, in October, 1941, of the 51 per cent M. & B. interest of the Ostrer Brothers. This transaction theoretically demanded such approval; but Rank, having dictatorial control of G-B, had not previously asked for it.

A subsidiary agreement provides for the creation of a management commit-

(*Continued on page 6*)

## Zanuck to Proceed With 'One World'

Wendell L. Willkie has withdrawn all objections to the filming of his book "One World," and 20th Century-Fox will make the picture starting in September, with Darryl F. Zanuck, producing, as scheduled, Zanuck told MOTION PICTURE DAILY at the weekend, just prior to leaving for the Coast.

The decision to proceed with the production grew out of a series of conferences late last week between Zanuck and Willkie, who was previously reported to have rejected sev-

(*Continued on page 6*)

## UA Defers Control Action to May 15

WILMINGTON, May 7.—The annual meeting of United Artists stockholders lasted only three minutes here Friday and was adjourned until May 15 on the motion of Charles Chaplin's attorney, Herbert Jacoby.

Present at the session were Edward C. Raftery, president and counsel for the corporation; Isaac A. Pennypacker of Philadelphia, representing Mary Pickford; Gradwell Sears, U.A. vice-

(*Continued on page 6*)

# Personal Mention

Y. FRANK FREEMAN delayed his scheduled departure for the Coast from Thursday to yesterday and expects to make a stopover in the West before returning to Hollywood.

•

NED E. DEPINET, RKO Radio president, scheduled to leave for California May 12, will delay his departure until after the company's annual golf tournament, May 16.

•

MRS. ELEANOR KING, head booker at the M-G-M branch in Denver, has been promoted to office manager there. She is the company's seventh woman office manager.

•

MONIQUE DE T. SCHLESS, daughter of ROBERT SCHLESS, Warner general foreign manager, has become engaged to Boatswain's Mate First Class RICHARD H. SPRAYREGEN.

•

WILLIAM LEVY, of Walt Disney Productions, will leave tomorrow for a three-weeks stay at the West coast studios.

•

HARRY F. SHAW, Loew Theatres New England division manager, left for Florida at the weekend with MRS. SHAW.

•

M. J. WEISFELDT, Columbia sales executive, left yesterday for a tour of the company's Mid-east exchanges.

## Appeal Board Finds For Ill. Exhibitor

The arbitration appeal board in a decision made public Friday completely reversed the award rendered by John S. Lord, arbitrator at the Chicago tribunal, who dismissed the clearance complaint filed by Marchesi Bros., operating the Geneseo Theatre, Geneseo, Ill., against Loew's, Paramount, 20th Century-Fox and RKO Radio.

The board stated that no clearance, in the form of priority of run or otherwise, shall be granted in deals hereafter entered into by Loew's, 20th Century-Fox and RKO Radio to the Peerless in Kewanee, Ill., over the Geneseo. The complaint against Paramount was dismissed.

## Seek U. S. Guidance On HVC Allotment

HOLLYWOOD, May 7.—Faced with an unprecedented talent shortage resulting from the heaviest production schedules in years, plus the loss of talent to the armed services and commitments of personalities to overseas entertainment tours and newly established hospital tour routes already set up by the War Department, the Hollywood Victory Committee has turned to high military and Government officials in Washington for instructions on what allotment of available personalities should be made to give the greatest service to the nation in the next several weeks.

# Tradewise . . .

By SHERWIN KANE

CHARLES FRANCIS COE, associate counsel for the MPPDA and former vice-president and general counsel of that organization, in his autobiography, "Never a Dull Moment," which will be published May 23 by Hastings House, devotes the final 25 pages of the 326-page volume to his experiences in the industry and varied impressions gained of some of its leading figures. The following are excerpts from that portion of his book.

*On how he became associated with the industry*:

"New York is calling. Mr. John H. Perry to speak to Mr. Charles Francis Coe." It was in October, 1941. (Coe did not join the MPPDA until the following April. Perry is the owner of the Western Newspaper Union, a mutual friend of Coe, Will H. Hayes and other leading industry figures. Perry asked Coe to talk to Hays about doing an industry public relations job.)

*Of the MPPDA board of directors*:

"As a board of directors, I can say without hesitation that the aforementioned men are the most difficult I have ever encountered. The reason is plain. As between themselves they are the most keenly and active competitive interests I know. When they meet as our board, agreement can flow only from a sort of eliminative process which treats first on possible advantages accruing to one or more companies as against the entire group. I say without hesitation that usually 'the sparks fly!'"

• •

*Of the Production Code Administration*:

"Most important of the Association activities, in my judgment, is what is called the Production Code Administration. It is under the direction of an affable, amazing Irishman named Joseph I. Breen. With certitude immense, I state here that just two things make the Code work. The first is Joe Breen. The second is the unshakeable determination of producers to enforce the Code—on the other fellow's pictures."

• •

"Louis B. Mayer is a rotund man, perfectly barbered, sleek of appearance as a butter-ball, emotional as any star he ever developed, and as shrewd as a David Harum. 'All I ever want to know', he said to me once, 'is where I am wrong. The success of this studio depends upon knowing when I'm wrong. I'd fire any man I knew was 'yessing' me. Some of the boys fight with me like hell. They are the good ones. They are the ones that stay here year after year. Tell me now: Where am I wrong?'"

• •

Harry M. Warner. "That evening as I left, Warner said with complete naivete, 'I know what some people in the business say about me. Well, let them. I've made a lot of mistakes but I've also been right many a time when they were wrong. If this business ever gets into real trouble it will be because certain individuals place themselves and their personal interests above those of all others'."

"One of Harry Warner's executives once said to me: 'Harry is an amazing man. He's always right for the wrong reasons'."

• •

"Frank Freeman . . . a former exhibitor, he represents, in my opinion, the new generation which soon must take over the baton. Men like Charlie Koerner of RKO, Cliff Work and Nate Blumberg of Universal, and Freeman are all in positions of extreme importance and they come from the exhibition field. I think that is a healthy sign."

• •

"Harry Cohn . . . I enter a conference with him. This is something like stepping from a doorway into a sudden gale. 'That Hays Office is a joke. Breen is a damfool. And this advertising censorship you guys run. That's the silliest I ever met. If a big company sends in some art work, you pass it. If we send in the same identical blue-headed goddam thing you turn it down. Know what I'm going to do, Coe? I'm packing up some art work and I'm going East. I'm going over to that lousy dump you racketeer in and I'm going to resign.'

"Under that rough exterior is a swell guy. Harry uses a superficial, hardboiled shell as defense against a sentimental man inside."

• •

"I saw Nicholas Schenck in the raw and found nothing but things to admire. He would be a vital force in any business. Calm, judicial, logical, soft-spoken as a usual thing, he can turn to steel when the occasion seems to demand. But he is not obdurate. If wrong, he is quick to see it, and quicker to admit it. New faces in high industry positions are warmly welcomed by Schenck. He extends to them considerate treatment and is ever ready to assist."

• •

"Men like Peter Rathvon of RKO and Cheever Cowdin of Universal bring new force and capacity. Barney Balaban is dynamic, energetic, agreeable and available for any call. Spyros Skouras . . . knows his way around. Men like Joe Hazen, Bob Rubin, Austin Keough, Charlie Prutzman, John O'Connor, Ned Depinet, Major Thompson and others will see the broad aspect and fill with capacity whatever future places present."

## Brazil Grosses Up 40-50%: Lima

"Grosses in Brazil are running 40 to 50 per cent ahead of last year," Ary Lima, Warner's Brazilian general manager, said in an interview here at the weekend at the company's home office. Lima ascribed the "boom" to war prosperity.

Lima predicted that the country's 1,300 theatres would prove insufficient to satisfy postwar demands. He expects a jump to 1,600 after the war. More than 50 per cent of existing theatres have over 1,000 seats. "The market for American pictures will expand further after the war," he stated.

"Although there has been a small increase in admissions, they are still very low. They have not kept pace with rising costs of living, and exhibitors will be forced to raise prices soon," said Lima.

"The native film industry will expand production after the war, but will not offer any serious competition to American films, which are well liked," he said.

The Warner manager in Brazil declared that "no foreign money has been frozen lately" and when exchange and income taxes, which are in the process of renegotiation with the government, are cleared up, there will be no difficulty in transferring film company balances to the U. S., he said.

## To Present $268,459 From Dimes Drive

Fred Schwartz, New York circuit operator and chairman of the industry's last March of Dimes Drive in Metropolitan New York, on Tuesday will present a check for $268,459 to Basil O'Connor of the National Infantile Paralysis Foundation, representing 50 per cent of the $536,918 collected in this area.

The presentation ceremonies will be held at 11 A. M., Tuesday, in the New York offices of Harry Brandt.

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THE MURDER MYSTERY THAT WAS HEADLINED TO MILLIONS!



# Bermuda Mystery

...NOW HEADLINED FROM

20th CENTURY-FOX presents "BERMUDA MYSTERY" with PRESTON FOSTER • ANN RUTHERFORD CHARLES BUTTERWORTH and Helene Reynolds Jean Howard • Richard Lane • Roland Drew John Eldredge • Theodore Von Eltz • Pierre Watkin Jason Robards • Directed by Benjamin Stoloff Produced by William Girard • Screen Play by W. Scott Darling • From a Story by John Larkin

20th CENTURY-FOX

COOPERATE WITH UNCLE SAM. WAC RECRUITING WEEK MAY 11th THRU 17th

# A New ANGLE TO THE INFERNAL TRIANGLE

MAID

MAN

MONSTER



MYSTERY

MAYHEM

MURDER

MARAUDER

MANIAC

MOUNTEBANK

**IT TAKES DARING**

to step off the beaten path!



*"The Lady and the Monster"*

not only

blazes a new trail..

**IT IS A PICTURE**

*that is*



## "OUT OF THIS WORLD"


LADY
LIBERTINE
LUNACY
LARCENY
LUCRE
REPUBLIC
presents a new
Box Office
★ CHILLER!
"The Lady and the Monster"
with
VERA HRUBA RALSTON ★ RICHARD ARLEN ★ ERICH VON STROHEIM
HELEN VINSON ★ SIDNEY BLACKMER
GEORGE SHERMAN, Director
Screenplay by Dane Lussier • Frederick Kohner
Based on the novel "Donovan's Brain," by Curt Siodmak

# International Talks Before War's End

(*Continued from page* 1)

Arabia, where the Washington Government plans to finance a $150,000,000 petroleum pipe line. This showed no film problems in that country since there are no theatres.

Department officials are anxious that the international talks—the first with British representatives — shall get under way before the end of the war, so that definite policies for the treatment of motion pictures can be developed for consideration and adoption at the industrial, economic and financial meetings which will coincide with the peace conference. If policies insuring the fair and equitable treatment of all films in all countries can be developed at or before the end of the war, it was pointed out, it will be much easier to put them into effect than if they are not brought forth until the European nations have been reconstituted and their governmental policies established and in operation.

In view of legislation now pending in Congress authorizing the State Department to undertake in other parts of the world the same type of motion picture, radio and other cultural programs instituted in Latin America by the Coordinator of Inter-American Affairs, the development of a generally accepted international policy for motion pictures is considered a matter of major importance in the Department.

## *Skouras-Rank M & B Deal Nears Closing*

(*Continued from page* 1)

tee for Gaumont-British Theatres, including 20th-Fox representation with a view to improvement of G-B Theatres' management, but with Rank retaining absolute ultimate control. It is reported that Larry Kent and Dan Michalove, both of 20th-Fox, will be board members of G-B.

The negotiations have resulted in a sharp reaction on the stock market, Gaumont-British ordinary shares rising in two days from 17 shillings, three halfpence, to 19 shillings, fourpence.

The deal by which Skouras and Rank sought to avert an impasse in their negotiations by joint purchase of Loew's M & B shares was reported in MOTION PICTURE DAILY on May 1.

## *Zanuck to Proceed With 'One World'*

(*Continued from page* 1)

eral versions of the proposed script. "We are definitely going ahead," Zanuck stated. "Mr. Willkie has given his approval, along with several suggestions."

Zanuck said his immediate concern is to launch "Wilson" with a series of West Coast previews and then, on June 5, to go into production on Moss Hart's "Winged Victory." While here, the 20th-Fox executive also held conferences with Hart.

## *Approve 'Five Graves'*

"Five Graves to Cairo," a Paramount production, which was banned by the Argentine government last Fall, has been approved for exhibition in that country, it was learned here late last week.

# *'Honored Hundred' to Lead Fifth War Loan Drive*

(*Continued from page* 1)

bers, the "Honored 100" will be introduced to O'Donnell by Charles P. Skouras, national chairman of the industry's Fourth War Loan drive. O'Donnell, on behalf of the Fifth War Loan committee, will accept the services of the 100 showmen as a special advisory committee.

The rally will be held in the Congressional Room of the Hotel Statler at 10:30 A. M.

**Depinet Asks Aid of Exploitation Men**

Ned E. Depinet, national chairman of the Fifth War Loan committee's distribution division, over the weekend suggested to heads of all distributing companies that they request their exploitation men in the field to offer their services to local exhibitor campaign chairman.

The exploitation men's efforts will be in addition to those of all branch managers and salesmen who will contact exhibitors to enlist active participation in the campaign.

Depinet pointed out that exploitation men can do much to help influence exhibitor Fifth War Loan activity, especially in suggesting and helping to put on special events.

**O'Donnell in Capital From Hollywood**

R. J. O'Donnell, national chairman of the industry's Fifth War Loan committee, is expected to arrive in Washington today from Hollywood where he has been conferring with industry groups on their participation in the forthcoming campaign. On Friday he held a meeting with Kenneth Thomson, chairman of the Hollywood Victory Committee; Franchot Tone, representing the Screen Actors Guild, and representatives of other groups.

Claude F. Lee, industry consultant to the Treasury Department, who accompanied O'Donnell to the Coast, arrived in New York at the weekend. T. R. Gamble, national director of the War Finance Division, and Robert Coyne, WFD field director accompanied him. Lee and Gamble participated with O'Donnell in the Hollywood conferences, Gamble deciding on a conference in Washington tomorrow to set up a program on which the HVC will serve.

# Chaplin Service on Selznick Affirmed

The Appellate Division of the N. Y. Supreme Court on Friday affirmed a decision by Justice Ferdinand Pecora sustaining service on Vanguard Films and David O. Selznick Prod. in a suit by Charles Chaplin arising from sales of production assets by the Selznick companies to 20th Century-Fox.

The Appellate Division affirmed the earlier findings, which had been appealed by Selznick, that the latter's companies are doing business in New York and that the service accomplished on them here is binding. The Selznick companies endeavored to show that they operate in California and should be served there and the action tried in a California court.

Indications are that an attempt may be made by Selznick's attorneys, White & Case, to carry the appeal to the Court of Appeals at Albany. Louis D. Frohlich of Schwartz & Frohlich, counsel for Chaplin, argued for the plaintiff.

## *UA Defers Control Action to May 15*

(*Continued from page* 1)

president, and Jacoby. There were no actual stockholders present.

At the meeting to be held here on the 15th, it is expected that the stockholders will act on the six resolutions aimed to shift the management from partnership control to operational control which were adopted by the board of directors in Hollywood recently.

## *RKO Buys Theatre*

RKO has purchased the RKO-Keith Theatre, White Plains, N. Y., for a reported price of almost $1,000,000, after operating the 3,200-seat theatre under lease from the sellers, H. & S. Sonn, Inc., since 1926.

# 20th Asks $613,600 Of Jennifer Jones

(*Continued from page* 1)

for work in 'Laura'," forcing the studio to delay and change plans for the production and causing its facilities to lie idle at great monetary loss.

The 20th-Fox complaint further alleges that the studio took Miss Jones, virtually unknown, and cast her in "Bernadette," which won the last Academy acting award, thereby creating for the actress a popularity which has made her worth $500,000 more to the studio in any picture they might produce during the present year, than any other player in the same role. This is the first time that anyone has attempted to set a cash value on an Academy award.

Meanwhile, Daniel T. O'Shea issued a statement declaring that Miss Jones was under a long-term exclusive contract to the Selznick studio, of which he is executive director, and adding that Frank Belcher of the law firm of Jennings and Belcher is handling the suit for her.

Belcher said, "I have accepted this service for Miss Jones. The 20th-Fox complaint definitely reveals her under contract to Selznick. This is primarily a fight between the two studios over the services of the actress. It is the outgrowth of a situation for which she is not to blame. We will file an answer in due time."

## *MPA Dinner Discussed*

Further discussion on plans for the Motion Picture Associates annual dinner-dance, to be held May 19, at the Hotel Astor, headed the agenda at a luncheon meeting held Friday at the Hotel Astor. Discussion on present group insurance, limited to $250 per person, was conducted with a view to increasing it to $1,000.

# Paramount's Debt Cut $13,000,000

(*Continued from page* 1)

of estimated earnings, issued April 6. The earnings were after deducting all charges including interest, taxes, depreciation and $2,000,000 additional reserve for contingencies. Earnings in 1942 were $14,631,650.

The 1943 earnings amounted to $4.30 per share on 3,752,136 shares of common stock outstanding on Jan. 1, 1944. The estimate last month was $4.28. The company earned $4.74 per share on 2,933,717 shares in 1942.

The consolidated balance sheet showed $22,656,222 cash as of last Jan. 1, of which $857,376 was in foreign countries other than Canada, principally in Great Britain. Total current assets were $66,137,600 and current liabilities $23,831,997, leaving a net working capital of $42,305,603.

**Debentures Retired**

On Jan. 2, 1943, Paramount had outstanding $20,332,700 of four per cent debentures due 1956. Prior to July 14, 1943, these debentures were retired in full, $698,000 by purchase and $19,634,700 by redemption at 103 per cent and accrued interest. Funds for this purpose were provided by a $15,000,000 new borrowing at interest rates ranging from one and one-half per cent to three per cent annually, the balance being provided out of current funds. Through prepayments out of current funds the new borrowing was reduced to $10,000,000 on Jan. 1, 1944. This amount is payable $1,000,000 annually during the years 1949 through 1958, and in addition by annual sinking fund payments commencing on May 15, 1944. This debt has been presently reduced to $8,000,000 by additional prepayments since Jan. 1, 1944.

## *Seeks Hollywood Aid On Films for Europe*

Robert Riskin, head of the overseas films division of the OWI, who left for Hollywood on Friday will confer on his arrival there with studio and production officials on the making of special psychological films for OWI use in liberated countries and Germany following the invasion. A number of the films will be made by Hollywood studios while others will be made by OWI here and abroad.

## *Local 2 Officers Continue*

CHICAGO, May 7.—Continuing in the offices that they have held for more than 20 years in the IATSE, Local 2, are Larry Cassidy, president; William L. Schraut, vice-president, and Frank C. Olsen, secretary, after results were tabulated in the biennial election Wednesday.

## *Lt. Bernhard Marries*

Lt. Jack Bernhard, son of Joseph Bernhard, Warner vice-president, was married to Jean Gillie, British stage and motion picture actress in London at the weekend, according to press dispatches received here. Lt. Bernhard is a former producer and assistant director for Universal.

## *Fennell Succeeds Bloom*

SEATTLE, May 7.—Warren L. Fennell has been appointed field supervisor of Warners' film checking service for the Seattle and Portland areas, succeeding Alfred Bloom.

# 'U' Key Studio Meet Instead of National

(*Continued from page* 1)

New York or Chicago. Product conferences will be held at the studio.

Among those who will attend will be, in addition to Scully, E. T. Gomersall, his assistant, and divisional sales managers F. J. A. McCarthy, Fred Meyers and A. J. O'Keefe.

"In eliminating a general sales convention and having this meeting at the studio, though the attendance is limited to our key executives, we believe that we are not only cooperating with the Government in the matter of transportation so vital to the war effort, but at the same time we believe we are doing something most constructive for our entire sales organization," said Scully.

**"Visit the 'Factory'"**

"Inasmuch as all other businesses appreciate the value of having sales executives visit the 'factory' to view the merchandise, we believe it is most important for our key sales executives to attend a meeting at our manufacturing center where they may see first hand what is going on.

"Furthermore," continued Scully, "it is part of our tradition to have a close coordination between sales and studio. In the past seven years our studio has welcomed the sales department's point of view on any problem. The approaching meeting exemplifies our belief in bringing to our studio officials first hand the ideas our sales people have assimilated from exhibitors and audiences." Scully will leave May 22 for California and upon his arrival at the studio will make known further details of the meeting.

"U" will announce plans for the coming year in a few days.

## $1,500 Pay Tribute to Eddie Cantor Here

Show business honored Eddie Cantor last night for his contributions over 35 years to entertainment and charitable welfare, at a testimonial dinner at the Hotel Astor here. Fifteen hundred attended the dinner, which was sponsored by Actors Equity, American Federation Radio Artists, Screen Actors Guild, American Guild of Variety Artists, ASCAP, Catholic Actors Guild, Episcopal Actors Guild, Negro Actors Guild and the Jewish Theatrical Guild.

## Clark D. Brown Dies, Supervised Houses

ASHTABULA, O.—Clark D. Brown, 66, supervisory manager of five theatres of the Jamestown Amusement Co., in the three Ohio cities of Ashtabula, Geneva and Conneaut, died here at the weekend.

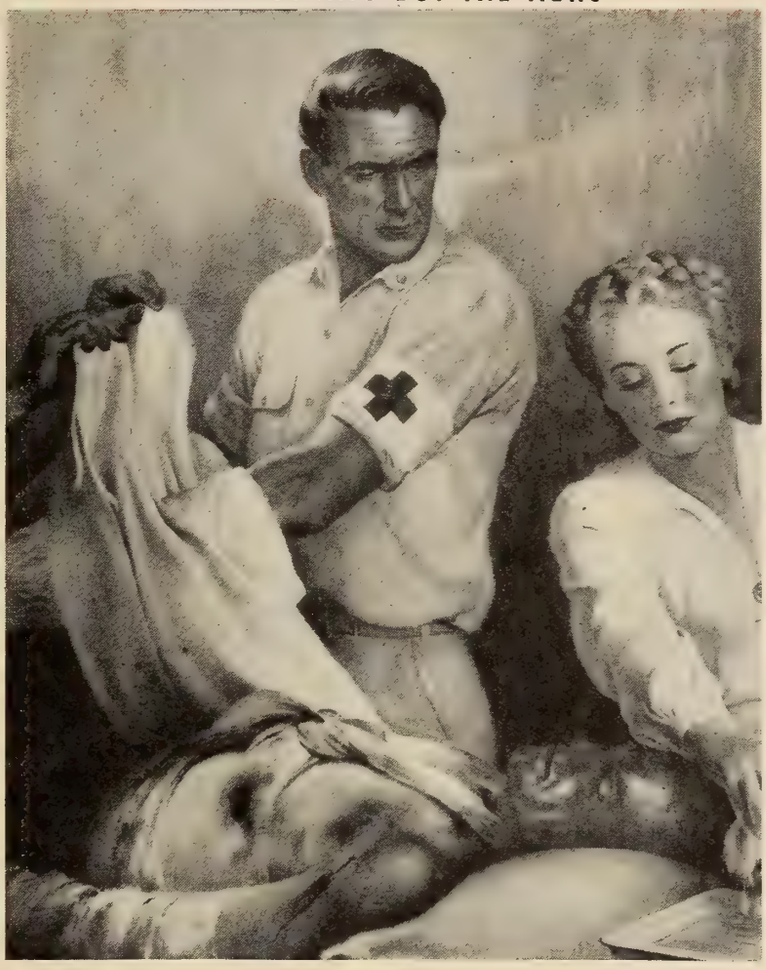
Brown is survived by a wife and two daughters.

## $69,160 Paid to Yates

PHILADELPHIA, May 7.—Consolidated Film Industries, Inc., paid Herbert J. Yates, president, $69,160 during the past fiscal year, its annual report, filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission, disclosed at the weekend. Republic Productions, Inc., wholly owned subsidiary, paid M. J. Siegel, president, $65,060.


Paramount NEWS

AND NOTHING BUT THE NEWS



HERE'S BLACK-AND-WHITE PHOTO OF GORGEOUS FULL-COLOR PAINTING DELIVERED TODAY BY FAMED ARTIST JOHN FALTER FOR SPECIAL NATION-WIDE PROMOTION OF CECIL B. DE MILLE'S THE STORY OF DR. WASSELL IT'LL BE USED IN DISPLAYS IN DRUG STORES AND ALLIED OUTLETS COAST TO COAST. IS'NT THAT A SWELL LIKENESS OF "COOP"? BLOND BEAUTY IS SIGNE HASSO- AND YOU SHOULD SEE HER IN TECHNICOLOR.


# Coast Flashes

*Hollywood, May 7.*

NICHOLAS M. SCHENCK, M-G-M president, is expected to arrive here on Friday.

•

Roy Disney, general manager of Walt Disney Prod., planes to Mexico City today to arrange the Inter-American premiere and exploitation of "Gay Caballeros," next Disney feature which is being made ready for Fall release. William Levy, Walt Disney executive, is due here next week to discuss sales plans.

•

Seymour Nebenzal, independent producer, Superchiefed at the weekend for New York with a print of "Summer Storm." He will confer with United Artists home office executives.

•

E. D. Leshon will produce "Torch Song," a Betty Hutton starrer, announced by Paramount at the weekend.

•

Ann Harris has been named Selznick-Vanguard research department head.

•

Robert Riskin, overseas chief of the Office of War Information, will arrive on Monday.

## Decision Reserved on Academy Settlement

Federal Judge John C. Knox on Friday reserved decision on a proposed settlement asking restoration to receivers of Fox Theatres Corp. of certain assets, including the lease of the Academy of Music Theatre here held by Skouras theatres and Ktima Corp.

The settlement would set aside an order by Federal Judge Martin Manton of the U. S. Circuit Court of Appeals thus voiding transfer of assets to the two corporations. The order on Jan. 12, 1937 approved the sale of the Academy of Music lease to Skouras for $155,000. At the time, Skouras, under the lease which expires in 1956, was paying Fox theatres an annual rental of $175,000 plus taxes and other costs.

## WB Names Bekeris Central-Amer. Chief

Sam Bekeris, for the past two years in the Argentine film field, has been appointed by Warner Bros. to the post of district supervisor for Central America and the West Coast of South America, including Peru, Bolivia, Ecuador, Colombia and Panama.

Bekeris, in addition to activities in South America, has been in the film business in Spain, Yugoslavia, Czechoslovakia and the Baltic States. He left over the weekend for Lima, Peru, where he will have headquarters.

## Mrs. Sarah Finey Dead

Mrs. Sarah Finey, mother of James Finey, contract manager for the Walt Disney New York office, died at her Manhattan residence late last week. Funeral services will be held at St. Francis Xavier Church, West 16th Street, at 10:00 A. M. today.

# THE ALMIGHTY SOCK



Sock that old apple for a Texas-league
—in receipts . . . Clean those bases—and brin
in the ticket-buyers . . . Hits are what count—i
show business too . . . This game is just as excitin
as baseball . . . Only there's more chance to foul ou
—with cockeyed showmanship . . . Or get caught off bas
—by careless promotion . . . Or get beaned—by a bum a
. . . . So pile up a champ batting average—with fool-proo
Advertising . . . Bust that old house record over the fence . .
Knock the cover off . . . Win your game . . . Win it the way al
smart players in this business win—with good Advertising.

NATIONAL Screen SERVICE
PRIZE BABY OF THE INDUSTRY

First in Film and Radio News Brief, Accurate and Impartial

# MOTION PICTURE DAILY

Alert, Intelligent and Indispensable to the Motion Picture Industry

VOL. 55. NO. 91 NEW YORK, U. S. A., TUESDAY, MAY 9, 1944 TEN CENTS

## 63 State Bond Chairmen Set By O'Donnell

### *Theatre Field Chairmen Named for 5th Drive*

R. J. O'Donnell, chairman of the national motion picture industry Fifth War Loan committee, yesterday completed the roster of exhibitor state chairmen who have been appointed to serve in the drive June 12-July 8. The 63 chairmen follow:

Alabama, Mack Jackson, Alexander City; Arizona, Harry Nace, Phoenix; Arkansas, co-chairmen, M. S. McCord and Claude Mundo, Little Rock; Southern California, Dave Bershon, Los Angeles; Northern California, Charles M. Thall, San Francisco; Colorado, Rick Ricketson, Denver; Connecticut, Harry F. Shaw, New Haven; Delaware, Lewis S. Black, Wilmington; Florida, J. L. Cartwright, Tampa; Georgia, Nat Williams, Thomasville; Idaho, Nevin McCord, Boise; Illinois, J. J. Rubens, Chicago.

Also: Indiana, Don Rossiter, In-

(*Continued on page* 11)

## 80 of 'Honored 100' Are Independents

WASHINGTON, May 8.—More than 80 of the 'Honored 100' theatre owners are independent operators, it was disclosed today by War Activities Committee spokesmen here to greet the top 'E'-bond sellers of the Fourth War Loan campaign who are arriving as guests of the industry and the Treasury Department for their bond-selling performances.

The 100 will set up their advisory committee tomorrow to work with the Fifth War Loan industry group. Robert W. Selig, assistant industry campaign director for the Fourth War

(*Continued on page* 11)

## *16,000 Theatres Set To Open 'Wac Week'*

The 16,000 theatres of the theatres division of the War Activities Committee, "are prepared as a single unit" to begin the Women's Army Corps recruiting drive on Thursday, Edward L. Alperson, general chairman for the campaign, said here yesterday.

The mass induction of 100 young women into the Wacs in Times Square at noon tomorrow will set the keynote

(*Continued on page* 12)

### *86 Shorts Again From WB in '44-45*

**Warner Bros.' short subject program for the 1944-45 season will consist of 86, the same as this season, according to present company plans.**

**Schedule will consist of 18 two-reelers and 68 one-reelers, with approximately 70 per cent of the subjects filmed in Technicolor.**

## Salkay-UA Contract To E. L. Alperson

Edward L. Alperson, who recently resigned as general manager of RKO Theatres, has bought into Salkay Corp., formed six months ago by Edward J. Peskay and others, and has taken over its contract to produce six films this year for United Artists, it was learned here yesterday.

Production, it is understood, will start on the West Coast this Summer in fulfillment of the contract entered into with UA six months ago. The contract called for "exploitation" features, one hour in length, to be delivered by November, 1944.

Peskay was reluctant to talk yesterday about the deal but did not deny that it had been consummated.

Alperson and Peskay have been

(*Continued on page* 12)

## Weather Drives N.Y. Grosses Downward; 'Way' Gets $102,000

Unseasonable warm weather coupled with heavy Sunday showers are affecting current week's grosses at downtown New York first-run theatres. But while off the highly profitable pace of recent weeks receipts are generally above average.

Unaffected, however, is the Paramount Theatre where the first week of "Going My Way" and a stage show headed by Charlie Spivak and his band will bring about $102,000. This is considerably below the record set by "Lady in the Dark" but is well on the profitable side. The combined

(*Continued on page* 12)

## BMI Adding to 200 Films Made Yearly

The British Ministry of Information's film division plans to continue its present production rate of some 200 subjects yearly but with a footage increase this year, J. L. Beddington, director of the film division said here yesterday. Beddington arrived here from London over the weekend for a month to six weeks' visit, which will take him to Washington, Chicago and Hollywood.

Beddington explained that British

(*Continued on page* 11)

## Clark Calling For Showdown On the Decree

### *Will Report to Biddle on Hazen-Distributor Talks*

WASHINGTON, May 8.—Arrangements for what may be the final meeting between Department of Justice officials and representatives of the distributors on revision of the consent decree are expected to be made tomorrow or the next day, and before the end of the week a decision may have been made as to whether the negotiations are to be prolonged any further.

At an informal meeting in a local hotel yesterday, Assistant U. S. Attorney General Tom C. Clark and Joseph Hazen, liaison for the decree distributors, in Washington on other business, discussed the situation briefly and it was agreed that Hazen, upon his return to New York and after conferring with company officials,

(*Continued on page* 11)

## 13 More Areas Need Theatres, Says OCR

WASHINGTON, May 8.—Thirteen locations in California where there "is an appearance of a need for theatres" have been added to the scores previously reported by the Office of Civilian Requirements, and the War Production Board has announced that if more thorough investigation shows there is actually a need for additional facilities construction permits will be issued to applicants who have the necessary seats on hand, and preferably also the required projection equipment.

The locations reported by the OCR are in the North-Glendale-Burbank area, Englewood, Long Beach-North Long Beach, Ventura County, San Diego and certain areas of Los Angeles.

## *Riskin Asks 12 Films For Freed Nations*

HOLLYWOOD, May 8.—Robert Riskin, Office of War Information overseas motion picture chief, arrived here today seeking technical talent for OWI production of documentaries in New York and London for use immediately behind the invasion forces in liberated countries.

Riskin said he had a number of sug-

(*Continued on page* 11)

## *Increased U. S. Tax Felt Mostly in Small Places*

More than a month having passed since the increased one-cent-on-five Federal theatre admission tax went into effect, exhibitors in the larger cities report little or no decline in business resulting directly from the new levy, a checkup by MOTION PICTURE DAILY field correspondents reveals.

**However, in smaller non-war area communities, where more conservative spending habits prevail, some slight decreases have been noted at boxoffices.**

The industry's experience contrasts with that of the night clubs and the like, which, hit by a 30 per cent tax have been closing in large numbers right and left, eliminating floor shows in scores of instances and petitioning Washington for relief.

Several explanations are given for the failure of the tax to affect mo-

(*Continued on page* 12)

### *Free Films Again For Bond Shows*

**The industry's Fifth War Loan committee here will shortly announce the agreement of distributors to again furnish current productions, free, to exhibitors for their specific use with individual theatre "Bond Premieres" during the Fifth War Loan drive, as they did in previous campaigns.**

**Exhibitors may select a feature from pictures made available by any of the participating distributors, regardless of whether the exhibitor is a customer of the company whose picture he selects.**

## Australia Booming, Stuart Reports

LOS ANGELES, May 8.—Australian theatre attendance is at a peak, the personnel problem is acute, and taxation is up in step with patronage to a point that leaves exhibitors about the same part of the dollar as remains with American exhibitors, according to Herschel Stuart, here to confer with Charles P. Skouras after three years in Australia as National Theatres executive in charge of its Hoyt circuit interests.

Newsprint shortage has reduced theatre display advertising to virtually directory dimensions, according to Stuart, but a public hungry for entertainment has learned how to look for the small ads which are the biggest that can be used.

Manpower shortage, accountable for assignment of 32 of the Hoyt circuit's 160 theatres to women for management, has a direct effect upon public entertainment habits as well. One result of the manpower draft, which includes men and women up to 45, is extremely light matinee business, although an increase in the evening offsets this.

Stuart will remain here two or three weeks, going then to New York for continuing conferences before returning to Australia.

## *Defer Newsreel Pact Until Casey Returns*

Negotiations between newsreel company heads and representatives of New York and Chicago newsreel cameramen IATSE locals for a new contract are not expected to be resumed here until Pat Casey, film company labor contact, returns from California in about 10 days. Film company presidents Nicholas M. Schenck, Barney Balaban and N. Peter Rathvon have gone to the Coast for negotiations under Casey's direction with American Federation of Musicians' studio local which is asking for studio staff orchestras ranging from 25 men in the smaller studios to 35 in the larger studios, and other conditions. James C. Petrillo, AFM head, is handling the local's demands.

Stumbling block in the newsreel cameramen negotiations here is the demand of the cameramen for severance pay based on length of service.

## *Griffis Heads Allied Mission to Sweden*

Stanton Griffis, Paramount executive committee chairman, who was granted leave to head the motion picture section of the Office of War Information in Washington, is expected shortly in Stockholm as a representative of the U. S. Foreign Economic Administration, according to Associated Press dispatches reaching here yesterday from Sweden.

Griffis is expected to implement Allied pressure on Sweden to stop its ball-bearing trade with Germany by confidential talks with leading Swedish exporters, it was learned. He probably will be accompanied by British experts, it was indicated.

# *Personal Mention*

LARRY KENT, executive assistant to Spyros Skouras, president of 20th Century-Fox, has returned to New York from London.

•

MAX MILDER, Warners' Eastern managing director in Great Britain, arrived in New York yesterday from London for a stay of several weeks.

•

J. H. BUSTIN, owner-manager of the Imperial, Windsor, Nova Scotia, has resumed direction of his theatre after an eight months' illness.

•

IRVING A. MAAS, 20th Century-Fox assistant director of foreign distribution, is due back in New York from Mexico City on May 20.

•

LT. ROBERT RIPPS, son of RALPH RIPPS of M-G-M's Albany exchange, has been reported as missing in action in Germany.

•

DR. HERMAN LISSAUER, Warner studio research department head, will arrive in New York today from Hollywood.

•

MURRAY HOWARD, manager of the Palace, South Norwalk, Conn., has become engaged to LILLIAN KRANTZ, Hartford.

•

ROBERT ROBINSON, manager of the Plymouth, Worcester, Mass., is on a four months' leave of absence due to illness.

•

JULES LAPIDUS, Warners' Eastern sales division manager, left last night for Pittsburgh and Philadelphia.

•

NORMAN ELSON, Trans-Lux vice-president, will return to New York today from Philadelphia.

•

HARRY GOLDBERG, Warner Theatres' director of advertising-publicity, was in Philadelphia yesterday.

•

FRANK SINATRA is in Mt. Sinai Hospital here recovering from a throat infection.

•

JESSE L. LASKY, Warner producer, has returned to the Coast.

ALFRED E. DAFF, Universal foreign supervisor, returned to New York from London over the weekend.

•

ROBERT MOCHRIE, RKO general sales manager, and NAT LEVY, Eastern division sales manager, left yesterday for a tour of the company's Southern branches.

•

LOUIS B. MAYER, accompanied by JACK POTTER, MGM studio publicist, will leave for the Coast today, following a visit of several weeks here.

•

J. R. MILLER of the Lorimor, Lorimor, La., is recovering in Iowa Methodist Hospital, Des Moines, from injuries suffered in a recent fire.

•

A. M. ELLIS, Philadelphia independent circuit head, became a grandfather recently; when a son was born to MR. and MRS. SIDNEY H. ELLIS.

•

J. O. SCOTT, owner of the Weston, Toronto, is a grandfather, a son having been born to MR. and MRS. F. O. PRESCOTT, Prescott, Ont.

•

HARRY E. WEINER, Columbia Philadelphia branch manager, has returned to that city after a three weeks' vacation in Mississippi.

•

BEN GOETZ, M-G-M British studio managing director, left New York yesterday for two weeks in Hollywood.

•

SHIRLEY SOGG, daughter of JACK SOGG, M-G-M's Cleveland manager, was married Sunday to DR. FRED SOLDOW.

•

MORRIS L. ERNST, film attorney, returned to New York from London over the weekend.

•

WILLIAM N. SKIRBALL of the Skirball Circuit, Cleveland, is visiting in New York.

•

SAM GALANTY, Columbia district manager, was a recent visitor in Cleveland.

•

FRANK ORSATTI, agent, will leave here for Hollywood today.

## *20th Renews Jessel's Pact as Producer*

Twentieth Century-Fox has renewed George Jessel's producer contract, Darryl F. Zanuck, vice-president in charge of production, announced here prior to his return to the Coast at the weekend.

Jessel, currently in New York on company business, is working on three films, "Kitten on the Keys," "Dolly Sisters" and "O. Henry."

## *Arne Rockvam Rites Held*

Funeral services were held at the weekend in the Funeral Church here for Arne Olav Rockvam, sound engineer for Warner Theatres, who died last week at his home following a heart attack.

## *Louis Goldberg to RKO Home Office*

J. M. Brennan, general manager of RKO's Metropolitan Theatres, disclosed yesterday that Louis Goldberg, New York zone manager, has been appointed a home office executive.

Charles B. McDonald, who has been in the home office for several months, will supervise RKO theatres in Brooklyn, Queens and the lower Manhattan area.

## *Columbia Drops Motion*

BUFFALO, May 8.—Columbia, following its elimination, along with United Artists and Universal, from the Government's anti-trust suit against the Schine Chain Theatres, Inc., has withdrawn its motion for postponement of the trial in Federal District Court here from May 19 until next fall.

## Controversy Delays Ky. Tax Proposal

FRANKFORT, Ky., May 8.—Governor Simeon Willis, who failed to call the Kentucky legislature into special session today as scheduled because of a budget deadlock between himself and opposition party leaders in both branches since adjournment of the regular session last March 15, declared that he would not issue the call unless the opposing factions indicated a willingness to enact a school-financing program, to which the session would be exclusively devoted.

Majority of the legislators frown upon the edict, and contend that they will concur only if a general budget is considered. The general budget, which includes an increase of 10 per cent to the state admission tax, previously passed the Senate, but was defeated by the House on the day of adjournment.


NEW YORK THEATRES

RADIO CITY MUSIC HALL
50th St. & 6th Ave.
RITA HAYWORTH • GENE KELLY
"COVER GIRL"
in TECHNICOLOR . A Columbia Picture
Music by Jerome Kern
Lyrics by Ira Gershwin
Gala Stage Show . Symphony Orchestra
1st Mezzanine Seats Reserved. Circle 6-4600

Held Over 3rd Week

EXTRA! THE IRISH QUESTION! LATEST MARCH OF TIME
RELEASED BY 20th CENTURY-FOX
RADIO CITY MUSIC HALL

RKO PALACE B'WAY & 47th St.
STARTS TOMORROW
"SHOW BUSINESS"
Eddie Cantor — George Murphy
Joan Davis — Nancy Kelly

Paramount presents
"GOING MY WAY"
with BING CROSBY and RISE STEVENS
In Person CHARLES SPIVAK Tip tap & Toe
WESSON BROS.
PARAMOUNT Times Square

LOEW'S STATE B'WAY & 45
ON SCREEN
First N. Y. Showing
'ANDY HARDY'S BLONDE TROUBLE'
MICKEY ROONEY
BONITA GRANVILLE
IN PERSON
MILT BRITTON and BAND
BENAY VENUTA


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# SHOW BUSINESS

## is great,

## *thank you!*



# THE STARDUSTED ROMANCE OF AMERICAN ENTERTAINMENT!

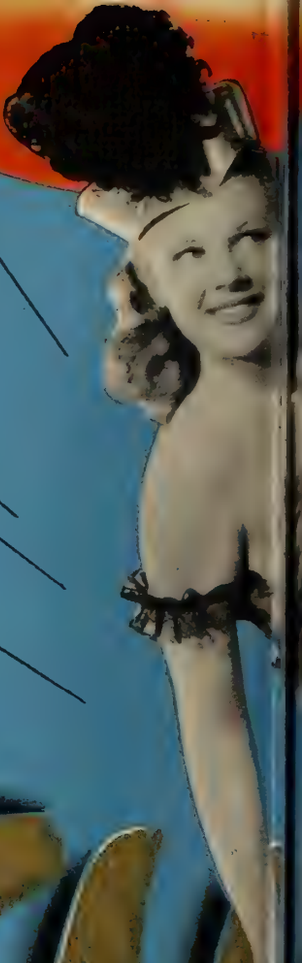
*. . . from Burlesque to Broadway.*

*. . . from the Bowery to Big Time . . .*

*. . . from Then to Now!*

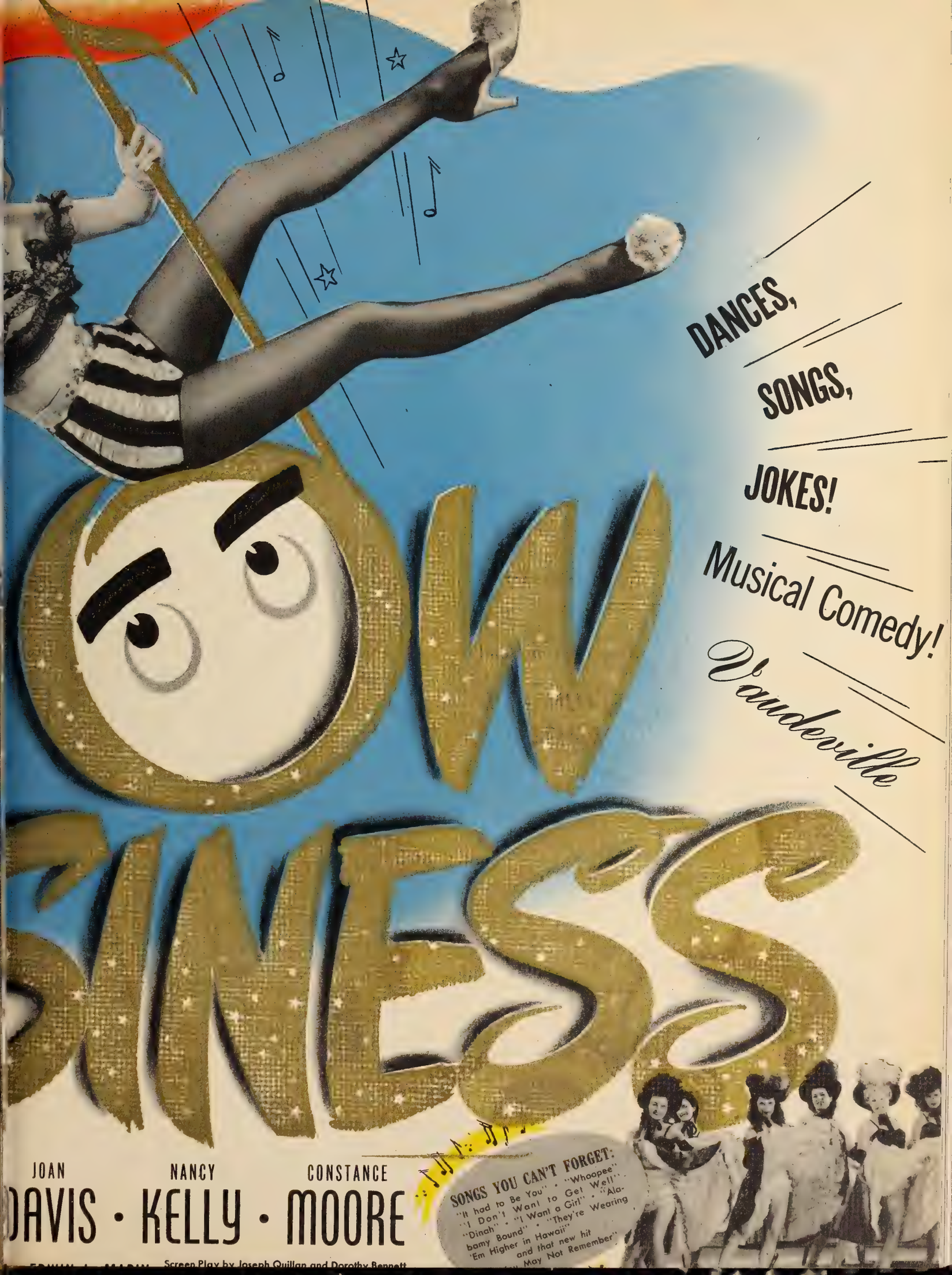
**FAME, FUN AND FOOTLIGHTS!**





Sti
Bu

EDDIE CANTOR · GEORGE MURPHY


DANCES,
SONGS,
JOKES!
Musical Comedy!
Vaudeville
SHOW
BUSINESS
JOAN
DAVIS · NANCY
KELLY · CONSTANCE
MOORE
SONGS YOU CAN'T FORGET:
"It had to Be You" • "Whoopee"
"I Don't Want to Get Well"
"Dinah" • "I Want a Girl" • "Alabamy Bound" • "They're Wearing 'Em Higher in Hawaii"
and that new hit
"... May Not Remember"
Screen Play by Joseph Quillan and Dorothy Bennett

*. . . Where Else For The Spectacular World Premiere Than The Shrine of All Showdom . . .*

# THE PALACE

**GALA OPENING** ~~THURSDAY, MAY 11~~ **WEDNESDAY, MAY 10,** at the house where show business reached its zenith . . . the most famous theatre in New York, whose walls have echoed the talents of more great stars than any one other spot in the world!









Come on backstage when famous show-folk mix music, dancing, songs, laughs, girls and glamour . . . to tell the real story of make-believe . . . from Main St. to Broadway!

RKO RADIO PICTURES

# 'Buffalo Bill' Sets Pace in Cincinnati

CINCINNATI, May 8. — "Buffalo Bill" is grossing an approximate $16,000 on a nine-day run at the RKO Palace, with weekend returns at most of other houses pointing downward.

Estimated receipts for the week ending May 10-13:

**"Tampico" (20th-Fox)**
RKO ALBEE—(3,300) (50c-60c-70c-85c-95c) 7 days, plus Saturday midnight show. Stage: Shep Field's orchestra, Mary Beth Hughes, Johnny Burke, Berry Brothers. Gross: $21,500. (Average: $22,000).

**"The Adventures of Mark Twain" (WB)**
RKO CAPITOL—(2,000) (30c-40c-50c-76c-$1.10) 7 days, plus Saturday midnight show. Gross: $12,500. (Average, at 44c-50c-60c-70c: $10,000).

**"The Whistler" (Col.)**
**"Beneath Western Skies" (Rep.)**
RKO FAMILY—(1,000) (30c-40c) 4 days. Gross: $1,500. (Average: $1,600).

**"That Natzi Nuisance" (UA)**
**"Sweethearts of the U.S.A. (Mono.)**
RKO FAMILY—(1,000) (30c-40c) 3 days. Gross: $700. (Average: $800).

**"Shine On, Harvest Moon" (WB)**
RKO GRAND—(1,500) (44c-50c-60c-70c) 7 days, plus Saturday midnight show. Gross: $8,000. (Average: $9,500).

**"It Happened Tomorrow" (UA)**
KEITH'S—(1,500) (44c-50c-60c-70c) 9 days, 2nd week, moveover from the Palace. Gross: $5,500. (Average, 7 days: $5,000).

**"Tunisian Victory" (M-G-M-BMI)**
**"You Can't Ration Love" (Para.)**
RKO LYRIC—(1,400) (44c-50c-60c-70c) 7 days, plus Saturday midnight show. Gross: $6,500. (Average: $5,500).

**"Buffalo Bill" (20th-Fox)**
RKO PALACE—(2,700) (44c-50c-60c-70c) 9 days, plus Saturday midnight show. Gross: $16,000. (Average, 7 days: $15,000).

**"Cover Girl" (Col.)**
RKO SHUBERT—(2,150) (44c-50c-60c-70c) 7 days, 4th week, 3rd at this house, following initial week at the Palace. Gross: $4,500. (Average: $5,000).

## Heads of Posa Here To Talk to RKO

Samtiago Reachi, president, and Jacques Gelman, general manager of Posa Films, Mexico City, arrived in New York yesterday from Mexico and Hollywood for conferences with RKO home office officials concerning the recently announced deal between the two companies for the production of a picture starring Cantinflas, Mexican comedy star, which will be made at RKO Radio studios in Hollywood. The picture, which will be Cantinflas' first in an English language production, will utilize both American and Mexican talent and will probably get under way within the next four months.

The deal, which has been under consideration for a year, was concluded last week in Hollywood with Reachi and Gelman representing Posa and Charles Koerner and Phil Reisman representing RKO.

## Screen Stars Flee Country Club Fire

HOLLYWOOD, May 8.—A number of film stars were among 300 guests driven from dinner when fire broke out in the Hillcrest Country Club here last night.

The blaze, which destroyed the clubhouse, resulted in damages estimated at $140,000.

Al Jolson, Danny Kaye, George Burns, the Marx Brothers, Mervyn LeRoy and the Ritz brothers were among the celebrities dining when the fire started.

# Review

## "The Contender"

*(PRC Pictures)*

*Hollywood, May 8*

STRUNG on a straight story line held taut by tight direction, this melodrama of the prizefight field delivers a plentitude of entertainment in its 63 minutes. Buster Crabbe as the principal fighter and Arline Judge as the girl reporter in love with him top a cast of capable players who do right by their lines and the audience. It's one of the best pictures to come from PRC to date.

The screenplay by George Sayre, Jay Doten and Raymond Schrock casts Crabbe as a truck driver who enters the boxing ring to earn money to keep his small, motherless son in military academy. Success goes to his head, and a golddigger, played by Julie Gibson, shows him more bright lights than are good for his boxing or bankroll, but faithful folks who knew him when life was simpler stand by and pick him up when he gets all the way down. The tale is familiar in outline, but different in detail.

Bert Sternbach produced, getting utmost values from his budget, and Sam Newfield directed tellingly. Donald Mayo, Glenn Strange, Milton Kibbee, Roland Drew, Sam Flint, Duke York and George Turner are seen in support.

Running time, 63 minutes. "G."* Release date, May 10.

WILLIAM R. WEAVER

**"G" denotes general classification.*

## 'Show Business' Bows Tonight at Palace

Screen, stage and radio stars and executives will attend an invitation Broadway premiere tonight at the Palace of RKO Radio's "Show Business," Eddie Cantor's initial effort as a producer.

Film, radio and advertising executives invited include Neil Agnew, Walton C. Ament, Jules Brulatour, Ned Depinet, Jack Cohn, Leopold Friedman, John Hertz, Jr., Ben Kalmenson, Harry Kalmine, Walter Branson, Jules Levey, James Mulvey, Carl Milliken, S. Barret McCormick, Walter Reade, Charles Reagan, Robert Mochrie, Edward C. Raftery, Nat Levy, Edgar Kobak, Harry Brandt, Alfred J. McCosker, Frederic Ullman, Jr., among others.

## SLRB Ends Hearing On RKO Union Plea

Hearings were concluded here at the weekend before the State Labor Relations Board on the petition of the new Motion Picture Theatre Operating Managers, Assistants and Cashiers, to be declared the collective bargaining agent for those workers in RKO New York theatres. Also involved in the hearings was the attempt of the IATSE to separate cashiers and others from the bargaining unit claimed by the new union.

A decision by the SLRB is not expected for several weeks with the board expected to order an election after deciding upon the IATSE's jurisdictional claims.

## Lardner Sees Winners

Ring Lardner, Jr., who has written the screenplay for Lester Cowan's production of "Tomorrow the World," United Artists' release, is here conferring on filming plans with James Gow and Arnaud D'Usseau, authors of the drama. Gow and D'Usseau will receive a medal on Friday from the Theatre Club of New York, which selected "Tomorrow the World" as the season's best play.

## Bruno Here to Buy Theatre Equipment

Julio R. Bruno, Puerto Rican exhibitor, now visiting in New York, disclosed here yesterday that he and his associates are planning the formation of a large circuit, both first-run and subsequent-run houses on that island. Bruno is here to purchase new or used theatre equipment, principally sound and projector equipment, seats, replacement parts, curtains and other materials.

Bruno, who now operates three theatres there, revealed that he is concluding negotiations for the leasing of three 1,000 seat houses and, further, that he has acquired two large plots, one in San Juan and the other at Cayey, where he will build a 1,600 and a 1,000 seat theatre, respectively. While here he will endeavor to obtain approval from the Office of Civilian Requirements, for the immediate construction for the theatre in Cayey. A warehouse at the Roosevelt housing project in Puerto Rico, where thousands of the country's citizens reside, will be converted into an 800 seat house, he added.

## $72,583 for Red Cross

LOS ANGELES, May 8.—Independent theatres in this area have turned in $72,583 to date to the industry's Red Cross drive, including $1,075 derived from RKO Victory shorts. It is indicated that the $90,000 quota will be met.

## Illinois Gives $257,289

CHICAGO, May 8.—Red Cross collections reported for Illinois to date total $257,289, for the recent industry drive. Local contributions amounted to $161,301, the remaining sum having been collected in the other 600 theatres throughout the state and among members of the industry here.

## Anderson, Booker, Dies

OMAHA, May 8.—Gustaf Anderson, booker at the Paramount exchange here, died recently from a heart ailment.

# Coast Flashes

*Hollywood, May 8.*

DARRYL F. ZANUCK arrived here today from the East.

•

M-G-M has bought "Twice Blessed," an original screenplay which Arthur Field will produce with the Wilde twins starred; also "A Likely Story," an original comedy by Jay Dratler and Earl Felton. Robert Young will star in the latter.

•

RKO has purchased "Power of Darkness," a Marion Parsonett original, which Niven Busch will produce under executive producer Jack Gross. Paul Henreid and Maureen O'Hara will be co-starred in the film.

•

Donna Reed will play the feminine lead in M-G-M's "Music for Millions." Marsha Hunt and Madeleine LeBeau have also been added to the cast.

•

Monogram has picked up the option on Raymond Hatton, featured in the Western series starring Johnny Mack Brown.

•

Edward Golden returned here from the East today. "The Master Race," a proposed Golden production, is now ready to proceed.

•

Trem Carr, head of Monogram production, arrived here today from New York.

•

Columbia has added "A Guy, a Gal and a Pal" to Wallace MacDonald's schedule.

•

Pat Casey, producers' labor contact, returned here today from New York.

## Sauter Chairman of Entertainment Group

The appointment of James Sauter as chairman of the newly formed entertainment industry section of the Treasury's War Finance Committee for New York, has been announced by Nevil Ford, state chairman.

The providing of talent, production of special shows, preparation of scripts and other forms of Fifth War Loan participation by stars of screen, stage and radio, will be the function of this committee, Ford explained.

Sauter has participated in all war bond drives to date as a representative of entertainment. He has also served as executive director of the United Theatrical War Activities Committee, is Eastern representative of the Hollywood Victory Committee and chairman of the entertainment committee of the American Theatre Wing's Stage Door Canteens.

Plans of the entertainment industry division and appointments of committee chairmen will be announced by Sauter at a luncheon at Toots Shor's on Monday, May 15.

## Wittman Services Held

Funeral services for Sigbert Wittman, formerly of Universal's sales department here, were held Sunday at Campbell's Funeral Home. Wittman died Thursday.

# 'Mark Twain' Soars To Fine $32,500 In San Francisco

SAN FRANCISCO, May 8.—"Adventures of Mark Twain" headed toward an excellent $32,500 at the Paramount. Next best, on averages, was Orpheum's $19,800 for the opening week of "Follow the Boys." "Jam Session" and a stage show was good for $25,500 at the Golden Gate.

Estimated receipts for the week ending May 8-10:

**"Up in Mabel's Room" (UA)**
**"Hat Check Honey" (Univ.)**
UNITED ARTISTS—(1,200) (45c-65c-85c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $12,500. (Average: $11,000).
**"Dark Command"**
WARFIELD—(2,680) (45c-65c-85c) 7 days. Stage: vaudeville. Gross: $23,400. (Average: $21,800).
**"Jam Session" (Col.)**
GOLDEN GATE—(2,850) (45c-65c-85c) 7 days. Stage: vaudeville. Gross: $25,500. (Average: $25,000).
**"Uncertain Glory" (WB)**
**"Jamboree" (Rep.)**
FOX—(5,000) (45c-65c-85c) 7 days. Gross: $22,600. (Average: $24,000).
**"Standing Room Only" (Para.)**
**"You Can't Ration Love" (Para.)**
STATE—(2,306) (45c-65c-85c) 7 days, 3rd week. Gross: $11,000. (Average: $12,100).
**"Buffalo Bill" (20th-Fox)**
ST. FRANCIS—(1,400) (45c-65c-85c) 7 days, 2nd week, moveover from Fox. Gross: $14,800. (Average: $11,600).
**"Adventures of Mark Twain" (WB)**
PARAMOUNT—(2,740) (80c-$1.10) 7 days. Gross: $32,500. (Average: $19,600).
**"Follow the Boys" (Univ.)**
ORPHEUM—(2,440) (45c-65c-85c) 7 days. Gross: $19,800. (Average: $14,800).

# Capital Pays 'Twain', Show a Big $27,500

WASHINGTON, May 8.—"The Adventures of Mark Twain" is doing land-office business at Warners' Earle this week, heading toward an extraordinary $27,500. Hal LeRoy heads the stageshow.

Estimated receipts for the week ending May 11:

**"Andy Hardy's Blonde Trouble" (M-G-M)**
LOEW'S CAPITOL—(3,434) (35c-43c-55c-72c) 7 days. On stage: Marjorie Gainsworth; Blair and Dean. Gross: $23,000. (Average: $22,000).
**"The Woman of the Town" (UA)**
LOEW'S COLUMBIA—(1,234) (43c-55c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $6,500. (Average: $8,200).
**"Adventures of Mark Twain" (WB)**
WARNERS' EARLE (2,210) (44c-55c-85c-$1.00) 7 days. On stage: Hal LeRoy. Gross: $27,500. (Average: $19,700).
**"Up In Arms" (RKO-Goldwyn)**
RKO-KEITH'S (1,800) (35c-44c-65c-74c) 7 days, 3rd downtown week. Gross: $10,000. (Average: $15,000).
**"Phantom Lady" (Univ.)**
WARNERS' METROPOLITAN—(1,600) (35c-55c) 7 days. Gross: $8,000. (Average: $7,200).
**"See Here, Private Hargrove" (M-G-M)**
LOEW'S PALACE—(2,242) (43c-55c-65c) 7 days, 2nd downtown week. Gross: $16,000. (Average: $19,000).

## *Four Join Paramount*

MEMPHIS, May 8.—Robert Rhodes of this city and W. T. Clark of Dallas have joined Paramount's local sales department. Other additions include Larry Smith and William Morrell, shipping department.

## *Altec Contracts Schine*

The Schine Circuit, Gloversville, N. Y. has signed a new contract with Altec Service Corp., for service and parts. The contract was negotiated by J. G. Selmser of Schine, and Bert Sanford of Altec.

# *Off the Antenna*

THE television picture delivered by present-day equipment is not good enough for complete entertainment service, Gilbert Seldes, CBS director of television programs declared in an address before the 15th Annual Institute for Education by Radio in Columbus over the weekend. Citing CBS telecasting experiences in 1941-42, before the network discontinued the telecasting of "live" shows, Seldes said, "We were never able to create a dramatic program worth transmitting to the public because no technical skill could overcome the limitations of camera, transmitter and receiver."

Edgar Kobak, executive vice-president of the Blue Network, who also spoke at the Columbus meeting, said that freedom-of-the-air, which American broadcasting has taken for granted, is a subject bound with wishful thinking. . . . Officials of Balaban and Katz television station WBKB in Chicago are reported to be enthusiastic over the success of the station's first commercial program presented at the weekend. Marshall Field sponsored a style parade with Don McNeill as master of ceremonies. . . . Next meeting of the American Television Society will be held at the Hotel Capitol here Thursday evening. . . . Members of Mutual's board of directors, shareholders and executive committee opened a three-day session at the Hotel Drake in Chicago yesterday. . . . Most recent Hooper ratings place Bob Hope, Fibber McGee and Molly, Charlie McCarthy, Red Skelton and the Lux Radio Theatre as the most popular five network shows. Sponsored programs on networks of 100 or more stations, according to the Hooper organization, have practically the same ratings in the 89 cities used by Hooper as a cross-section of all American cities of 25,000 or more as they do in the 32 cities with local service from all four national networks regularly measured.

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**Purely Personal:** *Hartley L. Samuels, former director of promotion and advertising for station WHN in New York, has joined NBC to be in charge of network program promotion, including the year-round promotion of NBC's Parade of Stars. . . . James H. Nelson, assistant sales promotion manager of NBC's spot sales department, has been appointed manager of network sales promotion and will assume that post on May 15. . . . Earle McGill of CBS has been elected to the board of directors of the American Theatre Wing Service. . . .*

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**Program Notes: Warner's "Action in the North Atlantic," with George Raft and Raymond Massey in the leads, will be presented on the CBS "Lux Radio Theatre" show next Monday. . . . "Donovan's Brain," the mystery novel which provided the basis for Republic's "The Lady and the Monster," will be dramatized on the CBS "Suspense" program May 18, with Orson Welles featured. . . . William Gargan will be the May 21 guest on the Mutual "Green Valley, USA" program. . .**

## *Legion Rejects One, Six Are Acceptable*

"Teen Age," J. D. Kendis Continental production, has been placed by the Legion of Decency in Class B, objectionable in part, because of an "atmosphere of suggestiveness." Six other films were approved by the Legion.

In Class A-1, for general patronage, are: "Pardon My Rhythm," Universal; "Men of the Sea," PRC, and "Song of the Open Road," United Artists; and in Class A-2, unobjectionable for adults, are: "Gambler's Choice," Paramount; "Gaslight," M-G-M, and "Ladies in Washington," 20th Century-Fox.

## *Warners Receives Award*

The New York City Federation of Women's Clubs, at its annual conference at the Hotel Astor recently, presented to Warner Brothers its annual award to "Watch on the Rhine" as the best war picture of the year. Albert S. Howson, in charge of censorship for Warners accepted the award.

## *Mexicans Pick 'Fantasy'*

MEXICO CITY, May 8.—Universal's "Flesh and Fantasy" has been named the best foreign film to be shown in Mexico during the first quarter by the National Cinematographic Journalists' Association. At the same time, "Maria Candelaria," starring Dolores del Rio, was named the best Mexican film for the same period.

## *Todd to Film His Own Properties*

Michael Todd, theatrical producer, who recently formed his own film producing company, Michael Todd Film Productions, will spend seven months in Hollywood and the balance of each year here.

Todd plans one or two productions yearly, and will film his own theatrical properties, film rights to four of which he still retains. No distribution arrangements have as yet been set. Todd is represented by H. William Fitelson, New York film attorney.

## *Midelburg MGM Guest*

Charles Arnold Midelburg of the Capitol Theatre, Charleston, W. Va., has been selected by Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer as the "Twenty-Year M-G-M Showman," having bought, booked and played every M-G-M subject for the past 20 years.

The selection is part of the plans being developed by M-G-M to commemorate its 20-year Anniversary. Midelburg will be the guest of M-G-M at its Culver City studios. Accompanied by Mrs. Midelburg, the exhibitor will arrive in New York from Charleston on May 11. They will leave on May 12 for California.

## *O'Leary Heads Drive*

SCRANTON, Pa., May 8.—J. J. O'Leary, president of Comerford Theatres, has been reappointed to the chairmanship of the Lackawanna County drive for the National Foundation for Infantile Paralysis.

# *Hollywood*

By JACK CARTWRIGHT

*Hollywood, May 8*

MG-M has a full schedule this month. With seven now in work, five new ones will be put before the cameras within the next three weeks. New starters are "The Thin Man Goes Home," "Women in Uniform," "Airship Squadron 4," "Music for Millions," and "Son of Lassie." . . . Republic's "Man from Frisco" will follow "Standing Room Only" into the Hollywood and Downtown Paramount theatres after its tri-city world premiere in San Francisco, Oakland and Richmond, Cal. on May 18. . . . Columbia's Technicolor musical, "Tonight and Every Night," starring Rita Hayworth and Janet Blair, has a 79-day shooting schedule.

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**Sam Wood and his staff have moved back to Columbia after finishing "Casanova Brown" for William Goetz and Leo Spitz at International pictures. . . . Columbia's "By Secret Command" is now titled "Secret Command." That studio's untitled Kay Kyser musical now has a handle. It is "Battleship Blues." . . . Elena Verdugo, presently in Universal's "The Devil's Brood," is sought by William Howard for his PRC production, "When the Lights Go On Again."**

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*Comedian Keenan Wynn, son of the noted Ed Wynn, has returned from a USO-Camp tour in the China-Burma-India area to report the boys there need entertainment badly. He says they get the latest pictures as early as possible but projection equipment, which must be flown in, frequently breaks down and replacements are slow arriving. Wynn paid high tribute to Paulette Goddard, first woman performer to go to many of the jungle fronts. She is back in the U. S.*

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**Producer Jack Gross has been assigned "Mr. Angel Comes Aboard," a story of spies and mutiny aboard a ship bound from Dakar to Havana, which RKO purchased. It ran as a magazine serial and will shortly be published in book form. . . . Monogram has purchased "When Zombies Walked," which Lindsley Parsons will produce. . . . Republic has renewed Richard Arlen's contract and will star him in a new picture, as yet not decided upon. . . .**

## *Ballantine, Radio Eng'r*

Stuart Ballantine, 46, president of Ballantine Laboratories, Inc., who is accredited with many contributions to radio engineering, died yesterday at All Souls Hospital, Morristown, N. J. after a brief illness. Ballantine invented the "throat microphone" in 1938, among other items. He began in 1913 as a radio operator with Marconi. He held patents on 30 inventions.

## *Stop Theatre Truants*

PHILADELPHIA, May 8.—Theatre officials are cooperating in the juvenile delinquency problem here by assisting police and truant officers in apprehending school truants at box-offices.

# PRC

## IS PUTTING THE

# *Accent on* ENTERTAINMENT

## "CAREER GIRL" *starring* *Frances* LANGFORD

*Now Playing* LOEW • RKO • FOX *and* WARNER *Circuits*

## "MEN ON HER MIND" *with* *Mary Beth* HUGHES

*Now Playing* LOEW • RKO • FOX *and* WARNER *Circuits*

## "SHAKE HANDS WITH MURDER"

*featuring the* NATION'S NEW LAUGH TEAM • IRIS ADRIAN • FRANK JENKS

## "NABONGA" *starring* *Buster* CRABBE

*Broke* ALL RECORDS • TEXAS INTERNATIONAL CIRCUIT

## "HARVEST MELODY" *with* *Johnny* DOWNS • *Rosemary* LANE

3000 *Satisfied* exhibitors... *and* more waiting in line!

# Coast Filming Holds Strong; 46 Shooting

HOLLYWOOD, May 8.—Eleven pictures were finished and seven new ones started during the past week to bring the total before the cameras to 46. The previous week saw eight finished and 12 started, to chalk up 49 in work. The production scene follows:

**Columbia**

*Shooting:* "Kansas City Kitty," "Battleship Blues," "The Crime Doctor's Rendezvous."

*Finished:* "The Impatient Years."

**M-G-M**

*Shooting:* "Ziegfeld Follies," "Lost in a Harem," "Maisie Goes to Reno," "Mrs. Parkington," "The Picture of Dorian Gray," "Thirty Seconds Over Tokyo," "Secrets in the Dark," "National Velvet."

**Monogram**

*Started:* "Charlie Chan in the Murder Chamber," with Sidney Toler, Claudia Dell, Mantan Moreland, Ralph Peters.

*Shooting:* "A Wave, a Wac and a Marine," "Alaska."

*Finished:* "West of the Rio Grande," "Are These Our Parents?"

**Paramount**

*Shooting:* "Murder, He Says," "Two Years Before the Mast," "Dark Mountain" (Pine-Thomas).

**PRC**

*Finished:* "Delinquent Daughters."

**RKO-Radio**

*Started:* "Having Wonderful Crime," with Pat O'Brien, Carole Landis, Leonare Aubert, Chili Williams, Gloria Holden, Richard Martin.

*Shooting:* "Tall in the Saddle," "That Hunter Girl," "None But the Lonely Heart," "Heavenly Days," "Belle of the Yukon" (International); "Woman in the Window" (formerly "Once Off Guard") International, "Princess and the Pirates," "Sylvester the Great" (Goldwyn).

**Republic**

*Shooting:* "Atlantic City," "Three Little Sisters."

*Finished:* "Bordertown Trails," "Haunted Harbor."

**20th Century-Fox**

*Started:* "A Tree Grows in Brooklyn," with Dorothy McGuire, Joan Blondell, James Dunn, Lloyd Nolan, Peggy Ann Garner, James Gleason, Ruth Nelson, Ted Donaldson.

*Shooting:* "Laura," "Something for the Boys," "Keys of the Kingdom."

*Finished:* "Queen of the Flat-Tops."

**United Artists**

*Shooting:* "Guest in the House" (Hunt Stromberg), with Anne Baxter, Ralph Bellamy, Aline MacMahon, Scott McKay, Ruth Warrick, Percy Kilbride. "With All My Heart" (formerly "Double Furlough") Vanguard.

*Finished:* "Abroad With Two Yanks," Edward Small.

**Universal**

*Started:* "Bowery to Broadway," with Maria Montez, Jack Oakie, Susanna Foster, Turhan Bey, Louise Allbritton, Donald Cook, Donald O'Connor, Peggy Ryan, Leo Carillo, Andy Devine, Frank McHugh. "Babes on Swing Street," with Leon Errol, June Vincent, Peggy Ryan, Ann Blyth, June Preisser, Kirby Grant. "Trigger Trail," with Rod Cameron, Fuzzy Knight, Vivian Austin, Ray Whitley, Eddie Dew.

*Shooting:* "San Diego, I Love You," "See My Lawyer," "The Devil's Brood."

*Finished:* "Pearl of Death," "Reckless Age."

**Warners**

*Started:* "Strangers in Our Midst," with Jean Sullivan, Zachary Scott, Irene Manning, Alan Hale, Helmut Dantine, Samuel S. Hinds.

*Shooting:* "Roughly Speaking," "Objective Burma," "To Have and Have Not," "The Doughgirls," "Give Me This Woman."

*Finished:* "The Very Thought of You."

# Reviews

## "Hey, Rookie"

*(Columbia)*

*Hollywood, May 8*

SPICED with a liberal dash of feminine appeal in the dancing, singing and eye-twitching costuming of Ann Miller, "Hey Rookie," based on the spare-time play put together by soldier talent at Fort MacArthur, Cal., proves an all-around entertainment with plenty of merriment.

The story is the evolution of the show, touched up with the romance of the soldier-producer, Larry Parks, and Miss Miller. It clings closely enough to the facts and is set at Fort MacArthur induction center with VAC canteen lovelies providing a logical method to introduce the dancing star into the story. Dance and song numbers by Parks and Miller, and comedy routines of Jimmy Little and Joe Besser, are put over as entertainingly on the screen as were the best numbers in the stage production.

Irving Briskin produced with Charles Barton directing from a screenplay by Henry Myers, Edward Eliscu and Jay Gorney, based on the musical by E. B. and Doris Colvan.

Running time, 77 minutes. "G."* Release date March 9.

## "Shake Hands With Murder"

*(PRC Pictures)*

A MYSTERY thriller that emerges rather indifferently due to a sagging screenplay and failure of direction to obtain the utmost in suspense and comedy situations, in spite of the apparently novel original plot offered as a basis.

Iris Adrian and Frank Jenks are bail-bond partners. Jenks posts huge bail for Douglas Fowley, accused of embezzlement, and his girl partner is frantic over prospects of losing it all. They shadow Fowley, almost become involved in the murder of his benefactor, head of the investment firm, but finally help him find the stolen securities when he convinces them of his innocence. Through a ruse they bring the remaining directors of the company to a mountain lodge where they trap one into revealing himself as the embezzler and murderer.

Donald C. McKean and Albert Herman produced with Herman also directing. John T. Neville wrote the script from an original story by Martin Mooney.

Running time, 62 minutes. "G."* Release date April 22.

JACK CARTWRIGHT

**"G" denotes general classification.*

## Brown Filming 'Aircrew'

MONTREAL, May 8.—S. H. Brown, former associate producer for Ortus Films which produced "49 Parallel," now a flight lieutenant in the RAF, is directing "Aircrew," at the Associated Screen Studios here. The film, which is about the British Commonwealth Air Training Plan, is being produced by the British Ministry of Information and the Air Ministry. Interior will be completed in London studios.

## Rialto Loses Appeal

The petition of the Rialto Theatre Ticket Service, New York, to force License Commissioner Paul Moss to restore its ticket broker's license, suspended March 20 for alleged violation of ceiling prices, was denied yesterday by Supreme Court Justice Isidor Wasservogel.

## 'Twain' Is Baltimore Leader with $22,000

BALTIMORE, May 8.—The season's first hot weather reflected unfavorably at boxoffices during openings and over the weekend. "The Adventures of Mark Twain," however, is doing $22,000 at advanced prices at the Stanley, while "Standing Room Only" is taking in $17,500 at Keith's.

Estimated receipts for the week ending May 11:

**"Up in Mabel's Room" (UA)**
CENTURY—(3,000) (35c-45c-55c and 60c weekends) 7 days. Gross: $13,000. (Average: $17,500).

**"Standing Room Only" (Para.)**
KEITH'S—(2,405) (35c-40c-50c-60c) 7 days. Gross: $17,500. (Average: $15,000).

**"Buffalo Bill" (20th-Fox)**
NEW—(1,581) (30c-40c-60c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $11,500. (Average: $13,000).

**"The Adventures of Mark Twain" (WB)**
STANLEY—(3,280) (30c-40c-80c-$1.10) 7 days. Gross: $22,000. (Average at regular prices: $18,000).

**"Cover Girl" (Col.)**
HIPPODROME—(2,205) (35c-44c-55c-65c) 7 days, 2nd week. Stage show, Terry. & Ralph Rio, Ilene Woods, Danny Drayson, The Herzoghs, Byrne Sisters. Gross: $17,000. (Average: $16,500).

**"You Can't Ration Love" (Para.)**
MAYFAIR—(1,000) (35c-44c) 7 days. Gross: $8,000. (Average: $7,000).

## Fineberg to Monogram

PITTSBURGH, May 8.—Sam Fineberg, formerly with Republic's exchange here, has been named manager of the local Monogram exchange.

# Short Subject Reviews

## "Wells Fargo Days"

*(Warners)*

Another story of the exciting Wells Fargo era of the old West is given fine treatment in Warners' latest two-reel Western. It's the story of a man, wanted by the Law for a crime which he did not commit and his ultimate redemption when he saves the Wells Fargo gold shipment. The color treatment is excellent. Dennis Moore, Louis Stanley and Karl Hackett handle the lead roles well. Mack V. Wright directed. Running time, 20 mins.

## "Bugs Bunny Nips the Nips"

*(Warners)*

Bugs retains his laurels as a favorite cartoon character in Leon Schlesinger's current release. The precocious rabbit pits his wiles against the Japs on a South Pacific isle, knocks them off single handed and wins a hula-dancer in the bargain. Done in the usual Bugs Bunny fashion, "Nips the Nips" is good entertainment. Running time, 7 mins.

## "United States Coast Guard Band"

*(Warners)*

Lt. Rudy Vallee of the U. S. Coast Guard leads a naval band in some sailors' songs while the camera roves around various training centers, giving an inside look at Navy life. Numbers selected, including "Men Down Under the Sea," "Wings of Gold," "The Marine Hymn" and "Semper Paratus," are well handled by the band and a chorus. Running time, 10 mins.

## "Backyard Golf"

*(Warners)*

Ralph Guldahl, champion golfer, gives pointers on how to enjoy the game in your own back yard. Golf enthusiasts, especially, will find this interesting and entertaining. Backyard golf presents a means of enjoying the internationally famous sport, despite gasoline rationing and travel bans. Subject is well handled. Running time, 10 mins.

## "Jungle Thrills"

*(Warners)*

Michael and Helen Lerner bring the stories of their most recent African safari to the screen in a thrilling and enlightening short which should fill out any program nicely. Their exploits in the big-game territory make exciting film fare. Photography is excellent, particularly shots of an elephant chase and the final capture of the beast. Running time, 10 mins.

## "Hobo News"

*(Universal)*

For followers of the monthly sheet, "Hobo News," this is an especially interesting and novel subject which delves into its making. Shots of the New York office and the staff are very entertaining. Direction is good. Running time, 9 mins.

## Boston Variety Party

BOSTON, May 8.—Local Variety will hold its annual get-together on June 11, with a theatre party and dance.

# BMI Adding to 200 Films Made Yearly

(Continued from page 1)

exhibitors now play one 15 minute subject made by the government film division monthly which they receive rental free. The BMOI film division has also averaged about four or five documentaries yearly, running one hour or longer, which have been sold to exhibitors in Great Britain on a competitive basis as well as some 15 to 20 one and two-reelers. The bulk of BMOI production, however, according to Beddington, is for non-theatrical circulation. He disclosed that future BMOI production plans do not call for making many more documentaries longer than two reels.

Speaking about BMOI's production of brief film messages related to the war effort, which are incorporated in the newsreels, Beddington said that "they are usually humorous and they neither preach nor exhort, but give information."

### Set to Film Invasion

Questioned about BMOI's plans for film coverage of the impending invasion, Beddington said that all plans for film coverage have been set. He indicated that few American or British newsreel cameramen will accompany the invasion forces at the outset but that newsreels will have access to film shot by several hundred official cameramen of the Armed Forces after it has been censored by military authorities. He estimates that American audiences should be seeing initial shots of invasion military activities within ten days after the invasion starts. BMOI and the American newsreel pool in London have discussed the type of film material desired with military authorities, according to Beddington.

BMOI has selected 12 films from those produced by British producers which are being shown in liberated portions of Italy under supervision of the Army's Psychological Warfare Branch in much the same manner as this unit is handling the 40 American films selected by the U. S. Office of War Information. Beddington also said that BMOI has produced six two-reel films explaining what has happened since Dunkirk and which will be shown in European areas upon liberation.

# 63 State Bond Chairmen Are Named by O'Donnell

(Continued from page 1)

dianapolis; Iowa, A. H. Blank, Des Moines; Kansas, H. E. Jameyson, Wichita; Kentucky, Ned Greene, Mayfield; Louisiana, E. V. Richards, New Orleans; Maine, Connie Russell, Bangor; Maryland, Louis A. Rome, Baltimore; Massachusetts, Sam Pinanski, Boston; Michigan, co-chairmen, Martin Thomas, Iron Mountain (Peninsula), Earl Hudson, Detroit and Lew Wisper, Detroit; Minnesota, Al Steffes, Minneapolis; Mississippi, co-chairmen, Burgess Waltman, Columbus and Arthur Lehmann, Jackson.; East Missouri, Harry Arthur, St. Louis; West Missouri, Elmer Rhoden, Kansas City.

Also: Montana, J. A. English, Anaconda; Nebraska, William Miskell, Omaha; Nevada, N. Dow Thompson, Reno; New Hampshire, Edward J. Fahey, Manchester; Southern New Jersey, Ben Amsterdam, Philadelphia, Pa.; Northern New Jersey, co-chairmen, H. H. Lowenstein, Newark, and Don Jacocks, Newark; New Mexico, George Tucker, Albuquerque; Metropolitan New York, Charles Moskowitz, New York City; Upstate New York, Lou Golding, Albany; North Carolina, H. F. Kincey, Charlotte; West North Dakota, Mike Cooper, Grand Forks; East North Dakota, Ed Kraus, Fargo.

### Others Named

Also: Ohio, Martin G. Smith, Toledo; Oklahoma, C. B. Akers, Oklahoma City; Oregon, co-chairmen, Al Finke, Portland, and Bob White, Portland; Eastern Pennsylvania, Lou Finske, Scranton; Western Pennsylvania, Moe Silver, Pittsburgh; Rhode Island, Ed Fay, Providence; South Carolina, Warren Irwin, Columbia; South Dakota, Fred Larkin, Sioux Falls; Eastern Tennessee, E. W. Street, Knoxville; Western Tennessee, M. A. Lightman, Memphis; Texas, John Q. Adams, Dallas; Utah, Samuel Gillette, Tooele; Vermont, Frank Vennett, Rutland; Virginia, co-chairmen, William Crockett, Virginia Beach, and Morton G. Thalheimer, Richmond; Washington, D. C., Sidney Lust; Washington, Frank Newman, Sr., Seattle; West Virginia, Milton Levine, Williamson; Wisconsin, Harold Fitzgerald, Milwaukee; Wyoming, co-chairmen, E. J. Schulte, Casper, and Tom Berta, Rock Springs.

### 1 WAC 5th Loan Short Ready, 4 Preparing

HOLLYWOOD, May 8.—With one War Activities Committee short completed and four scripts ready, final preparations started today on Fifth War Loan promotional screen material.

"Road to Victory," a one-reeler, which is completed, will be released nationally on May 18. The cast includes Bing Crosby, Cary Grant, Frank Sinatra, Charles Ruggles, Dennis Morgan, Irene Manning, Jack Carson, Jimmy Lydon and Olive Blakeney. It was produced by Jack L. Warner.

### 1,000 to Attend 5th Drive Opening in Boston May 11

BOSTON, May 8.—The War Activities Committee of the motion picture industry will open the industry's Fifth War Loan drive here with a meeting at the Hotel Statler on Thursday, which will be attended by exhibitors and distributor executives.

Scheduled to appear are national drive chairman Bob O'Donnell; co-chairmen John J. Friedl and Richard M. Kennedy; Ray Beall, publicity; Francis S. Harmon, WAC Coordinator; Ned E. Depinet, Leon Bamberger, Leonard Goldenson, and Si Fabian.

Martin J. Mullin, chairman of the New England WAC, and Sam Pinanski, chairman of the Massachusetts WAC, will be hosts. Harry Browning is in charge of public relations.

# Clark Calls for a Decree Showdown

(Continued from page 1)

would set a date for the disclosure by the latter of the extent to which they will meet recommendations for broadening the decree which have been in their hands for several weeks.

On the basis of that meeting, Clark said today, he will make a report to U. S. Attorney General Francis Biddle as to whether a revised decree can be secured.

Clark expressed a desire to bring the matter to a head, pointing out that the companies have had a long time in which to study exhibitor recommendations for improvement of the proposals they submitted last Jan. 25, and indicated a growing impatience over the numerous delays which have slowed down the negotiations.

At the next meeting, Clark said, the distributors should be able to tell definitely what they will do. It is planned to go over the whole decree in one last audit of what the distributors offer or refuse, and make a decision as to the acceptability of their proposals, to be submitted to Attorney General Biddle for approval.

## *'Bernadette' Gets Award*

The New York City Federation of Women's Clubs has recently presented 20th-Fox with its annual award for the "most outstanding film of 1943-1944," given for "The Song of Bernadette." Tom Connors, in charge of 20th-Fox distribution, accepted the award at ceremonies in the Hotel Astor.

## *Wm. Clark Leaves ODT*

PHILADELPHIA, May 8.—William Clark will return to Hiway Express Lines, local film delivery service, as secretary-treasurer upon his resignation as regional director of the division of motor transportation for the ODT in New York, effective tomorrow.

## *80 of 'Honored 100' Are Independents*

(Continued from page 1)

Loan, reiterated today that the committee will work with Robert O'Donnell, national industry chairman for the Fifth War Loan.

Two days of festivities planned for the visiting exhibitors whose "E" bond-selling exploits made them top salesmen for the film industry, will also start tomorrow. Charles P. Skouras will preside over tomorrow's program which will get under way at the Hotel Statler with the presentation of scrolls and medallions to each exhibitor. There will be a luncheon with Skouras, Rick Ricketson and B. V. Sturdivant on hand after which there will be a visit to the capitol and a trip to Mt. Vernon and other historic spots. On Wednesday the 'Honored 100' will meet O'Donnell to discuss plans for the Fifth War Loan drive.

## *Riskin Asks 12 Films For Freed Nations*

(Continued from page 1)

gestions for the studios on the types of documentaries the OWI desires. If these can be made by the studios in such a manner as to be usable in domestic distribution, he will ask them to sponsor the productions. If not, the OWI will have to produce the films or have the studios do so for the Government. "There are 12 such pictures we have in mind," Riskin said.

He revealed that the OWI now is sponsoring the dubbing of selected American pictures in 22 languages, with almost all of the 40 so far chosen for distribution in liberated countries already dubbed in 18 languages. "Even Japan is coming in for attention," he said, adding, "we are now dubbing some American product in Japanese and will shortly be doing some in Burmese and other Oriental languages."

Riskin will remain here 10 days or two weeks.

## *Meadow Quits Stanley*

Noel Meadow, president and director of Medano Corp., operator of the Stanley here, local show case for Russian films, has resigned.


RKO RADIO PICTURES, Inc.

TRADE SHOWINGS

of

"GOYESCA"

NEW YORK - - - Monday, May 15
RKO Projection Room
630 Ninth Avenue,
New York, N. Y.
11.00 AM-2.30 PM

LOS ANGELES - - Monday, May 15
RKO Projection Room
1980 So. Vermont Ave.,
Los Angeles, Calif.
2.30 PM

SAN FRANCISCO - Monday, May 15
RKO Projection Room
251 Hyde Street,
San Francisco, Calif.
2.30 PM

# Weather Drives N.Y. Grosses Downward; 'Way' Gets $102,000

(Continued from page 1)

show will start a second week tomorrow.

Radio City Music Hall will count about $95,000 on its sixth and final week of "Cover Girl" on the basis of the $60,000 recorded up to Sunday night. The six weeks' run of "Cover Girl" at the Music Hall marks the first time in the theatre's history that a musical film has played for that length of time, and a highly profitable take of almost $685,000 is being recorded. The world premiere of M-G-M's "The White Cliffs of Dover" is set for Thursday.

**$75,000 for 'Gaslight'**

The receipts of the first week of "Gaslight" and a stage show featuring Phil Spitalny's "All Girl" orchestra at the Capitol are expected to reach a profitable $75,000 on the basis of $50,000 taken in up to Sunday night. The show will hold for a second week or longer, with RKO's "Tender Comrade" set to follow. "Buffalo Bill" and a stage show featuring Paul Whiteman and his band at the Roxy will wind up a third and final week with $60,000 which is considerably below the recent pace set by films at this house, although it is still profitable; five days' receipts up to Sunday night were below $50,000. "Pin-Up Girl," with Betty Grable, and a stage bill featuring Connee Boswell, Willie Howard and Raymond Scott and his CBS orchestra will take over at the Roxy tomorrow morning. The Strand, presenting "Between Two Worlds" and "Tars and Spars," Coast Guard show on the stage, is headed for a modest $53,600 in the first week on the basis of weekend business of $26,500 which still spells plenty of profit; the combination will hold.

The second week of "Follow the Boys" will bring the Criterion about $32,000 which is well up near the pace of recent record-setting films at this house. The film will hold for a third week and possibly longer with Universal's "Cobra Woman" to follow.

**'Mark Twain' Off**

The initial week of "The Adventures of Mark Twain" at the Hollywood will be a modest $26,500, which is below expectations. "The Hitler Gang" is expected to give the Globe an initial week's gross of $27,500 on the basis of weekend business which was about $13,500. This is highly satisfactory, and the film will hold. There is little slackening of pace at the Astor where "See Here, Private Hargrove" is expected to wind up a seventh week with $20,000. "The Song of Bernadette" will get about $26,000 on its 15th week at the Rivoli which is a continuing show of its stamina.

The fifth week of "Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs" at the Manhattan is yielding an excellent $15,000.

The third week of "Up In Mabel's Room" at the Central is expected to bring $12,500 on the basis of weekend business of $7,500. The second week surpassed original estimates by bringing in about $14,000. The picture will hold. A single week of "Jam Session" is expected to give the Palace a moderate $12,000 and RKO's "Show Business" will open tomorrow, after a special preview tonight. The third and final week of "Knickerbocker Holiday" at the Victoria is expected to yield over $8,000 and Paramount's "The Hour Before the Dawn" will open tomorrow. "The Whistler" is expected to get about $7,000 on its second week at the Rialto and 20th Century-Fox's "Bermuda Mystery" will take over on Friday.

# *Increased U. S. Tax Felt Mostly in Small Places*

(Continued from page 1)

tion picture attendance substantially. Large cities and congested war areas have been turning away crowds for so long that only a tremendous reaction to the tax could have resulted in less than capacity business.

Some localities send word that a normally low admission scale has enabled patrons to meet the boost without any complaints. Others point to advance advertising of the tax as a war-time factor preventing an awkward adjustment period. And almost all give the impression that the public, having come to depend on films for their main entertainment, besides being generally solvent these days, has taken the increase in its stride.

**Detroit Booming**

In the war-boom city of Detroit, for example, where attendance is holding at a peak unprecedented for more than 27 years, a spot check showed long waiting lines before houses despite "SRO" announcements, and exhibitors said a decline would have to reach sizeable proportions before being noted. An interesting sidelight on the situation there was revealed through a theatre lobby poll in which a majority of the patrons pointed out that the new admission tax was an allowable deduction on income taxes.

A second prosperity tale comes from Hartford, where one manager said, "This area, with all its defense plants and people earning more than ever before, has not been affected. Theatre patrons still act as though they don't realize they're paying more. They like the films and they keep coming. Money is no object." Both downtown and neighborhood boxoffice lines are as long, and at some theatres longer, than in the pre-tax period.

Operators of Boston houses were surprised over the fact that business has declined very little if at all. Downtowners all report full houses. In the Back Bay section, also, theatres have not felt any impact from the higher taxes, nor have the larger neighborhood houses.

**New York Doing Capacity**

In New York, where Broadway is still a mecca for war-prosperous visitors from far and near, business in the first-run houses continues at capacity, and the overflow crowds for the biggest hit shows are constant. A survey of the New York neighborhoods, however, found some circuit spokesmen less jubilant. Charles Moskowitz of Loew's pointed to the recent combination of rain and warm weather and said that it was, therefore, impossible to estimate the effect of the tax. Harry Goldberg reported that business for the Warner circuit had veered up and down with the weather, adding, "There haven't been any complaints. People know they have to pay taxes." Century Circuit managers have received a few complaints but say they have not been harmed by the tax.

**First-run houses in Omaha, according to William Miskell, district manager for Tri-States Theatres, have suffered a slight dent in midweek business, which may be attributable to the tax, but the crowds have been holding up well over weekends. Managers there expressed the view that most people were adequately warned and are not watching pennies these days.**

Theatres in Pittsburgh also report no declining grosses. Cleveland operators unanimously declare that the public is indifferent to the higher admission prices and that attendance is holding up to its pre-tax status. Prac- holding up to its pre-tax status.

From Providence comes word that there has been no marked falling off in business. In Philadelphia, too, normal attendance levels have been maintained, and complaints have been confined to stage theatres, where the higher established prices mean a more marked increase in taxes. The Seattle report shows that grosses there have not suffered, patrons generally accepting the idea that the tax is a part of the war effort.

St. Louis ran into a spell of bad weather. As a result, it was difficult to calculate the effect of the tax on receipts. Inclement weather took a toll in Atlanta also, but the impression is that the tax has not; since the normal top admission price there stands at only 50 cents, the public has shown little disfavor toward paying the additional tax. In Des Moines business has been off since April 1, but there again heavy downpours received the major share of the blame.

**Senate Bill Would Cut Cabaret Tax to 10%**

WASHINGTON, May 8.—Senator Sheridan Downey of California has introduced a bill to drop the cabaret tax from its new level of 30 per cent to 10 per cent, a rate which he holds would probably yield the same amount of revenue. Since the jump, on April 1, from the former five per cent tax, more than 8,000 night club entertainers have been thrown out of work, according to Matt Shelvey, national administrative director of the American Guild of Variety Artists.

Reports from all over the country show many night clubs and cocktail lounges closing down. In New York, 86 of 386 failed to renew licenses. Hundreds of places in Florida are said to have been forced out of business. San Francisco has lost at least 31 and Los Angeles 35.

**Stage Attendance Down**

Attendance at New York legitimate theatres has been on the decline since the 20 per cent Federal admission tax went into effect on April 1, according to Lee Shubert, producer and theatre operator. All but smash hits have felt the slump, he said. Meyer Davis, band leader and investor in legitimate shows, predicted that the increased levy would force the closing of at least 10 plays within the next few weeks. Only seven Summer theatres have notified Actors Equity Association that they plan to operate this year; last year there were 24.

# 16,000 Theatres Set To Open 'Wac Week'

(Continued from page 1)

for similar demonstrations throughout the country. Tomorrow's ceremony will be attended by Newbold Morris, president of the City Council, representing Mayor LaGuardia. Screen, stage and radio personalities will also take part.

Tomorrow morning at 10, Charles C. Moskowitz, Metropolitan area chairman for the drive, will be host at a breakfast in the Hotel Astor to a group of Wac officers, Col. Oveta Culp Hobby and other military officers.

Other boroughs will follow the Times Square rally with their own demonstrations. In Staten Island tomorrow night, at the request of Irving L. Liner, Wac drive chairman, Edgar Goth, public relations director, and George Kemp, manager of Fabian's Paramount, borough president Joseph A. Palma will read a proclamation for "Wac Week" from the stage of the St. George Theatre.

Demonstrations are scheduled to take place in Brooklyn and Queens on Thursday and Saturday respectively, and in scores of cities in the field.

**Jane Powell Is Appearing For N. E. Wac Campaign**

BOSTON, May 8.—New England's participation in the industry drive spurring Wac recruiting will be inaugurated here today with Phil Engel, United Artists' publicist for New England, staging a round of appearances for Jane Powell, star of Charles Rogers' "Song of the Open Road."

Tomorrow, Miss Powell, with Rogers, will be guests at a breakfast in the Ritz-Carlton. In the afternoon they will be honored at a luncheon and reception in the Hotel Statler by more than 200 exhibitors. Among those attending will be James Winn and John Dervin, respectively, United Artists' district and branch managers; Martin J. Mullin and Sam Pinanski of M & P Theatres; Engel, Abe Rogers, brother of Charles, and David Stoneman.

# *Salkay-UA Contract To E. L. Alperson*

(Continued from page 1)

associated in joint distributor and theatre activities in the past.

Persistent current reports also have it that Alperson will be associated in production activities with Jacques Grinieff, French producer.

Alperson himself claimed he had four of the six story properties already lined up and expected to complete deals for the other two in the near future. Pending this complettion, he would make no statement about the purchase of any corporation. "I haven't as yet chosen a corporate name," he said. "I made the deal to do six for United Artists. I'm going to do my own producing independently, as an individual," he added.

# *O'Brien to Harrisburg*

SCRANTON, Pa., May 8. — Bill O'Brien, formerly of this city, and later attached to the Newport News, Va., office of Altec Service, has been transferred by Altec to Harrisburg.

Theatres' Women's Army Corps Recruiting Week May 11-17


# MOTION PICTURE DAILY

VOL. 55. NO. 92 NEW YORK, U. S. A., WEDNESDAY, MAY 10, 1944 TEN CENTS


Theatres' Women's Army Corps Recruiting Week May 11-17

## Agnew Cites Vanguard-UA Collaboration

### *Hopes to Have Three Field Aides Soon*

By SHERWIN KANE

The streamlining of the functions of Vanguard's producer representatives in order to facilitate the work of the United Artists sales force in connection with David O. Selznick product and to provide Selznick with supervision of its distribution, is the fundamental aim of Neil F. Agnew's office, the Vanguard vice-president and international distribution head told MOTION PICTURE DAILY yesterday.



Neil Agnew

Agnew said that Vanguard's aims,

(*Continued on page 6*)

## Republic's Final Sales Meet Today

The opening session of the third and last in Republic's current series of regional sales conferences will begin today at the New York Athletic Club, where Herbert J. Yates, Sr., chairman of the board, and James R. Grainger, president and general sales manager, will meet with Central district sales manager Sam Seplowin, Eastern district manager Maxwell Gillis, and groups from each of those territories. The meeting will run through Thursday.

Highlights of discussions will be

(*Continued on page 6*)

## *'Wac Week' Under Way Here Today*

The induction of 100 young women into the Women's Army Corps today at 12:30 P. M. in Times Square will launch "Wac Recruiting Week," May 11-17, in the 16,000 motion picture theatres of the country. Charles C. Moskowitz, Metropolitan area industry chairman for the Wac drive, will introduce Edward L. Alperson, general

(*Continued on page 6*)

## *Briskin to Rejoin Columbia July 1*

**Lieut. Col. Samuel J. Briskin, former Columbia studio chief and production head, has received a medical discharge from the Army and will resume production activities with the company on July 1.**

**Temporarily located in New York, Briskin said yesterday that he will leave for the West Coast toward the end of this month or early in June.**

## Pension Plan Still Studied by Warners

Warner Bros. still is seriously considering a pension plan for employes with several types presently being studied by home office executives and lawyers. No decision has been made as to whether such a plan will apply to actors and production executives. Special attention is being given to the aspects of permanency of any plan in case of any reverses and to the securing of necessary Treasury Department approval.

RKO has already instituted a pension plan for employes but stars and production heads are not included. The plan has not yet received approval by the Treasury. A M-G-M pension plan covering workers and actors and production talent as well, will shortly be submitted to company stockholders for their approval.

## *Warns on Gas Refrigerants*

CHICAGO, May 9.—Federal law-enforcement officials here indicate they will take immediate action against exhibitors who employ dangerous gaseous, chemical or other substitutes for freon in theatre cooling systems, it was learned here today. At the same time it was also learned that state and city officials here contemplate taking similar action.

Formal warning will be issued to theatre operators tomorrow by Gerald Gearon, head of Chicago's Department of Inspection of Refrigeration plants, particularly against the illegal use of methyl chloride in cooling equipment this Summer as a substitute for freon No. 12, prohibited for public systems under War Production Board order No. M-28.

Cooling plants in all Chicago the-

(*Continued on page 8*)

## AFL Delays Drive To Sign Managers

CHICAGO, May 9.—An American Federation of Labor membership drive to launch a national theatre managers' union will not be made until after the IATSE convention scheduled to open in St. Louis on May 29, union organizers stated here today.

Gene Atkinson, business manager of Chicago projectionists' Local 110, who will preside at the convention, will

(*Continued on page 6*)

## Larry Kent to Head G-B Theatre Setup

### *Treasury Approval Seen For Loew's Stock Buy*

LONDON, May 9.—Larry Kent, executive assistant to Spyros Skouras, 20th Century-Fox president, is slated to be named managing director of Gaumont-British Theatres if proposals heretofore advanced by J. Arthur Rank and Skouras are consummated, it was learned on good authority today.

**Whether or not Kent also will be named to the G-B board of directors as the representative of 20th-Fox is not certain at this time, but it is certain that the American company will have representation on either the G-B or the Metropolis & Bradford Trust Co. directorates, regardless.**

Kent's appointment as managing director of G-B would be a part of,

(*Continued on page 8*)

## Grosses Off 40% in London West End

Theatre business in London's West End film houses has fallen off about 40 percent in the past two weeks, Alfred E. Daff, Universal foreign sales supervisor reported here yesterday. Daff returned over the weekend from a six weeks' trip to London on company business.

London's theatres have been heavily patronized by members of the American Armed Forces in Great Britain and the cancelling of leaves for invasion preparations is believed to be responsible for the present slump in attendance.

Daff emphasized that no changes are contemplated in Universal's British distribution set-up whereby J. Arthur Rank's General Film Distributors handles Universal films in Great Britain.

## *Browne, Bioff Begin Serving Sentences*

SANDSTONE, Minn., May 9.—Willie Bioff and George E. Browne, convicted in New York Federal Court in November, 1941, of extorting $1,000,000 from film companies, arrived at Federal prison here today to begin serving their sentences. Bioff faces ten years

(*Continued on page 8*)

## *Government, Industry in Tribute to 'Honored 100'*

WASHINGTON, May 9.—Two hundred showmen from every part of the country and Alaska gathered here today in company with Government, civic and military officials for a special three-day observance to pay tribute to the "Honored 100" of the industry's Fourth War Loan drive, who distinguished themselves in open competition as winners of the "Bond for Every Seat" drive, and to mark the official opening of the industry's Fifth War Loan campaign.

The 200 showmen were headed by Charles P. Skouras, national chairman of the industry's Fourth Loan drive, and included leaders of the War Activities Committee, theatre and distribution officials. Also attending were Lt. General A. A. Vandergrift, Commandant, U. S. Marines; Sena-

(*Continued on page 8*)

## *16,892 Film Houses In U. S.: Harmon*

**Washington, May 9.—There are now 16,892 film houses in active operation in the U. S., Francis Harmon, national WAC executive, disclosed in an interview here today. This number does not include Army camp theatres, college theatres and various other exhibition halls where motion pictures may, from time to time, be screened.**

**"This represents a drop from the more than 17,000 in operation," stated Harmon referring, presumably, to the pre-Pearl Harbor total.**

# Personal Mention

SPYROS SKOURAS, president of 20th Century-Fox, is expected to return to New York from London within two weeks.

•

PHIL WILLIAMS, March of Time advertising director, and MRS. WILLIAMS have become the parents of a second girl, born yesterday at Lawrence Hospital, Bronxville.

•

DAVID ORNSTEIN of 20th Century-Fox's home office sales department, recently became the father of a son, born to MRS. ORNSTEIN at the Jewish Hospital.

•

HENRY LINET, Universal assistant advertising manager, has returned from a three weeks' business trip to eight key cities.

•

GEORGE B. WEST, Indiana and Missouri Monogram franchise holder, was in Chicago this week en route to Hollywood.

•

A. J. O'KEEFE, Universal Western sales manager, has returned from a trip through the Midwest territory.

•

TED MEYERS, Universal Chicago salesman, is vacationing for two weeks at Martinsville, Ind.

•

CARL E. MILLIKEN, MPPDA executive, returned to New York last night from Washington.

•

MAX BRODSKY, Universal Chicago salesman, is vacationing for two weeks at Hot Springs.

•

BUDD ROGERS and CHARLES R. ROGERS will return to New York today from Boston.

•

GEORGE HIRLIMAN, president of Film Classics, is due back today from Atlanta.

•

AL KENT, Universal Chicago salesman, has returned from a Miami vacation.

•

EDWARD FINNEY, producer, is en route to New York from Hollywood.

•

JAMES CAGNEY is scheduled to arrive in Hollywood today.

## Bernhard Will Meet Norman Davis Today

Joseph Bernhard, general manager of Warner Theatres, will go to Philadelphia today for a meeting with local zone executives of the circuit, and also to meet with Norman Davis, national chairman of the American Red Cross, for conferences in connection with the recent Red Cross Drive, for which Bernhard was national film industry chairman.

Harry Goldberg, director of advertising and publicity for Warner Theatres and campaign manager in the Red Cross Drive, will accompany Bernhard.

# Insider's Outlook

By RED KANN

*Hollywood, May 9*

THE Motion Picture Alliance for the Preservation of American Ideals is taking off on a platform designed to meet what it describes as "the growing impression that this industry is made up, and dominated by, Communists, radicals and crackpots." It has never broken this down in terms of where the impression originated and how it has grown.

The Screen Writers Guild is taking off, too. Its board met subsequently to discuss plans for an industry-wide meeting to consider aims and intents of the Alliance as well as to suggest a program for an industry-wide public relations setup. Earlier, it is in the record, SWG membership refused to adopt a resolution calling for a meeting with the Alliance to discuss the latter's agenda.

Thus, two steps.

■

Third was a trailing Alliance meeting at which SWG's interest in the former's purposes was labeled part of a "smear" campaign of Communist elements within SWG and the Hollywood Writers Mobilization.

Fourth, and latest, was an SWG meeting which touched on the Alliance but concentrated largely on formulation of a plan to defend the whole industry against "unwarranted, unprincipled and vicious attacks without support of evidence of facts." The background was sufficiently embracing to include Martin Dies and his *Liberty* magazine articles of 1940 to the Senatorial investigation in Washington and now the Alliance.

The specific upshot was passage of a resolution by representatives of 38 guilds, unions and organizations, each of which sent a two-man delegation to learn what gives. Lacking was representation from the Motion Picture Producers' Association and the Society of Independent Motion Picture Producers. Crux of the resolution falls within these quotes: "Be it finally resolved that we seek to organize the widest possible industry unity to publicize the constructive achievements of the motion picture industry."

Committees have matters in hand and will report back in due order.

■

Self-evident, and early, in all of this is the opposition motif already established between the SWG and the Alliance. Some groups are officially lined with the one side. Other groups, no doubt, will ally themselves with the other. The unions, as a case in point, already are in a split formation. Each camp is very evidently scornful, disdainful and suspicious of its opponent.

Now.

By its own lights, each side is dedicating its energies toward taking the industry "off the spot" and depositing it in quieter waters. How much battering from each of its champions the business itself will have to endure in the processes is not yet in sight, but the prospect is not too happy. Therein, precisely, is the danger point. Therein, precisely, is the point both sides should keep well in mind.

It is not enough for the doctors to survive and the patient to succumb.

■ ■

Opposition for the Academy awards.

It developed at the Independent Motion Picture Producers Association dinner for Joe E. Brown. Opposition, but not competition, according to I. E. Chadwick, who explains the new accolade develops because the Academy has never awarded an "Oscar" for public service.

Brown, therefore, was No. 1. His "Oscar" was in the form of a plaque setting him forth as the individual who has done most in emphasizing the commonweal aspects of Hollywood — and industry — activities through his overseas entertainment of the troops. Next year, someone else. And so on thereafter.

■

Chadwick says the plan has been simmering for quite a time. It discovered its boiling point when he learned the city of Los Angeles aimed increased license fees at businesses "lacking in utter respectability." Motion pictures, he declares he found, were grouped generally with pawn shops and slot machines. To dissipate impressions of this character, and in Los Angeles of all the nation's cities, the IMPPA galvanized its award plan, gave it to Brown and arranged for the mayor to be present.

Hopefully, he was impressed. He said he was.

## KRS Agrees to Sell To Granada Again

LONDON, May 9.—Acceding to strong pleadings by Cinematograph Exhibitors' Association members, the Kinematograph Renters Society announced at a joint exhibitor-distributor conciliation committee meeting here today that in behalf of industry amity, Sidney L. Bernstein's Granada theatres would be removed from its "protective" list of exhibitors.

The Granada has up till now been a chief stumbling block to a distributor-exhibitor agreement, with seven distributors flatly refusing to do business with the circuit because of what they allege to be unfair practices. The agreement does not necessarily imply that all distributors will from now on offer product to Granada, but the entire trade here is relieved at the removal of the chief obstacle to amicable relations. It is felt that the way is now paved for discussion of even more gravely-contended trade subjects such as barring clauses and conditional bookings.

The KRS also stated that it is now prepared to discuss alternative machinery to the "protective" list provided where necessary, the protection of film rentals is insured.

## Coe Pledges Pictures 'Free of Propaganda'

Fidelity in postwar film production with pictures "free of propaganda except as they inevitably portray a successful form of democracy as exemplified in the United States," is being pledged by Charles Francis Coe of the Motion Picture Producers and Distributors of America on his current public-industry goodwill tour, which will be continued with an appearance before the Kiwanis Club in Denver today.

Coe has been stressing the achievements of the industry in the 50 years of its commercial existence and describing the non-profit contributions of producers, distributors and exhibitors to the war effort. "We have learned," he points out, "the extent to which this visual-oral medium can condition public thinking, and so we believe that motion pictures can give hope and encouragement to the peoples of occupied lands."

Some 500 luncheon guests heard Coe in Minneapolis, 600 in Kansas City, 450 in Dallas, and 800 in Oklahoma City. The tour will end May 16 in St. Louis, where the Chamber of Commerce and Better Films Council will sponsor a luncheon at the Jefferson Hotel.

## Postpone SLRB Hearing

Hearings scheduled to be held yesterday before the State Labor Relations Board on the petition of IATSE New York projectionists' Local No. 306 to be designated collective bargaining agent for 100 projectionists in the 35 Brooklyn and Queens houses of the Century Circuit were adjourned until May 18 at the request of both sides.

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**B**rightest name!

Met**R**o-Goldwyn-Mayer

Capit**O**l-World Premiere Sensation "Gaslight"

8th Record Week **A**ster-"See Here, Private Hargrove"

Watch! Ra**D**io City Music Hall "White Cliffs of Dover"

Preview at Loe**W**'s Ziegfeld-"Two Girls and a Sailor" Wow!

St**A**te-"Andy Hardy's Blonde Trouble" Big!

**Y**ear after year after year!




FIGHTING SHOWMEN,
JOIN THE FIGHTING
5th WAR LOAN!

# Coast Flashes

*Hollywood, May 9*

EDWARD SMALL, producer of United Artists' "Up in Mabel's Room," has jumped the film's advertising budget from $100,000 to $200,000 to be spent in newspapers, as the result of test campaigns throughout the country.

•

David O. Selznick announced today that Max Steiner, on loan from Warners, will do the musical score for United Artists' "Since You Went Away."

•

Judith Gibson has changed her name to Teala Loring, to avoid confusion with Julie Gibson. Both are Paramount players.

•

RKO has purchased "Who Could Ask for More," an original musical, which Jack Gross will produce.

•

Republic has bought "Down Dixie Way," original by Charles V. Williams.

## Court Grants Release Of 'Negro Soldier'

Federal Judge Alfred C. Coxe, on application of Assistant U. S. Attorney William Lynch, yesterday vacated a stay granted on April 25 by Federal Judge Henry W. Goddard, thus permitting the War Activities Committee to release immediately the War Department film, "The Negro Soldier."

The stay had been granted on the petition of Negro Marches On, Inc., which claimed that the War Department film was based on a theme similar to one the company used in producing "We've Come a Long, Long Way" and that its free distribution would constitute an act of unfair competition by the Government with private industry.

Both films, it was brought out at today's hearing, were produced with the idea of increasing the morale of the Negro race. Affidavits by officials of the War Department, submitted by Lynch, stated that any interference with the Department's plan to distribute its film would seriously interfere with the progress of the war.

A. Allen Saunders, counsel for the plaintiff company, stated that if the court dismisses his complaint he will file a similar action against the War Department in the Washington, D. C., Federal Court.

## Fitzgerald's Show on Depression Lauded

Harold J. Fitzgerald, president of Fox Wisconsin, will be saluted by *Look* magazine in its May 16 issue for his activities on behalf of the recent "Don't Buy Another Depression Week" observed in Milwaukee. He headed a local committee of 23 business, civic and organizational leaders to make Milwaukeeans inflation-fearful.

Fitzgerald, who is at present national exhibitor chairman of the 50th anniversary of commercial motion pictures, based his anti-depression plan upon the tenets of showmanship long practised by exhibitors.

# Review

## "A Canterbury Tale"

*(Eagle-Lion)*

*London, May 9*

J. ARTHUR RANK'S Eagle-Lion emerged with another strong film here today in Michael Powell's "A Canterbury Tale." It is a rendering into the modern idiom of Chaucer's classic recital of pilgrims doing penance and wandering over England's oldest road, which still stands on the ridges between Winchester and Canterbury.

Powell's wartime pilgrims are four in number. They are Thomas Colpeper, a kindly, middle-aged Englishman, a lover of rural things, yet guilty of a grievous offense; Peter Gibbs, a sergeant in Britain's wartime army, in peacetime an accomplished musician turned theatre organist and aspiring to nothing else; Bob Johnson, an Oregon-born American Army sergeant, making an unwilling pilgrimage to Canterbury because his grandmother was born there, and Alison Smith, a typical London shop girl, whose fiance has been killed in a bombing raid over Germany.

Each in his individual way does penance and receives a blessing at England's noblest shrine. There is a warm quality throughout the picture, plus much entertaining laughter and at times it becomes earnest with an ennobling sentiment which ranks it with Britain's best to date.

Eric Portman as Colpeper must inevitably become England's top-ranking star by virtue of his fine portrayal, but the film's greatest performance is reserved for John Sweet, an American Army sergeant, who in civilian life is a Midwestern teacher. He was chosen for the role by chance and contributes a moving and enchanting depiction of an ordinary American facing for the first time the loveliness of the English countryside and proceeding slowly and imperceptibly to an understanding of hitherto inexplicable facets of the English character and life. Sheila Sim, as the girl, also previously unknown to filmgoers here, delivers another fine performance.

Woven through the film is a slight and mystical story holding the picture together but the main effect depends principally on Powell's subtle and sly unfolding of the difficulties inherent in an understanding between two diverse branches of the English-speaking peoples. It culminates in a superb climax with troops about to depart for abroad attending a service in Canterbury Cathedral where the ex-theatre musician finds his soul and thunders out Bach on the organ.

"Canterbury Tale" is a disturbing, but nevertheless magnificent film, which will have an inevitable success wherever it is played. Michael Powell and Emeric Pressburger were responsible for production, direction and script.

Classification, "G." Release date not set. PETER BURNUP

**"G" denotes general classification.*

## NLRB Sets May 18 For 20th Election

HOLLYWOOD, May 9.—The National Labor Relations Board has ordered a 20th Century-Fox bargaining election for studio office employes on May 18. The balloting, affecting 500 workers, will be between the Screen Office Employes Guild of the AFL and the 20th Century-Fox Office Employes Guild which, the former claims, has already voted affiliation with SOEG.

## Isaac C. Mishler Dies; Was Pioneer Owner

ALTOONA, Pa., May 9.—Isaac C. Mishler, 82, leading theatre owner and manager here from 1893 until a few years ago, died yesterday at his home in the Penn-Alto Hotel. A native of Lancaster, Mishler was the first clerk employed by Frank Woolworth for his five-and-ten-cent store there. Coming to Altoona in 1891, he worked for the Pennsylvania Railroad before begininng his theatrical career.

## Rudolph Miller Dies

ROCHESTER, N. Y., May 9.—Rudolph Miller, head of the Bausch and Lomb Optical Co.'s scientific instrument advertising department and editor of *Educational Focus*, trade publication, died here last night at the age of 58.

## Says RTPB Supports CBS on Television

Refuting the idea that Columbia Broadcasting's recent proposal for higher television standards lacked support from industry engineers, Paul W. Kesten, CBS executive vice president, claimed in a statement released here yesterday that one of the few motions passed unanimously by television committee three of the Radio Technical Planning Board contained recommendations almost identical with his company's proposals.

The companies represented in this unanimous vote, according to Kesten, included RCA, Philco, General Electric, DuMont, Zenith, Farnsworth, Stromberg-Carlson as well as such television broadcasters as NBC and Howard Hughes Productions.

## Blimp to Be Shown

Arthur W. Kelly of Eagle-Lion Films, will sponsor a press preview of "The Life and Death of Colonel Blimp" tomorrow at 3 P. M. at Lloyds Projection Room here.

## Ed Fisher Reappointed

CLEVELAND, May 9.—Ed Fisher, publicity director for Loew Theatres here, has been re-appointed public relations chairman for the local War Activities Committee.

## Another $536,918 For Paralysis

A check for $536,918, representing the industry's last March of Dimes' collections in theatres in New York was presented yesterday to Basil O'Connor, president of the National Foundation for Infantile Paralysis, by Fred Schwartz, New York circuit operator and chairman of the local drive. The presentation was made in the offices here of Harry Brandt, national industry co-chairman of the drive.

Among those present for the ceremonies, in addition to those mentioned above were: Charles Moskowitz, national industry co-chairman; Oscar Doob, national publicity chairman, and the New York exhibitor committee consisting of Sam Rinzler, Dave Weinstock, Leo Brecher, Max A. Cohen and Commissioner D. Walker Wear, director of organization for the National Foundation.

## RKO to Air 'Glory' Opening on 22 Outlets

PHILADELPHIA, May 9.—Arrangements were completed today between Terry Turner, RKO Radio exploitation chief, and station WCAU here for the promotion of the premiere of the company's "Days of Glory" over 22 stations in Pennsylvania. The picture, which will have a day-and-date premiere in 50 cities in the state on June 8, will be accorded promotion similar to that given "Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs" by WLW, Cincinnati.

WCAU will originate four half-hour Sunday broadcasts starting May 14 and continuing to June 4. It will also carry a half-hour dramatization of the film on June 7. WCAU will also produce and broadcast a series of one-minute spot announcements with five and 15-minute programs of music and drama, all of which will be transcribed for use nationally.

## Ohio ITO Screens 'Show Business'

COLUMBUS, May 9.—Following the custom of selecting one picture to be screened at their annual banquet, the Independent Theatre Owners of Ohio, assembled here in convention, chose RKO Radio's "Show Business" this year and adjourned after a dinner tonight to the RKO Grand to see the film, simultaneous with its world premiere before an invitation audience at the RKO Palace in New York.

### 'Show Business' Opens

Wacs, Waves, Spars, Marines and Army and Navy nurses were guests of Eddie Cantor at the invitation world premiere of RKO's "Show Business" at the RKO Palace, last night, with stars of screen, stage and radio and film executives also attending.

## Youngstein With 20th

M. E. Youngstein has joined the 20th Century-Fox home office publicity staff to handle special assignments. Youngstein was recently business manager for Richard Condon, Inc., publicists.

## Kodak Gives $225,000

ROCHESTER, May 9. — Eastman Kodak today contributed $225,000 to the Rochester community and war chest funds.



Official photograph,
U. S. Signal Corps

# Kodak 35

## your "Civilian Miniature" *is with the Army... Navy... Air Forces... Marines...* in Uniform

WHEN production of cameras for you stopped short, Kodak 35 —owned by numbers of America's miniature camera enthusiasts—won a preferred rating. Production of the 35 "in uniform" sped ahead, on Government order.

The reason being that the Army . . . Navy . . . Air Forces . . . and Marines . . . needed a camera which does precisely what you, in civilian life, want your camera to do.

From trim black and silver finish into non-reflecting black and olive drab—that was the only change in the 35.

Kodak 35, making pictures in either black-and-white or Kodachrome, offers more "picture capacity" than the average person usually needs. Yet it's simple to operate—not too much of a handful for a man who's excited . . . under fire. And it is dependable—can take some banging around, and still get the pictures.

Kodak 35 is the heart of the Photographic Field Kit designed and made by Kodak for the U.S. Signal Corps, which is responsible for Army photography in ground operations. A complete photographic laboratory in a "suitcase."

If you are not one of those who own this smart little Miniature, you can look forward to that as an "after the war" experience.

EASTMAN KODAK COMPANY
ROCHESTER, N. Y.

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REMEMBER LIEUTENANT ALEXANDER R. NININGER, JR. . . . first man awarded the Congressional Medal in this war?—how on Bataan, he was three times wounded—but fought his way into the enemy positions again and again, wiping out whole groups single-handed?—how after the battle they found him dead . . . surrounded by dead Japs? A stern example for the rest of us. BUY MORE WAR BONDS.

**Serving human progress through photography**

# Agnew Cites Vanguard-UA Collaboration

(*Continued from page* 1)

widespread conjecture in the industry notwithstanding, do not and will not conflict in any way with the United Artists sales and distribution organization. The most it can do, he said, is augment that organization's work.

Expressing his concern over the possible effects of rumors that have gained circulation within the industry since his association with Vanguard, Agnew reminded that Selznick is a one-third owner of United Artists and "certainly is not going to work against himself." He added that he and Gradwell L. Sears, United Artists vice-president and distribution chief, "are old friends and intend to work together as such."

Agnew explained his aim of "streamlining" his functions as producer's representative in referring to shortcomings which he observed in the system when such representatives were associated with Paramount in the past. He believes it to be essential to have producer's representatives in a position to collaborate with a sales organization in the field. Some one in authority, he said, will be on hand to make decisions as occasions arise, thus eliminating the necessity of waiting for contracts to be received in New York.

**Will Require Assistance**

In this connection, Agnew said that he would require assistance and felt that his ideal setup would be to have a qualified aide in charge of the East, another for the Midwest, and a third for the Far West. Hugh Owen of Paramount will join Agnew in such a capacity about June 1. Agnew said he has done nothing yet about filling in the remainder of his staff, but probably will in the near future. He said that in supervising Selznick's international distribution, he will be unable to devote all of his time to the domestic scene, and thus it would be more important that he have the assistance described.

"The whole idea," he said, "is to facilitate United Artists' work on Selznick's pictures, not to interfere with that work or to disturb the organization or its functions in any way. My men and I," he added, "will work closely with United Artists."

Agnew paid a tribute to the United Artists sales force, observing that "they do a mighty fine job when there is one to be done."

## *Variety to Honor Anger*

WASHINGTON, May 9. — The local Variety Club will hold a reception in honor of Harry Anger, managing director of Warners' Earle here following the presentation of the Catholic University "Americana" Award which Anger will receive May 29.

## *Tradeshow 'Goyescas'*

"Goyescas," Spanish-made musical which will be distributed in the Western hemisphere by RKO-Radio, will be trade screened in New York, Los Angeles, and San Francisco on Monday, May 15.

# Proposes Peacetime Entertainment Units

With a view to the immediate postwar period, when large numbers of the armed forces are expected to be returned to hospitals and convalescent institutions here, Ginny Simms, M-G-M star and radio entertainer, proposes a program to keep entertainment units circulating in military hospitals throughout the country after the conflict has ended.

At a press interview yesterday at the Waldorf-Astoria, Miss Simms explained that the project would not be affiliated with the USO or the Hollywood Victory Committee but would be carried out as a civic enterprise in each city having a veterans' hospital. Miss Simms, said to be backed by Mrs. Roosevelt, with the anticipated support of Brig. Gen. Frank Hines, head of the Veterans' Administration, plans to enlist the aid of mayors and civic groups throughout the country. The plan calls for the using of "local" talent, including school and civic groups, as well as professional entertainers playing local theatre engagements or night clubs.

Miss Simms will leave for Hollywood on May 19.

## *Graham Says U. S. Films High in Spain*

Because of "difficulty in passing censors," war pictures are practically nonexistent in Spain, according to Robert Graham, manager for Paramount in Mexico City, who arrived here yesterday aboard a Pan-American Airways clipper.

Graham, who has been in Spain for two months, said the picture business there was very good and that American films were particularly popular.

## *'Wac Week' Under Way Here Today*

(*Continued from page* 1)

chairman, who will present the Wac candidates. The ceremonies will be preceded by a breakfast at the Hotel Astor at which Moskowitz will be host to Wac officers and stars of screen, stage and radio.

Leo Brecher, New York exhibitor long affiliated with War Activities Committee projects in the Metropolitan area, has joined the WAC executive staff on a full-time volunteer basis, according to S. H. Fabian, theatres' division chairman. Brecher's duties will be in connection with exhibitor Wac activities.

## *Reade Ends Partnerships*

Walter Reade Theatres, which operates, in partnership with local exhibitors, 26 houses in New York and New Jersey, will assume sole management on June 1 of partnership theatres in Kingston, N. Y., and in Plainfield, Freehold and Perth Amboy, N. J., Walter Reade president, stated here yesterday.

## *Call in 'Target' Prints*

All prints of "Target for Tonight," British Ministry of Information 48-minute documentary released in this country through Warner Bros., in October, 1941, have been called in by the distributor.

## *Vanguard, Too, Is House-Hunting*

**Threatening to outgrow its present Madison Avenue quarters in the near future, David O. Selznick's Vanguard Films is toying with the idea of purchasing one or another of the nearby private residences in the East Fifties which are on the market, remodel it to its own taste and name it "Vanguard House."**

**If the idea fails to jell, Vanguard probably will locate in Radio City.**

## *WAC Adds to List of May Film Releases*

An additional war information film and bulletin has been added to the May release schedule of the War Activities Committee, Herman Gluckman, assistant distributor chairman of the WAC, has announced.

The revised schedule of WAC films now reads as follows:

On Thursday, Paramount will release "Skirmish On the Home Front," the economic stabilization film starring Alan Ladd, Betty Hutton, Susan Hayward, and William Bendix.

On May 25th, Vanguard's, U. S. Cadet Nurse Corps' film, "Reward Unlimited," will be released at the request of the U. S. Public Health Service. The short, starring Dorothy McGuire, Aline MacMahon, and James Brown, will be distributed by M-G-M in all cities except Albany, Des Moines, Memphis, Oklahoma City, and Portland, where it will be released through United Artist exchanges.

Three "film bulletins" will also be issued during the coming month: on the 18th, a short stressing the importance of Victory Gardens; and on May 25 and June 1, two Treasury Department bulletins pertaining to the coming Fifth War Loan.

Thus far, the only War Information film for June is the War Department's "Movies at War," pencilled in for June 8.

## *AFL Delays Drive To Sign Managers*

(*Continued from page* 1)

endeavor to secure an AFL charter for the theatre managers, it was said.

A meeting of Balaban and Katz managers has been scheduled for this Thursday at the Drake Hotel here by executives of the circuit, and union officials believe that the organization of theatre managers will be discussed at that time. No B. & K. managers have been approached officially by the organizers as yet, according to an AFL spokesman.

## *Ackerman to Build*

SAN FRANCISCO, May 9. — Irving C. Ackerman, veteran Western theatre operator, has leased the Southwest corner of the Fairmont Hotel here where he will establish a 300-seat theatre to operate on a single-feature policy. The house will be called Nob Hill.

## *'Teen Age' at Victoria*

"Teen Age," released by Film Classics, will have its premiere at the Victoria Theatre, Broadway, following the current run of Paramount's "The Break of the Dawn."

# Republic's Final Sales Meet Today

(*Continued from page* 1)

new records set by the company in distribution, production and promotion. As announced at the recent Chicago meeting, the company's sales increases for the first 16 weeks of 1944 is greater than for any period in its history; and company policies for future production have been influenced by this increase, with $17,750,000 allocated to the 1944-45 production program, and $2,700,000 budgeted for advertising and publicity.

Promotion plans for "Man From Frisco," which will have a tri-city world premiere in San Francisco, Oakland and Richmond, Cal., on May 18, will be outlined, likewise details of the campaigns for "Storm Over Lisbon" and "The Yellow Rose of Texas," next Roy Rogers Premiere production. Coming releases to be discussed include "Atlantic City."

**Branch Managers Attending**

Branch managers who will be present include: Jack Bellman, Buffalo; Sam Gorrel, Cleveland; George Kirby, Cincinnati; I. M. Pollard, Detroit; L. W. Marriott, Indianapolis; Sidney Lehman, Pittsburgh; Arthur Newman, Albany; Jack Davis, Boston; Jerome Lewis, New Haven; Sam Seletsky, New York; Joseph Engel, Philadelphia, and franchise holder Jake Flax, Washington. The home office will be represented by Walter L. Titus, Jr., William Saal, Morris Goodman, Seymour Borus, Edward Seifert, G. C. Schaefer, Albert Schiller, Charles Reed Jones and Steve Edwards.

## *Name Committees for Golf Tournament*

The complete alignment of committees for RKO's annual golf tournament next Tuesday at the Westchester Country Club was announced yesterday, as follows:

Tournament committee: N. Peter Rathvon, Ned E. Depinet, Malcolm Kingsberg, Major L. E. Thompson, Robert Mochrie, Garret Van Wagner, Sen. J. Henry Walters, Phil Reisman; prize award committee: Depinet, Walters, John A. Farmer, Harry Pimstein, R. S. Gavin; publicity committee: S. Barret McCormick, Harry Mandel, Rutgers Neilson, Arthur M. Brilant, Jack Level, John Cassidy; working committee: Arthur White, Herbert Mayes, Frank Angotti, Al Tuchman, Charles Fetz, John Jones, Jack Carney, Sol Spiller, Wally Stickerling; ticket committee: Farmer, Dick Gavin.

## *Billy Bitzer Buried*

Numerous industry co-workers of the late G. W. (Billy) Bitzer, pioneer film cameraman who died in Hollywood April 29, attended funeral services held yesterday in Columbus Circle Chapel here. Interment followed in Cedar Grove Cemetery. A service was also held last Thursday in Hollywood.

## *Releasing British Film*

"They Met in the Dark," British film produced by Marcel Hellman and starring James Mason, Joyce Howard and Tom Walls, has been acquired for distribution in the United States by English Films, Inc.

# 'Hargrove's' $23,000 Leads in Cleveland

CLEVELAND, May 9.—"See Here, Private Hargrove," with $23,000, led here this week. The second week of "Bernadette," at advanced prices, took $13,000 at the Allen. All downtown business played to good weekend attendance.

Estimated receipts for the week ending May 10:

**"The Song of Bernadette" (20th-Fox)**
ALLEN—(3,000) (76c-$1.10) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $13,000. (Average: $8,500).
**"Adventures of Mark Twain" (WB)**
WARNERS' HIPPODROME — (3,500) (76c-$1.10) 7 days. Gross: $20,000. (Average: $22,100).
**"Cover Girl" (Col.)**
WARNERS' LAKE—(714) (44c-55c-65c) 7 days, 3rd week. Gross: $4,000. (Average: $3,200).
**"Voice in the Wind" (UA)**
LOEW'S OHIO—(1,268) (43c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $5,500. (Average: $5,000).
**"Four Jills in a Jeep" (20th-Fox)**
RKO PALACE—(3,300) (50c-60c-85c-95c) 7 days. Stage: Sonny Dunham orchestra with Rufe Davis, Anne Rooney & vaudeville. Gross: $23,500. (Average: $25,400).
**"See Here, Private Hargrove" (M-G-M)**
LOEW'S STATE—(3,300) (43c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $23,000. (Average: $19,000).
**"The Uninvited" (Para.)**
LOEW'S STILLMAN—(1,900) (43c-65c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $11,000. (Average: $10,000).

# 'Harvest Moon' Gets A Heavy $26,000

ST. LOUIS, May 9.—"Shine On, Harvest Moon" at the Fox Theatre is headed for $26,000 to lead here. "The Adventures of Mark Twain" at roac show prices at the Ambassador looks like $24,000. Business generally is up

Estimated receipts for the week ending May 10:

**"Adventures of Mark Twain" (WB)**
AMBASSADOR—(3,154) (75c-$1.10) 7 days. Gross: $24,000. (Average: $15,700).
**"See Here, Private Hargrove" (M-G-M)**
LOEW'S STATE—(3,162) (40c-50c-60c-65c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $16,500. (Average: $18,900).
**"Shine On, Harvest Moon" (WB)**
**"The Whistler" (Ccl.)**
FOX—(5,038) (40c-50c-60c) 8 days. Gross: $26,000. (Average: $18,760).
**"The Heat's On" (Col.)**
**"Tunisian Victory" (M-G-M-BMI)**
LOEW'S ORPHEUM—(1,900) (40c-50c-60c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $6,500. (Average: $7,100).
**"Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs" (RKO-Disney)**
MISSOURI—(3,514) (40c-50c-60c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $9,500. (Average: $9,900).
**"Standing Room Only" (Para.)**
**"Buffalo Bill" (20th-Fox)**
SHUBERT—(1,900) (40c-50c-60c) 7 days. Gross: $6,000. (Average: $6,100).
**"Chip Off the Old Block" (Univ.)**
**"The Sullivans" (20th-Fox)**
ST. LOUIS—(4,000) (45c-50c) 7 days Gross: $6,000. (Average: $5,200).

## *Mexico, Soviet to Trade*

MEXICO CITY, May 9.—Arrangements for an interchange of Mexican and Russian pictures are seen as a result of the visit here by Andrey Boltiansky, Soviet film representative. He is visiting studios and conferring with producers, distributors and government officials.

## *Greenville Shows Curbed*

GREENVILLE, Miss., May 9.—The City Council here has invoked an ordinance prohibiting film shows, along with other types of amusement, between midnight and six A.M. The action was taken to help curb juvenile delinquency.


Paramount NEWS

AND NOTHING BUT THE NEWS



AFTER SCORING SENSATIONALLY AS ONE OF FOUR SINGING SISTERS IN AND THE ANGELS SING, BETTY HUTTON WILL BE TWINS IN "HERE COME THE WAVES"! SHE'LL BE BOTH A BLOND AND A REDHEAD IN DUAL SISTER ROLE IN THIS MARK SANDRICH MUSICAL, WHICH GOES BEFORE CAMERAS JUST AS "ANGELS" IS ABOUT TO COME TO THE SCREEN WITH DOTTIE LAMOUR AND FRED MAC MURRAY AS CO-STARS.


# 'Twain' Heads For $24,000 In Phila. Run

PHILADELPHIA, May 9.—The week got off to a big start in downtown houses with an advanced showing of "Adventures of Mark Twain" at increased prices for one week at the Boyd Theatre expecting to gross $24,000. "Follow the Boys," opening at the Mastbaum Theatre, points to a neat $33,000.

Estimated receipts for the week ending May 10-12:

**"The Uninvited" (Para.)**
ALDINE—(900) (40c-45c-50c-65c-75c-85c) 7 days, 4th week. Gross: $11,500. (Average: $14,600).
**"Shine On, Harvest Moon" (WB)**
ARCADIA—(600) (40c-45c-50c-65c-75c) 7 days, 2nd run. Gross: $6,800. (Average: $4,000).
**"The Adventures of Mark Twain" (WB)**
BOYD—(3,000) (35c-40c-50c-85c-$1.10) 7 days. Gross: $24,000. (Average: $18,000).
**"Action in Arabia" (RKO) (6 days) $17,500**
**"Four Jills in a Jeep" (20th-Fox) (1 day) $3,200**
EARLE—(3,000) (50c-65c-85c-95c) 6 days of vaudeville, including Mal Hallett's orchestra, Dorea Vincent, Dick Taylor, Phil Regan, Canada Lee, Jean Carroll and Ben Rochelle & Jane Beebe. Gross: $17,500. (Average: $27,800).
**"Four Jills in a Jeep" (20th-Fox)**
FOX—(3,000) (40c-45c-50c-65c-75c-85c) 7 days. Gross: $21,000. (Average: $20,500).
**"The Miracle of Morgan's Creek" (Para.)**
KARLTON—(1,000) (40c-45c-50c-65c-75c-85c) 7 days, 2nd run. Gross: $8,500. (Average: $6,600).
**"Broadway Rhythm" (M-G-M)**
KEITH'S—(2,200) (40c-45c-50c-65c-75c-85c) 7 days, 2nd run. Gross: $5,700. (Average: $5,800).
**"Follow the Boys" (Univ.)**
MASTBAUM — (4,700) (40c-45c-50c-65c-75c-85c) 7 days. Gross: $33,000. (Average: $22,500).
**"See Here, Private Hargrove" (M-G-M)**
STANLEY—(3,000) (40c-45c-50c-65c-75c-85c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $24,500. (Average: $20,000).
**"Frisco Kid" (WB)**
STANTON—(1,700) (40c-45c-50c-65c-75c-85c) 7 days, 2nd week, reissue. Gross: $9,800. (Average: $9,400).

## *'Jane Eyre' Bids for $18,400 in Buffalo*

BUFFALO, May 9.—"Jane Eyre" is bidding for the lead here at the Great Lakes Theatre with an expected $18,400. Summerlike weather held grosses down elsewhere. "The Adventures of Mark Twain" was disappointing at the Century, even at advanced prices, getting only $12,000.

Estimated receipts for the week ending May 13:

**"Broadway Rhythm" (M-G-M)**
BUFFALO—(3,489) (40c-50c-60c-70c) 7 days. Gross: $17,000. (Average: $17,400).
**"Jane Eyre" (20th-Fox)**
**"The Navy Way" (Para.)**
GREAT LAKES—(3,000) (40c-50c-60c-70c) 7 days. Gross: $18,400. (Average: $16,600).
**"Standing Room Only" (Para.)**
HIPPODROME (2,100) (40c-50c-60c-70c) 7 days, 2nd week moveover. Gross: $10,300. (Average: $9,700).
**"The Adventures of Mark Twain" (WB)**
TWENTIETH CENTURY—(3,000) (76c-$1.10) 7 days. Gross: $12,000. (Average, at 40c-50c-60c-70c: $12,200).
**"Ali Baba and the Forty Thieves" (Univ.)**
**"She's For Me" (Univ.)**
LAFAYETTE—(3,000) (40c-50c-60c-70c) 7 days. Gross: $10,000. (Average: $12,400).

## *Osio Heads Exhibitors*

MEXICO CITY, May 9.—Antonio de G. Osio has succeeded Emilio Azcarraga, one of Mexico's leading exhibitors and radio station operators, as president of the Association of Mexican Motion Picture Theatre Operators. Azcarraga resigned to turn full attention to his own affairs.

# Larry Kent to Head G-B Theatre Setup

(*Continued from page* 1)

and would follow, the broad production, distribution and M & B financial negotiations of Rank and Skouras, which are now nearing consummation. The post would involve Kent's presence here on a permanent basis, probably beginning some time next Fall. It is in line with the mutual desire of Rank and Skouras to provide improved management for G-B, which, despite vastly increased theatre attendance under wartime conditions, has not shown earnings commensurate with its full possibilities for some time, with the result that dividends payable to the parent company, M & B, have been disappointing, according to observers.

**Two-Thirds to Rank**

It is this fact, it is believed here, which influenced Loew's to agree to the sale of its 24½ per cent interest in M & B to Rank and 20th-Fox. Two-thirds of Loew's holdings will go to Rank and the other third to 20th-Fox, which also holds a 24½ per cent M & B interest now. This, obviously, will increase the British ownership of G-B beyond its status heretofore, and that fact is recognized here as ample reason for expecting approval of the deal by the British Treasury, which has been interested primarily in seeing to it that "foreign" influence in the British theatre company is not expanded.

Skouras is expected to obtain his exit visa in the near future and return to New York.

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Larry Kent, who returned to New York from London last weekend, declined to comment yesterday on the London report that he would become managing director of Gaumont-British Theatres.

"Mr. Skouras will have a complete statement to make on his return from London," Kent said. "I cannot comment on any phase of the negotiations while they are still in progress."

## *Warns on Use of Dangerous Gas*

(*Continued from page* 1)

atres will be checked by inspectors and samples of contents of pipes or reserve chemicals will be subjected to laboratory analysis, if deemed necessary as a safeguard against patrons' injuries or deaths to patrons or employes from toxic, explosive or inflammable refrigerants.

## *Browne, Bioff Begin Serving Sentences*

(*Continued from page* 1)

and Browne eight years for the extortions committed while IATSE officers.

The two men were under heavy guard all the way from Hoboken, N. J., where they were removed from a Federal detention "pen" last Sunday. Elaborate precautions were taken en route to protect them from possible reprisals from gangsters against whom they testified in investigations since their conviction.

# *U.S. Tribute to 'Honored 100'*



*ACME Telephoto from Washington*

**Washington, May 9.—Lt. Gen. A. A. Vandergrift, Commandant, U. S. Marine Corps, addressing the industry's "Honored 100" of the Fourth War Loan at a luncheon in their honor in the Hotel Statler here today. Seated at the speakers' table, left to right, are Charles P. Skouras, national industry chairman for the drive; Ted R. Gamble, chairman of the War Finance Division of the U. S. Treasury, and F. H. Ricketson, Jr., national drive vice-chairman.**

# *Government, Industry in Tribute to 'Honored 100'*

(*Continued from page* 1)

tors Walter George of Georgia, Robert LaFollette of Wisconsin and MacFarland of Arizona, and Ted R. Gamble, national director, War Finance Division, U. S. Treasury.

About 80 per cent of the winners of the "Honored 100" hail from smaller towns and cities of the country. Due to war exigencies in travel, Adam James Gomez of the Queen Theatre, Honolulu, the winner in Hawaii, was not present, but the campaign committee is planning to present him with a special award in lieu of the trip

**Skouras Welcomes "100"**

Today's sessions opened at 10 A.M. in the Hotel Statler, where Skouras welcomed the "Honored 100" and other members of the Fourth War Loan campaign committee, and Gamble paid tribute to the winners. Associated with Skouras and Gamble in this phase of the observance were F. H. Ricketson, Jr., who presided, and who was national campaign director of the drive; B. V. Sturdivant, national campaign director; Robert J. O'Donnell, chairman of the Fifth War Loan industry campaign; Ned E. Depinet, national distributor chairman; Si Fabian, chairman of the WAC theatres division, and Major Alan Martini, American air hero.

On the dais at the morning session were, in addition to the above: John Friedl, R. M. Kennedy, Leon Bamberger, Jay Emanuel, Ray Beall, Claude Lee, Fred Stein and Sam Shain.

The ceremonies were opened with an invocation by Army Chaplain Lt. Col. Daniel J. Wylie. Immediately following, B. E. Abegglin of the Revilla Theatre, Ketchikan, Alaska, was introduced, he being the winner who came the longest distance.

The first winner to be presented with an illuminated parchment scroll and medallion in recognition of his services in the drive was Jack L. Foxe of Loew's Columbia, Washington, D. C.

As each winner's name was called by Robert Selig, assistant national campaign director, who was in charge of the "Honored 100" contest, he was presented to Skouras and the dais guests and received from them the various honoraria. Altogether, 100 of the 101 winners are present in Washington for the two-and-a-half days of festivities.

Following the presentation, the "Honored 100" were guests of the Fourth War Loan committee and the industry's WAC committee at a luncheon in the Hotel Statler, where tribute was paid them by Lt. Gen. Vandegrift and other officials.

**Variety Club Is Host**

Tonight the winners and guests were given a testimonial supper by the local Variety Club and the ceremonies will close tomorrow when, headed by Skouras, the "Honored 100" will be officially inducted as a special advisory committee to the Fifth War Loan campaign committee and the Treasury War Finance Division.

The committee of arrangements in Washington included Carter Barron, Anthony Muto, John Payette and Frank LaFalce.

The Fifth War Loan pre-drive campaign will be launched here at the Statler tomorrow with an all-industry mass meeting as the first of a series of similar regional rallies covering all sections of the country. Getting under way at 10:30 A.M., the meeting will continue through a luncheon session, climaxed with an address by chairman O'Donnell, introduced by Fabian. All branches of the industry, including exhibitors, distributors and allied interests, will be represented.

Sidney Lust, District of Columbia exhibitor leader and chairman for this area, is scheduled to call the meeting to order. A highlight will be the presentation of the "Honored 100" to O'Donnell by Skouras, for service in the forthcoming campaign.

Among scheduled speakers will be Fabian, Gamble, Kennedy, campaign vice-chairman; Friedl, campaign director; Beall, publicity director, and Lee, industry consultant to the Treasury.

Exhibitor state chairmen who will attend with delegations include Louis Rome, Baltimore; W. F. Crockett and M. G. Thalheimer, Virginia; Lewis S. Black, Delaware; Milton Levine, West Virginia; Louis Finske, Eastern Pennsylvania, and Ben Amsterdam, New Jersey.

## *Distributors' Bond Efforts Stepped Up*

**Declaring that "distributors are full partners with exhibitors in this campaign," John J. Friedl, industry campaign director for the Fifth War Loan, predicted here yesterday that "the WAC distribution division will play a greater role in this campaign than in any previous war effort. Much of the success of the campaign depends on distribution chairmen, branch managers and salesmen in the field," he added. "The fact that they are to contact every exhibitor for the Fifth War Loan will mean a great deal toward assuring the greatest possible theatre participation; cooperation between distribution and the 16,000 theatres is vital for maximum results," Friedl declared.**

**June 12 Is 'E Day' In New York Drive**

June 12, opening date of the Fifth War Loan drive, will be publicized as "E Day" here, according to plans being formulated by C. C. Moskowitz, general chairman for the industry in New York, and representatives of the New York War Finance Committee and Neville Ford, the U. S. Treasury's chief for this state.

**Bershon Is Renamed California Chairman**

LOS ANGELES, May 9.—Dave Bershon was reelected state chairman of the Exhibitors War Finance Committee for California at that group's first session on the Fifth War Loan drive, held at the Variety Club here today. O. N. Siere and Henry Pine were selected vice-chairmen, and six committees to handle drive details were named.

**Bond Trailer Scripts Ready**

HOLLYWOOD, May 9.—Fifth War Loan material prepared by the Hollywood Writers Mobilization include scripts for a newsreel bulletin by Isobel Lennart and for three trailers, as follows: "What Did You Do Today?" by Leonard Newbauer, "Dawn of D-Day" by Bob Faber, and "Our Enemies Speak" by Earl Baldwin.

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Theatres Women's Army Corps Recruiting Week May 11-17

# MOTION PICTURE DAILY

Theatres' Women's Army Corps Recruiting Week May 11-17

VOL. 55. NO. 93 NEW YORK, U. S. A., THURSDAY, MAY 11, 1944 TEN CENTS

## Penn. Paves The Way for Deferments

### *Those Over 26 Held Back As 'Locally Needed'*

Pennsylvania State Selective Service headquarters has directed local draft boards in that state to defer all eligible key men in film distribution over 26 years of age, in keeping with the designation of film exchanges in Philadelphia and Pittsburgh as "locally needed," by the War Manpower Commission.

**Washington, May 10.—Indefinite draft deferment for all men over 29 in essential occupations, regardless of whether they are considered necessary by present standards, was understood today to be one of the provisions of a new Selective Service policy to be made public tomorrow night.**

Distributors have filed for "locally needed" designations in 14 other key
(*Continued on page* 11)

## Launch 'Wac Week' Here and in Field

Theatres throughout the country yesterday opened the industry's "Women's Army Corps Recruiting Week," May 11-17, with a series of parades, rallies and demonstrations, sponsored by the War Activities Committee.

In the New York Metropolitan area, the public Wac induction of 100 young
(*Continued on page* 11)

## *UJA to Set Plans For Campaign Today*

Film company and amusement leaders will meet at a Hotel Astor luncheon today to discuss a film and amusement industry luncheon to raise funds in the United Jewish Appeal's 1944 campaign to raise $32,000,000. A sub-committee designated by the group will report on a list of prospects and other plans for raising money in the film industry.

In addition to laying plans for the industry's fund-raising, the sub-committee is expected to assign donor prospects. Members of the sub-committee include David Bernstein, George J. Schaefer, Nate Spingold, Joseph H. Seidelman, Herman Robbins, Leopold Friedman, Louis Nizer, Arthur Israel, Jr., and Sam Rinzler.

## *Salesmen Organize*

ATLANTA, May 10.—Film salesmen of the Southeast have organized the Motion Picture Colosseum "to handle film salesmen's problems," present and future. The first chapter, Atlanta Column No. 1, will take immediate steps to contact salesmen in neighboring exchange centers with the aim of establishing other "columns" in those cities as the nucleus of a national organization.

In its first statement, issued through Frank W. Salley, vice-president, the Atlanta sponsors declared that, "having found the film men of Atlanta so receptive to the principle of a film salesmen's organization, run by film salesmen for film salesmen, the committee feels that film salesmen throughout the country must have similar desires and invites them to contact this Colosseum group."

The principal industry organization
(*Continued on page* 11)

## 50% Republic Gain From Big Films

Fifty per cent of Republic's distribution increase so far this year has come from high budget pictures, H. J. Yates, Sr., chairman of the board, reported at yesterday's opening session of a two-day sales conference at the New York Athletic Club, third and last in the current series of meetings called by James R. Grainger, president and general sales manager. The session will continue today.

Yates declared that the company
(*Continued on page* 7)

### *Five 'Big Guns' for Bond Promotions*

**Washington, May 10.—The following five "big guns" of promotion for the industry's Fifth War Loan drive were disclosed here today by Ray Beall, publicity director: "Bond Premieres," cooperation of the "Honored 100," soldier heroes' honor rolls sponsored by theatre patrons and posted in lobbies, "Free Movie Days" and children's special bond premieres.**

## *Church Heads Hear Warner*

"Motion pictures, like any institution which touches the lives of millions of people, must walk hand in hand with religion and those who teach it," and Hollywood not only recognizes but is practicing this principle, declared Jack L. Warner, executive producer for Warner Bros., in an address before some 700 churchmen at a testimonial dinner to Dr. Norman Vincent Peale, pastor of the Marble Collegiate Church, in the Hotel Roosevelt here yesterday.



Jack L. Warner

(*Continued on page* 11)

## *New Treasury Division to Dispose of Film Surplus*

WASHINGTON, May 10.—Motion picture and photographic equipment and supplies which may become surplus in the hands of the Army, Navy or other Government agencies will be disposed of by a Surplus Consumer Goods Disposal Division just set up in the U. S. Treasury Department, it was learned here today.

The new division will be under Ernest L. Olrich, executive of Munsingwear, who has taken on the task of disposing of billions of dollars' worth of materials which will become surplus from now on and after the war.

It could not be learned today wheth-
(*Continued on page* 10)

### *Decree Companies Ready for Clark*

**Washington, May 10.—Assistant U. S. Attorney General Tom C. Clark has been informed by the five consent decree companies that they are ready to confer with him to disclose the extent to which they will meet recommendations for broadening the decree. The date of the meeting will be decided upon.**

## U.S. Asks Films For 20% More In Fifth Drive

### *$5,000,000 Pledge from Skouras Opens Campaign*

WASHINGTON, May 10.—The motion picture industry was called upon today to do 20 per cent better in the "Fighting Fifth" War Loan drive than it did in the last campaign.

Paying high praise to the "Honored 100" exhibitors and the industry as a whole, Theodore R. Gamble, national director of the Treasury's War Finance Division, told the first of a number of regional meetings of film leaders here that 20 per cent of the people with income had not been reached in previous drives and must be brought in in the fifth — "the greatest campaign."

Sixty billion dollars is to be raised by bond sales this year, Gamble revealed, pointing out that the war expenditures of the nation now are at their peak and persons not induced to purchase bonds this time may have less available money in future drives,
(*Continued on page* 10)

## Century Winner in Empire State Suit

Century Circuit, operating 35 theatres in Brooklyn and Queens, has been awarded judgment in its legal action brought to prevent the dissolution of Empire State Projectionists' Union which merged with IATSE New York projectionists' Local No. 306 last year. The decision, rendered by Judge William R. Wilson in Kings County Supreme Court, prevents the
(*Continued on page* 7)

## *Wm. Bennett Seeking IATSE Presidency*

William Bennett of the Washington, D. C., IATSE stagehands Local No. 22 is expected to run against Richard F. Walsh, president of the IATSE in the election of a new president at the IATSE Convention in St. Louis starting May 29.

At present there are no indications that Bennett will head an entire new ticket to oppose the re-election of other IATSE officers. He polled almost 300 of the approximately 900 votes cast by delegates at the IATSE convention two years ago at which Walsh was elected.

# Personal Mention

JACK L. WARNER and MRS. WARNER left New York last night for the Coast.

•

AL SWERDLOVE, New England franchise holder for Film Classics, returned to Boston yesterday from New York.

•

AL FINESTONE, WAC Fifth War-Loan committee trade press publicity director, arrived in New York late last night from Washington.

•

RALPH DOYLE, RKO Radio managing director for Australasia, is expected here from the Coast at the weekend.

•

MRS. ESTELLE O'TOOLE of Warners' Hartford, Conn., district office, has returned to her desk after a three weeks' illness.

•

GEORGE ROSENBAUM, Universal Cleveland exchange salesman, has been granted a leave of absence because of illness.

•

LOUIS MICHELSON of the Columbia exchange in St. Johns, N. B., was married recently to JENNIE KASHETSKY of the company's branch there.

•

RALPH B. AUSTRIAN, RKO television consultant, will leave for the Coast tomorrow on a two-week trip.

•

LOUIS PHILLIPS, Paramount attorney, will leave for Chicago on Tuesday.

•

S. BARRET MCCORMICK, RKO advertising and publicity director, will leave for the Coast tomorrow.

•

MOSE GUMBLE of Warners' Music Publishers Holding Co., will leave here Monday for the Coast.

•

GEORGE HIRLIMAN, president of Film Classics, has left for the Southeast on business.

•

WILLIAM J. HEINEMAN, general sales manager for Samuel Goldwyn Prod., left yesterday for Boston.

•

RICHARD ETKIN, Paramount Buffalo booker, and GERALDINE CHERTOFF, will be married on June 4.

## New Camp Show Units

Six new units of Hollywood players have been formed by USO-Camp Shows for hospital entertainment of servicemen. Included are Don Ameche, Ellen Drew, Gale Sondergaard, Sidney Toler, Jennifer Holt, Ernest Cossart, Rhonda Fleming and Dorothy Garner.

## Gets Astor Franchise

Dorothy Thirion of the Star Film Exchange, Portland, Ore., has been added to the list of Astor Pictures franchise distributors, handling distribution in Portland and Seattle, Astor reports here.

# Trailer, Title Faking Hit By Censors

TORONTO, May 10.—The reissue of old films under new titles and the use in trailers of scenes that do not appear in the picture advertised, are two practices condemned in a 15-page annual report made public today by chairman O. J. Silverthorne of the Ontario Censorship and Inspection Board.

The report showed no pictures condemned among 475 features and 1,400 shorts and newsreels during year ending March 31, while 66 features were altered in one or more respects. Of 80 British features, revisions were ordered in 17, while one of 15 Soviet features was revised. This meant 48 revised Hollywood features in 375 examined. Silverthorne reported that licenses were issued to 412 theatres, which was a reduction of six for the year, due to war conditions in some areas.

### Many Films Reissued

With respect to reissues, Silverthorne said, "Because of a reduction in the number of films produced, a considerable number of old films have been reissued, some under new titles. The board does not consider this a good practice and has ruled that all such films must be presented with their original titles."

With respect to trailers, he ruled that scenes which appear as advertising for a coming attraction must also appear in the attraction or be eliminated from the trailer.

Referring to juvenile delinquency, the chairman said that prohibitory legislation "might fall short of its purpose," adding that the problem could be aggravated by creating resentment and disrespect for law in the juvenile mind.

He praised film industry for its patriotic work and predicted an expansion in visual education through films and also increased prominence for British films.

## Raives Named Zone Head for Schine

CLEVELAND, May 10.—Harold Raives has been promoted to zone manager of the Schine Circuit here, supervising 30 houses in this territory.

Raives, with Schine for the past six years, was Cleveland and Cincinnati booker prior to his promotion. He will continue to have headquarters here.

## Vanguard to Reissue Selznick Films

Vanguard Films will reissue David O. Selznick's "Intermezzo," originally released in 1939, and "Rebecca," a 1940 release, in August, following openings of Selznick's new production, "Since You Went Away." United Artists will distribute.

# Circuits Complete Building Survey

A complete survey of the proposed revisions for the New York State building code for theatres and other places of public assembly by circuit representatives was presented at a meeting held yesterday in the offices of the MPPDA here.

They approved in principle the provisions of a revised section relating to new theatre construction. A clarification and possible modification of requirements relating to stages and exits as applied to existing theatres will be sought.

A three-man committee to represent theatres was selected. It includes: Henry Anderson, Paramount; Harry Moskowitz, Loew's, and Louis Lazar, Schine Theatres. Martin J. Tracey, Century Circuit, was named an alternate. They were appointed as an advistory committee by New York State Commissioner of Labor Edward Corsi, and are scheduled to meet within ten days.

## To Ask Abandonment Of War Time Today

WASHINGTON, May 10.—Representatives of the film industry, and others, will urge abandonment of war time at hearings opening tomorrow before the House Interstate and Foreign Commerce Committee on legislation to that end introduced by Rep. Clarence Cannon of Missouri.

Introduced only a short time ago, the measure to return the country to standard time has received widespread support, it was declared by Cannon. Hundreds of communications endorsing the move have been received, he said.

War time was introduced shortly after the U. S. entered the war, by Congressional action authorizing the President to fix the time.

## WLB Approves Raise For N. Y. Musicians

The War Labor Board has approved a five per cent wage increase, retroactive to Sept. 6, 1943, for musicians of Radio City Music Hall, Roxy and Loew's State who are members of the American Federation of Musicians' New York Local No. 802. The increase of five per cent brings the musicians up to the 15 per cent allowable under the "Little Steel" formula.

The increase does not apply to musicians of the Capitol, Strand or Paramount, since they are members of "standby orchestras," the three houses using "name" bands for their stage shows.

## Burton King Funeral

HOLLYWOOD, May 10. — Funeral services were held here this week for Burton L. King, veteran screen actor, director and producer. King, a native of Cincinnati, began his film career with Equitable and later was employed by Metro, Pathe, Selznick, Gotham and Associated Exhibitors, among others.

# Coming Events

**May 11-17** — Theatres' recruiting campaign for Women's Army Corps.

**May 11-31**—Film industry Fifth War Loan Regional meetings in key cities.

**May 12**—Charles Francis Coe of MPPDA addresses Oklahoma City Chamber of Commerce.

**May 15-16**—Annual meeting, National Film Carriers, Hotel Astor, New York.

**May 16**—Charles Francis Coe of MPPDA addresses St. Louis Chamber of Commerce.

**May 16**—RKO "War Bond" golf tournament, Westchester Country Club, New York.

**May 19**—MPA dinner, Hotel Astor, New York.

**May 23-26**—National Allied Caravan meeting, Warwick Hotel, Philadelphia.

**May 24-25**—National Allied board meeting, Warwick Hotel, Philadelphia.

**May 29**—IATSE national convention, St. Louis.

**May 29-30**—PRC annual sales convention, Hollywood.

**June 12-July 8**—Fifth War Loan campaign.

**June 20**—Allied Theatre Owners of New Jersey, silver jubilee meeting, Hotel Chelsea, Atlantic City.

**July 15**—Unions and guilds file annual statements with Treasury Department.

## Will Resume Talks on Projector Making

Allen G. Smith, chief of the theatre equipment section of the War Production Board will arrive here tomorrow for further conferences with representatives of International Projector looking toward the possibility of locating manufacture of projection machines and parts in New York, away from war areas having manpower shortages.

Lester Isaac, Loew's sound and projection head, who is consultant to the WPB on projection and sound matters, is expected to sit in on the conferences.

## Permanent Status for RKO Theatres' Setup

CHICAGO, May 10.—No further changes in the RKO Theatres management are contemplated and the present setup with James Brennan in charge of Metropolitan theatres, Sol Schwartz in charge of out-of-town operations, and Harold Mirisch in charge of film buying, is designed to be permanent, it was learned here today, following the arrival of N. Peter Rathvon, RKO president, who is en route to the Coast.

The management as now constituted is functioning satisfactorily, it was stated.

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**ERROL FLYNN** IN **'UNCERTAIN GLORY'**

JACK L. WARNER with JEAN SULLIVAN • PAUL LUKAS • LUCILLE WATSON • Directed by RAOUL WALSH • Screen Play

# After 4 Top Weeks at Radio City Music Hall...

# BACK TO NEW YORK TO SET RECORDS FOR RKO CIRCUIT!



## 100,000 SEATS IN GREATER NEW YORK

| | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| * 81st Street | Regent | Franklin | Marble Hill | Academy |
| 86th Street | Alhambra | Royal | Proctor's, Yonkers | Crotona |
| 23rd Street | Hamilton | Chester | Proctor's, Mt. Vernon | Park Plaza |
| 58th Street | Coliseum | Pelham | Proctor's, New Rochelle | Nemo |
| 125th Street | Fordham | Castle Hill | Keith's White Plains | Riverside |

### OPENING SOON AT THE FOLLOWING:

| | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Alden, Jamaica | Greenpoint | Madison | Midway | Republic |
| Kenmore, Brooklyn | Bushwick | Keith's, Richmond Hill | Dyker | Strand, Far Rockaway |
| Prospect, Brooklyn | Tilyou | Keith's, Flushing | Orpheum | Colonial, Manhattan |

SHOWMEN DO MORE THAN BEFORE FOR THE FIGHTING FIFTH WAR LOAN!

**For the first time in its history, KEITH'S ALBEE, BROOKLYN, HOLDS A PICTURE FOR THREE FULL WEEKS... RECORD CROWDS!**

•

**... SENSATIONAL BUSINESS IN EVERY ONE OF 25* RKO METROPOLITAN CIRCUIT THEATRES TO PLAY IT THUS FAR! ...**

•

**TERRIFIC EVERYWHERE!**

ny Kaye in

SAMUEL GOLDWYN'S

# UP IN ARMS

IN TECHNICOLOR!

WITH

DINAH SHORE • DANA ANDREWS • CONSTANCE DOWLING

AND THE GORGEOUS GOLDWYN GIRLS'

*Associate Producer* DON HARTMAN • *Directed by* ELLIOTT NUGENT • Original Screen Play by Don Hartman, Allen Boretz and Robert Pirosh
Songs by Harold Arlen & Ted Koehler — Sylvia Fine & Max Liebman • Released thru RKO RADIO PICTURES, INC.

# 'Twain' Takes $54,132 at 3 in L. A. Run

LOS ANGELES, May 10.—Hot weather was reflected in grosses here. "Mark Twain" displayed strength, getting $54,132 in the Warner Downtown-Hollywood-Wiltern setup which averages $50,900. "Four Jills and a Jeep," linked with "Tampico," had the FWC Carthay Circle-Chinese-Loew's State-Uptown foursome on the $66,200 mark against a $61,350 par. "Cover Girl" wound up its four-week run at the Pantages and Hillstreet with a noteworthy $23,000.

Estimated receipts for the week ending May 10:

**"Four Jills in a Jeep" (20th-Fox)**
**"Tampico" (20th-Fox)**
CARTHAY CIRCLE—(1,516) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 7 days. Gross: $8,700. (Average: $11,200).
**"Four Jills in a Jeep" (20th-Fox)**
**"Tampico" (20th-Fox)**
CHINESE—(2,500) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 7 days. Gross: $14,500. (Average: $15,500).
**"Hey, Rookie" (Col.)**
**"Lady, Let's Dance" (Mono.)**
EGYPTIAN—(1,500) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 7 days. Gross: $8,500. (Average: $9,500).
**"Action in Arabia" (RKO)**
**"The Curse of the Cat People" (RKO)**
HAWAII—(1,000) (50c-60c-75c-80c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $8,000. (Average: $6,200).
**"Cover Girl" (Col.) 4th week**
**"Slightly Terrific" (Univ.) 7 days**
HILLSTREET — (2,700) (50c-60c-80c). Gross: $12,000. (Average: $19,700).
**"Four Jills in a Jeep" (20th-Fox)**
**"Tampico" (20th-Fox)**
LOEW'S STATE—(2,500) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 7 days. Gross: $32,000. (Average: $24,100).
**"Hey, Rookie" (Col.)**
**"Lady, Let's Dance" (Mono.)**
LOS ANGELES—(2,096) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 7 days. Gross: $16,000. (Average: $14,900).
**"Cover Girl" (Col.) 4th week**
**"Slightly Terrific" (Univ.) 7 days**
PANTAGES—(2,000) (50c-60c-80c-$1.00) 7 days. Gross: $11,000. (Average: $17,700).
**"Standing Room Only" (Para.)**
PARAMOUNT HOLLYWOOD—(50c-60c-80c-$1.00) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $11,500. (Average: $11,000).
**"Standing Room Only" (Para.)**
**"You Can't Ration Love" (Para.)**
PARAMOUNT DOWNTOWN — (50c-60c-80c-$1.00) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $18,100. (Average: $20,300).
**"Hey, Rookie" (Col.)**
**"Lady, Let's Dance" (Mono.)**
RITZ—(1,376) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 7 days. Gross: $7,500. (Average: $8,700).
**"Four Jills and a Jeep" (20th-Fox)**
**"Tampico" (20th-Fox)**
UPTOWN—(1,716) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 7 days. Gross: $11,000. (Average: $10,500).
**"The Adventures of Mark Twain" (WB)**
WARNERS' HOLLYWOOD—(3,000) (50c-60c-80c-$1.00) 7 days. Gross: $17,923. (Average: $17,000).
**"The Adventures of Mark Twain" (WB)**
WARNERS' DOWNTOWN—(3,400) (50c-60c-80c-$1.00) 7 days. Gross: $19,690. (Average: $18,700).
**"The Adventures of Mark Twain" (WB)**
WARNERS' WILTERN—(2,200) (50c-60c-80c-$1.00) 7 days. Gross: $16,519. (Average: $15,200).

## 'Jacobowsky' in Fall

Columbia's film production of the Theater Guild's "Jacobowsky and the Colonel" has been set for September, 1944, release, it was learned here yesterday. Purchase price for the film rights was $350,000. The Theatre Guild was represented by H. William Fitelson, New York film attorney.

## 40 Buy Monogram Films

CHICAGO, May 10. — Contracts to play Monogram's 1943-44 product have been received from Illinois Allied's booking department for more than 40 theatres, it was reported by Irving Mandel, Chicago Monogram franchise holder.

# Review

## "Jam Session"

*(Columbia)*

THE story of "Jam Session" is eclipsed by the performances of six name bands, including those of Charlie Barnet, Louis Armstrong, Alvino Rey, Jan Garber, Teddy Powell and Glen Gray, developing into solid jive which should delight the jitterbugs and also prove satisfactory entertainment for average audiences.

Ann Miller arrives in Hollywood determined to become a screen star. She first takes a secretarial job with Jess Barker, a struggling young screen writer. Barker discovers Miss Miller is not a secretary, but only after she has completely mutilated his story in her "transcription" of his script dictation. Unfortunately, she had submitted the transcription to the producer, who fired Barker upon reading it. The situation is eventually straightened out with Barker being given another chance. His story is finally accepted, Miss Miller wins the star role in the film and Barker wins Miss Miller.

The supporting cast includes Eddie Kane, George Eldredge, Renie Riano and Charles La Torre. Irving Briskin produced and Charles Barton directed from Manny Seff's screenplay.

Running time, 78 mins. "G."* Release date, April 13.

HELEN MCNAMARA

**"G" denotes general classification.*

## MGM to Fete Charles Midelburg Tomorrow

M-G-M will give Charles Midelburg, its "20-year showman," a luncheon tomorrow in the Astor Hotel here. It will be attended by M-G-M home office executives and the trade press. Accompanied by Mrs. Midelburg, the exhibitor will arrive today from Charleston, W. Va., where he operates the Capitol Theatre. They will leave for Hollywood tomorrow.

Among company executives who are scheduled to attend the luncheon are William F. Rodgers, David Bernstein, J. Robert Rubin, Howard Dietz, Leopold Friedman, Charles C. Moskowitz, Joseph R. Vogel, Si Seadler, Edward M. Saunders, E. K. O'Shea, Edwin W. Aaron, William R. Ferguson, Herbert Crooker, Tom Gerety, H. M. Richey and Harold Postman. Gus S. Eyssell, managing director of the Music Hall, also will attend.

## Buffalo House Gets Clearance Reduction

A clearance award has been entered at the Buffalo tribunal and a clearance complaint withdrawn at Washington, the American Arbitration Association reported here yesterday.

At Buffalo, Roland H. Tills, arbitrator, in the clearance complaint filed by Basil Bros., operators of the Apollo, Buffalo, against the five decree companies, declared that the existing clearance of 14 days between the Elmwood and the plaintiff's theatre was unreasonable, and reduced it to not more than 10 days.

The clearance complaint of Ike Weiner, operator of the Waldorf, Leonardtown, Md., against Warners' has been withdrawn at the Washington tribunal. The withdrawal followed an agreement, the terms of which were not disclosed.

## Arthur in Marines

ST. LOUIS, May 10. — Dave Arthur, assistant general manager of Fanchon and Marco, has received a commission as a second lieutenant in the Marine Corps. He will report for duty at Quantico, Va., May 25. Harry Arthur, Jr., general manager, has not named a successor.

## Para. Air Promotions Planned for 'Gang'

Paramount's radio promotion for "The Hitler Gang" will start in New England today, prior to the film's opening at Boston's Paramount and Fenway on May 25. WNAC and the rest of the Yankee network of 21 stations will deliver broadcasts tieing in with more than 60-day-and-date engagements in New England.

Robert Watson, Alexander Pope and Martin Kosleck who appear in the film will make personal and radio appearances in that territory. Detroit will be given similar radio promotion as will the Southwest and the West Coast. In cities not covered by the regional plan, Paramount has purchased time on individual stations.

## Reelect Brandt ITOA Head Again Today

Harry Brandt, president of the Independent Theatre Owners Association of New York, is scheduled to be reelected for another year at an ITOA luncheon-meeting at the Hotel Astor today. Max A. Cohen is scheduled to be elected second vice-president.

Other officers scheduled for reelection include David Weinstock, first vice-president; Leon Rosenblatt, treasurer; Abraham Leff, secretary, and John C. Bolte, sergeant-at-arms. Expected to be elected to the directorate, in addition to the aforementioned, are: Hyman Rachmil, Abraham Shenk, A. H. Eisenstadt, J. J. Goldberg, Gilbert Josephson, Jack Hatten, Rudolph Saunders, Emanuel Hertzig, Samuel Seelen, Ray Rhonheim, A. Erickson, Charles Steiner and Isadore Gottlieb.

## 10,515 Screens Set For MGM Birthday

A total of 10,515 theatres have to date agreed to play an M-G-M feature or short during "Leo's 20th-Year Anniversary Week," June 22-28, according to the home office.

The Charlotte exchange was the first to report bookings for every theatre in its territory. Albany was second, and, from indications yesterday, Kansas City will be the third.

# Hollywood

By JACK CARTWRIGHT

*Hollywood, May 10*

ALLEN WILSON, Republic studio chief, has signed Joseph Kane, who directed most of that studio's Roy Rogers specials, to a new producer-director contract. His first under the new deal will be an untitled John Wayne starrer, Wilson said. Almost simultaneously Republic exercised its option on Vera Hruba Ralston whose next starring assignment is scheduled for June. She recently played dramatic roles in "The Lady and the Monster" and "Storm Over Lisbon."

•

*Sale of "A Likely Story," original comedy by Jay Dratler and Earl Felton, to M-G-M reveals an unusual bit of screenplay dickering. Not a word of the story was down on paper, but Dratler and Felton made the deal, reportedly for $50,000, with Dratler telling the yarn in 40-minute versions 15 different times over a period of six days, insiders to the transactions revealed in "A Likely Story"! It was Robert Young's liking for the story which finally clinched the deal. He will be starred in it.*

•

**Columbia renewed Anita Louise's contract and assigned her to a featured role in "Stalk the Hunter," comedy starring Brian Aherne and Evelyn Keyes. . . . Keenan Wynn's first role since returning from an oversea tour of China, Burma and India will be an added comedy sequence in M-G-M's "Marriage Is a Private Affair." . . . Jan Garber, who is currently at the Hollywood Palladium with his band, will make a picture for Columbia following the Palladium engagement.**

•

Walter Brennan reported to Samuel Goldwyn studio for his role of Featherhead in "The Princess and the Pirate" the very day 27 stuntmen were staging rough and tumble fight scenes of pirates raiding a merchantman in the Bob Hope starrer. . . . RKO signed Douglas Walton, who has spent the past two years in the Army, for a featured role in "Farewell My Lovely." . . . Edward Golden has signed Herbert Biberman to direct "The Master Race," which soon Robert Golden will produce for RKO release.

•

*Cab Calloway's "Hepsters' Dictionary," which unscrambles jive talk for the person "not hep," is being distributed to newspaper editors, columnists and others by George Glass as a publicity adjunct to the campaign for Andrew Stone's "Sensations of 1944." Are you a "hincty square," or an "icky jeff?" are samples. . . . Warners has renewed Dolores Moran's contract. She recently shared feminine honors with Alexis Smith in "The Horn Blows at Midnight," Jack Benny starrer.*

## Krellberg Buys Belasco

Sherman S. Krellberg, president of Goodwill Pictures, New York, and John J. Wildberg, attorney, have bought the Belasco Theatre here from the estate of the late David Belasco. They will take possession on Sept. 1.

## Century Winner in Empire State Suit

(Continued from page 1)

dissolution of Empire as a corporation for the duration of its contract between Century and Empire, which still has about seven years to run, according to a Century spokesman. Attorneys for Local 306 plan to appeal.

Spokesman for Century pointed out that the decision will have the effect of preventing Empire and Local 306 from carrying out the provisions of their merger. Local 306 officials point out that except for those members of Empire who are now in the Armed Forces, most of Empire members now hold membership in Local 306. They hold that they merely have to maintain Empire as a corporate entity, with former Empire members holding membership in both unions.

To further complicate the situation, the State Labor Relations Board is now holding hearings on the petition of Local 306 to be designated collective bargaining agent for approximately 100 projectionists employed by Century. What effect SLRB's ordering an election and Local 306's winning it would have upon the decision won by Century is something about which union spokesmen yesterday refused to comment.

## 50% Republic Gain From Big Films

(Continued from page 1)

will continue to market high budget productions through concentrated advertising and publicity campaigns on key openings, with $250,000 allocated to branch cities and $100,000 to subordinate key runs.

Eastern district sales manager Maxwell Gillis and Central district sales manager Sam Seplowin are attending the conference with groups from their territories, including branch managers Jack Bellman, Sam P. Gorrel, George H. Kirby, I. M. Pollard, L. W. Marriott, Sidney Lehman, Arthur Newman, Jack Davis, Jerome Lewis, Sam Seletsky and Joseph Engel.

A. W. Perry and A. J. Laurie of Empire Universal Films, Ltd., Republic's Canadian distributors, are here from Toronto. The home office is represented by Walter L. Titus, Jr., William Saal, Morris Goodman, Charles Reed Jones, Steve Edwards, G. C. Schaefer, Seymour Borus, Edward Seifert, Albert Schiller, E. I. Becker and Al Fox.

## Murphy to Seek 'Viv' House Lease Again

BUFFALO, May 10.—M. K. Murphy, prior operator of the Viv Theatre, Corbin, Ky., before its acquisition by Schine, has notified the U. S. District Court here that he will move May 22 for reconsideration of the capital investment in the house.

The reconsideration, he stated, would be with a view to determining his right to be reinstated as a lessor of the property, his previous status. The temporary court order set the figure at $7,554. Murphy said he would undertake to prove to the court that the investment in the leasehold, by acquisition from him was, instead, $5,127.

# Review

## "Range Law"

(*Monogram*)

*Hollywood, May 10*

"RANGE LAW" holds to the old West's judgment that cattle rustling is punishable with a noose. But Johnny Mack Brown and Raymond Hatton, again as undercover lawmen, ride to the rescue of "Pop" McGee, a rancher unjustly found guilty and condemned to die. It proves satisfactory Western fare in all departments.

Aided by Sarah Padden as "Boots" Annie, the frontier woman who sent for them, and appealing Ellen Hall, the U. S. Marshals uncover the plot of Phil Randall, an unscrupulous rancher, to put McGee out of the way so he can buy in his ranch at a sheriff's sale. Unknown to McGee or other townsfolk, Randall had discovered silver ore on the ranch. When his crooked sheriff double-crosses a gunman hired to kill Brown the pair of lawmen wring a confession from the dying outlaw, discover the fake branding irons used to frame McGee and bring Randall to trial for cattle rustling.

Lambert Hillyer directed from an original screenplay by Frank Young. Charles J. Bigelow supervised production.

Running time, 57 minutes. "G."* Release date, June 24.

JACK CARTWRIGHT

*"G" denotes general classification.

## 'Standing Room Only' Hangs Out SRO Sign

KANSAS CITY, May 10.—It's the S.R.O. sign for "Standing Room Only" at the Newman where it got around $14,000. "Rosie, the Riveter" and "Career Girl" paired at the Tower to take an above-average $9,500.

Estimated receipts for the week ending May 10-13:

**"The Sullivans" (20th-Fox)**
ESQUIRE—(800) (45c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $5,300. (Average: $6,000).
**"Up in Mabel's Room" ((UA)**
**"Voice in the Wind" (UA)**
MIDLAND—(3,600) (40c-60c) 7 days. Gross: $14,500. (Average: $14,000).
**"Standing Room Only" (Para.)**
NEWMAN — (1,900) (45c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $14,000. (Average: $11,000).
**"The Adventures of Mark Twain" (WB)**
ORPHEUM—(1,900) (40c-$1.10) 5 days. Gross: $9,000. (Average: $7,500).
**"Rosie, the Riveter" (Rep.)**
**"Career Girl" (PRC)**
TOWER—(2,200) (40c-60c) 7 days. Gross: $9,500. (Average: $9,400).
**"The Sullivans" (20th-Fox)**
UPTOWN—(2,200) (45c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $4,200. (Average: $5,600).
**"The Sullivans" (20th-Fox)**
FAIRWAY—(700) (45c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $1,500. (Average: $1,600).

## 'Las Vegas', Show Take Big $17,000

INDIANAPOLIS, May 10. — "Moon Over Las Vegas," with Vaughn Monroe on the stage, will gross $17,000 at the Circle this week. "Hey, Rookie" and "The Heavenly Body" will do $13,000 at Loew's.

Estimated receipts for the week ending May 9-11:

**"Moon Over Las Vegas" (Univ.)**
CIRCLE—(2,800) (55c-70c) 7 days. Stage show: Vaughn Monroe. Gross: $17,000. (Average: $11,800).
**"Adventures of Mark Twain" (WB)**
INDIANA—(3,200) (32c-55c) 7 days. Gross: $9,000. (Average: $11,600).
**"Hey, Rookie" (Col.)**
**"The Heavenly Body" (M-G-M)**
LOEW'S—(2,800) (32c-55c) 7 days. Gross: $13,000. (Average: $11,500).
**"Shine On, Harvest Moon" (WB)**
LYRIC—(2,000) (32c-55c) 7 days, move-over from Circle. Gross: $5,000. (Average: $4,900).

## Cosey Joins Republic

CLEVELAND, May 10. — Joe Cosey, 20th-Fox booker here for 15 years, has resigned to head the local Republic booking office. Bill McKinstry, Jr., former shipper, succeeds Cosey at 20th-Fox.

## Providence Grosses Are in Bad Slump

PROVIDENCE, May 10. — Spring weather kept people from theatres in droves and grosses were the lowest in months. "Adventures of Mark Twain," at Fay's only took $5,000. "Standing Room Only" scored $12,200 at the Strand.

Estimated receipts for the week ending May 11:

**"Up in Arms" (RKO)**
**"Passport to Destiny" (RKO)**
RKO-ALBEE—(2,239) (35c-44c-55c-60c) 7 days, 3rd week. Gross: $10,500. (Average: $12,800).
**"Standing Room Only" (Para.)**
**"Tornado" (Para.)**
STRAND—(2,200) (44c-55c) 7 days. Gross: $12,200. (Average: $10,500).
**"Up in Mabel's Room" (UA)**
**"Voice in the Wind" (UA)**
LOEW'S STATE—(3,232) (35c-44c-55c) 7 days. Gross: $15,000. (Average: $17,700).
**"Buffalo Bill" (20th-Fox)**
**"Bermuda Mystery" (20th-Fox)**
MAJESTIC—(2,250) (35c-44c-55c) 7 days. Gross: $11,000. (Average: $12,100).
**"Adventures of Mark Twain" (WB)**
FAY'S—(1,800) (76c-80c-$1.10) 7 days. Gross: $5,000. (Average, under old scale: $6,500).
**"Passage to Marseille" (WB)**
CARLTON—(1,526) (35c-44c-55c) 7 days, 2nd week, moveover from Majestic. Gross: $3,900. (Average: $4,000).
**"Hitler: Dead or Alive" (Ben Judell)**
METROPOLITAN—(3,050) (50c-60c-70c) 3 days. On stage: Peters Sisters, Georgie Kaye, Wally Ward, Campbell & Lloyd, Lou Fitzgibbons, Nino Ghezzi, Bob Hopkins, Four Creedons, Ed Drew's Orchestra. Gross: $4,000. (Average: $7,900).

## Milwaukee Houses Cut

MILWAUKEE, May 10.—Admissions for children between the ages of 12 and 16, at all Fox-Wisconsin theatres here, with the exception of two third-run houses, have been lowered 40 percent for Friday night shows. This reduces children's prices from 80 to 45 cents in first-runs, with scales in second-runs lowered proportionately.

## Miss Lieber Promoted

PHILADELPHIA, May 10.—Ruth Lieber of the local United Artists booking department, has been promoted to assistant to E. V. McCaffrey, head booker and office manager, succeeding Janet Hallard, resigned. Also at that exchange, Bernard Gates has succeeded William Moses in the sales department.

# Coast Flashes

*Hollywood, May 10*

LEON FROMKESS has signed Tex Ritter to a term contract, announcing plans for a series of higher-than-usual budget Westerns on the 1944-45 PRC program.

•

Captain Clark Gable today entrained for Washington with a print of an Army Air Force picture on which he supervised the photography. It will be shown for the approval of the War Department and then possibly released through the War Activities Committee.

•

Described as "one of the most important" of the current season, M-G-M will follow "Ziegfeld Follies" with "Yolanda and the Thief," starring Fred Astaire and Lucille Ball, with Arthur Freed producing.

•

Jack Flynn, M-G-M Western sales manager, is visiting exchanges here en route to his headquarters in Chicago. George Hickey, Western supervisor, and W. G. Bishop, divisional exploiteer, are accompanying him.

•

Jack L. Warner, executive producer for Warner Bros., has extended Peter Lorre's contract. The actor will next be seen in "Mask of Dimitrios."

•

Faye Emerson, Warner player, was recently united with her 19-year old sister, Virginia, after a 14-year separation.

•

Sol Lesser has bought Thompson Buchanan's play, "Civilian Clothes," from Paramount, as a vehicle for Lon McCallister.

•

"The Corn Is Green," with Bette Davis, will begin shooting May 22, with Irving Rapper directing.

•

William Fadiman, M-G-M scenario head, will leave here for the East on Friday.

## 'Twain' Leads Slow Pittsburgh Week

PITTSBURGH, May 10.—Uncertain weather slowed business here, with the best comparative gross rolling up at the Warner Theatre, where "The Adventures of Mark Twain" promises $12,000.

Estimated receipts for the week ending May 9-12:

**"Ladies Courageous" (Univ.)**
FULTON—(1,700) (35c-44c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $7,000. (Average: $8,500).
**"Cover Girl" (Col.)**
HARRIS—(2,200) (35c-44c-65c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $11,000. (Average: $10,100).
**"See Here, Private Hargrove" (M-G-M)**
PENN—(3,400) (35c-44c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $22,000. (Average: $21,700).
**"Shine On, Harvest Moon" (WB)**
RITZ—(1,100) (35c-44c-65c) 7 days, 3rd week, moveover after one week at Penn, one at Warner. Gross: $4,000. (Average: $3,000).
**"Week-End Pass" (Univ.)**
**"Hat Check Honey" (Univ.)**
SENATOR—(1,750) (35c-44c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $2,500. (Average: $3,400).
**"Knickerbocker Holiday" (UA)**
STANLEY—(3,800) (44c-68c-85c). On stage: 6 days of vaudeville, including Johnnie (Scat) Davis and Lawrence Welk's orchestra. Gross: $17,500. (Average: $22,000).
**"The Adventures of Mark Twain" (WB)**
WARNER—(2,000) (35c-44c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $12,000. (Average: $9,350).

# *first* peek at "MABEL" across th

**SAN FRANCISCO**
Sock opening—Set for minimum 5 weeks at United Artists Theatre!

**LOS ANGELES**
4 theatre opening—
4 theatre smash!
At State, Chinese, Carthay Circle and Uptown!

**HOUSTON**
Biggest U.A. week in a year-
State Theatre

*Edward Small*
Presents

## UP IN MABEL'S ROOM

starring
Marjorie REYNOLDS ★ Dennis O'KEEFE ★ Gail PATRICK
Mischa AUER ★ Charlotte GREENWOOD
with LEE BOWMAN ★ JOHN HUBBARD ★ JANET LAMBERT
and Binnie BARNES

lation!


DAYTON
Equals top U.A. business for two years—Loew's Theatre!
NEW YORK
Boffo! Smash first week at Gotham Theatre—Looks like 8 weeks!
ATLANTA
Top U.A. business for the year at the Grand Theatre!
they're all after Mabel!
YOU can date her
at U. A.

# U.S. Asks Films For 20% More In Fifth Drive

(*Continued from page* 1)

when Government spending may be on the down-grade.

Gamble stressed that the industry's job will be to again sell bonds to individuals, that the national income this year will be at an all-time record peak of $153,000,000,000 and that 5 or 6 million persons capable of buying bonds have not as yet been reached. Fifty-four million persons will have an income this year, and it is the job of the groups working with the War Finance Committee to reach all of them.

**He said, "All official Washington recognizes the accomplishment of the motion picture industry and all the people who worked in the Fourth War Loan drive. You motion picture men and the others did a job that has no precedent. You have set the pattern by which the money is to be raised, and in doing that you have assumed a great responsibility."**

Si Fabian, chairman of the theatres division of the War Activities Committee, in response to Gamble, pledged "every possible cooperation."

Charles P. Skouras, industry national chairman of the Fourth War Loan drive, accepted a scroll from the "Honored 100" in appreciation of his work in that campaign, and Skouras started the fifth drive off with a pledge of $5,000,000 in bond purchases for National Theatres, of which he is president, and a personal purchase of a bond for every house in the National Circuit.

R. M. Kennedy, vice-chairman, said the committee is attempting to ease the task of theatre managers by offering a simplified plan under which this campaign will require no special pledges to supplement the general pledges already given the War Activities Committee.

### Aggressive Campaign Planned

Ray Beall, national publicity chairman, promised an aggressive advertising campaign, with kits now being prepared and a press book scheduled to go in the mail by May 22. The latter will be practical in content and format and will contain a number of innovations, he said. Beall paid tribute to Martin Quigley, chairman of the WAC trade press division, to his full committee and all trade paper publishers and editors, as well as to Si Seadler and Al Finestone, who are handling the advertising and trade press in the drive.

Skouras, delivering the "Honored Hundred" to O'Donnell, said, "It is the happiest moment in my life to present to you this magnificent body of men and women. In accepting them, O'Donnell said, "However much we may pay tribute to you for your achievements for being the 'Honored Hundred,' I cannot help but consider that you represent the other thousands of exhibitors who also worked tirelessly in the Fourth War Loan campaign and upon whom, with you, we must rely for success in the 'Fighting Fifth'." The scroll, signed by the 100, was presented to Skouras; and Ralph Batschelet of Denver, outstanding member of the group, transmitted to O'Donnell its ideas as formulated for the coming campaign.

The meeting was opened by Sidney Lust, Washington circuit operator, chairman of the campaign for the District of Columbia area, who turned the gavel over to Robert J. O'Donnell of Dallas, national industry chairman for the fifth campaign.

### Film Leaders Present

Many film leaders were present to hear O'Donnell's outline of plans for the industry's participation in the drive, including Joseph Kinsky, campaign coordinator; Francis S. Harmon, WAC executive vice-chairman; Walter Brown, his associate; Claude F. Lee, film industry consultant to the Treasury, and Leon J. Bamberger, assistant to the distributors' chairman.

Others attending were: Bert Kennerson, Ray Beall, John Friedl, R. M. Kennedy, Ned E. Depinet, Major Allan V. Martini, B. V. Sturdivant, F. H. Ricketson, Jr., Walter Brown, Ned Shugrue, John Reilly, John Flinn, Jay Emanuel, Carter Barron, John Payette, Joseph Brecheen, J. Louis Rome, William Crockett, Lewis Black, Milton Levine, Lou Finske, Morton Thalheimer, Robert Selig, Sam Gross, Robert Folliard, Julian Brylawski and Frank Hornig.

### Moskowitz Announces New York Key Men

A staff of leaders for the Fifth War Loan drive in New York was announced at a meeting here yesterday by C. C. Moskowitz, industry general chairman for the city. The line-up is as follows:

Campaign director, Oscar A. Doob; general co-chairmen, Samuel Rinzler, Si Fabian and Harry Brandt; liaison with War Finance Committee, Harry Mandel for the industry, and Fred W. Gehle of the Treasury; chairmen of public relations, Ernest Emerling; chairman of special events, Edward C. Dowden; chairman for Broadway, Irving Lesser; chairman of distributors, Ralph Pielow; chairman of home offices, Eugene Picker; chairman of accounting, Prof. John Madden; chairman of corporate investments, Leonard Goldenson; chairman of labor relations, Mike Rosen and Major Leslie Thompson.

Borough and county chairmen are: Brooklyn, Erwin Gold; Bronx, Russell Emde and J. Joelson; Manhattan, Eugene Myers and Max Cohen; Queens, Jack Harris; Westchester, James Grady; Richmond, Irving Liner; Nassau, Fred Schwartz; Suffolk, Leonard Edwards; Putnam, Dutchess and lower Orange counties, Harry Royster.

### Fifth Loan Officials In Boston Today

WASHINGTON, May 10.—Following the regional meeting here, Fifth War Loan directors and members of the national War Activities Committee left by plane today for Boston for the New England regional meeting tomorrow.

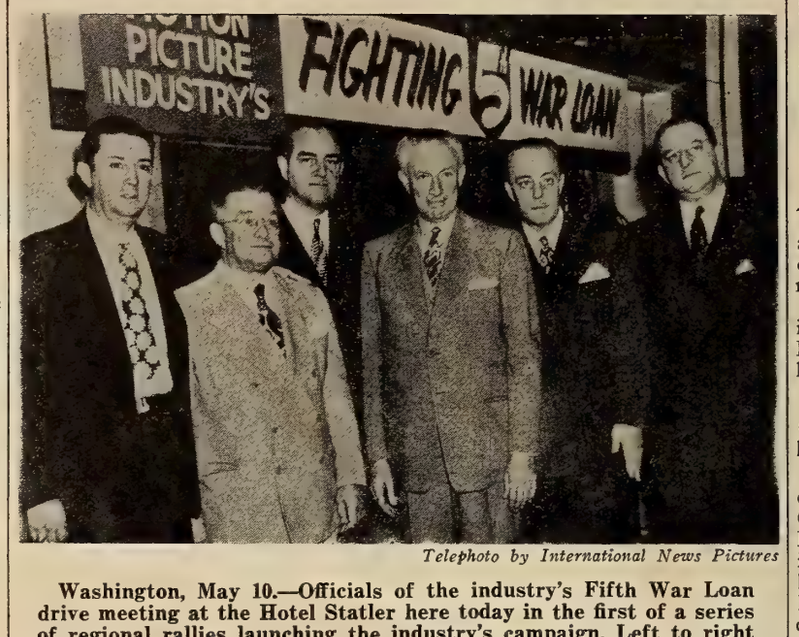
Sam Pinanski, of Mullin & Pinanski circuit, who is theatres division chairman of the Massachusetts WAC, and chairman of the Fifth War Loan for this area, will preside.

A. M. Kane is expected to participate in this session and Harry Browning will be area public relations director for the drive.

R. J. O'Donnell, national chairman of the industry Fifth War Loan, will make the key speech outlining proposed plans for the "Fighting Fifth" campaign. Of his staff, John J. Friedl, Richard M. Kennedy and Ray Beall will accompany O'Donnell to Boston; also Claude F. Lee, motion picture consultant to the Treasury Department.

This will be the second of 15 meetings to be held all over the country. Each regional area will follow with local meetings set by state chairmen.

# 'Fighting Fifth' Drive Is On




*Telephoto by International News Pictures*

**Washington, May 10.—Officials of the industry's Fifth War Loan drive meeting at the Hotel Statler here today in the first of a series of regional rallies launching the industry's campaign. Left to right are: Richard Kennedy, campaign vice-chairman; Sidney Lust, District of Columbia chairman; Ned E. Depinet, national distributor chairman; Robert J. O'Donnell, national campaign chairman; John J. Friedl, campaign director, and Si Fabian, chairman of the theatres division of the War Activities Committee.**

## *War Bond Premieres Raised $360,671,683*

**Washington, May 10.—Results of the industry's Fourth War Loan "Bond Premieres" were announced at today's first regional meeting here in connection with the industry's Fifth Loan drive. At 3,034 "Bond Premieres," 2,449,314 bonds were sold, worth $360,671,683. There still are 135 reports to be received.**

### Coast Theatre Heads Discuss Drive Plans

LOS ANGELES, May 10.—The first organizational meeting of Southern California theatre men for Fifth War Loan committee activities was held in the Variety clubrooms of the Ambassador Hotel here today. Dave Bershon, Southern California state chairman, officiated at the session, which covered tentative plans for the drive, June 12-July 8. The meeting was attended by some 60 key circuit and independent exhibitors and representatives of film exchanges.

Bershon appointed the following: special assistants to the chairman: O. N. Srere, Henry Pines; executive committee: Bershon, Srere, Pines, Sherrill Corwin, Ben Wallerstein, Harry Wallen, Jack Berman, George Bowser, Gus Metzger, Fred Greenberg; finance committee chairman, Metzger; statistical committee co-chairmen, John Lavery and Mrs. Ida Schreiber; special events and bond shows chairman, Wallerstein; film distributor contact chairmen, Fred Greenberg, Cohen; mobile unit chairman, Spencer Leve; and publicity and advertising chairman, Seymour Peiser.

### Governor Is Invited To St. Louis Meet

ST. LOUIS, May 10.—Governor Forrest C. Donnell of Missouri has been invited to speak at the industry's regional Fifth War Loan conference at the Hotel Chase here on May 18, Harry C. Arthur, Jr., War Activities Committee chairman for this area, reports. Exhibitors from Eastern Missouri and Southern Illinois will attend.

Also on the program will be Walter Head, state chairman for the drive, and Mayor Kaufmann of St. Louis. Arthur will preside.

## *Treasury Division to Handle Film Surplus*

(*Continued from page* 1)

er any photographic equipment, supplies or chemicals had yet been turned over in the $35,000,000 to $40,000,000 worth of goods which Olrich said already had been declared surplus but not inventoried. Before anything can be declared surplus-for-sale, he explained, 21 days must be given Government agencies in which to acquire it. Thereafter, it may be sold by negotiation, bid or auction, as deemed most advisable.

# Penn. Paves The Way for Deferments

(Continued from page 1)

cities and will follow similarly in other places. Action by the Pennsylvania Selective Service Board is expected to pave the way for state board action in deferring those over 26 in their areas.

Distribution heads have been informed of the action taken by Pennsylvania Selective Service headquarters by the War Activities Committee's distributors' division which helped secure the "locally needed" designations in Philadelphia and Pittsburgh and which has directed filing for "locally needed" in other exchange cities.

That such action by states' Selective Service headquarters would seem to be limited to cities in WMC-designated "critical" or "imminently critical" labor areas is emphasized by the policy being pursued by Selective Service in New York City which is not in a "critical" or "imminently critical" labor area designation. Blanket Selective Service deferments can not be expected for film industry workers in the New York area on the basis of their engagement in a "war supporting activity," Col. Arthur V. McDermott's Selective Service headquarters told MOTION PICTURE DAILY.

**Same as "Essential"**

The distributors' division of WAC explains that an activity designated as "locally needed" has the same status as an "essential" activity under employment stabilization plans and other WMC recruitment and placement rulings. The action taken by Pennsylvania Selective Service in ordering local draft boards to defer key distribution personnel is viewed as an important departure from previously established practice of draft boards refusing film personnel deferments.

Deferments remain in effect in New York, Hollywood and elsewhere for certain film talent and technical workers in newsreels or who are engaged in the production or processing of motion pictures for technical or vocational training for the Army, Navy or war production industries. The latest list in these classes includes animators, production set builders, cameramen, cutters, film editors, equipment-maintenance, illuminating, process-and-effect and production set technicians, production supervisors, sound engineers and technical writers. Local boards in New York as in other non-locally-needed places will make their own decisions about deferring film industry workers over 26 in distribution and exhibition.

## *'Basic English' an Aid*

Walter Gould, United Artists foreign head, yesterday proposed that stories of films, particularly those adapted from famous books, be published in Basic English for non-English speaking territories, to promote pictures in the world market. Gould believes that the distribution of such books, simultaneously with the showing of the films, would aid both the sale of the books and the box office value of the pictures.

# *Church Heads Hear Warner*

(Continued from page 1)

"Hollywood is still a very youthful community," said Warner. "We are now in our third generation of creative work, and even the fourth generation in some cases. With its record of achievement in so short a time, no apology is necessary for Hollywood.

"The industry is only 50 years old," he continued. "Just 50 years ago Thomas A. Edison created the motion picture, and less than 20 years ago my brothers and I made it possible to bring talking pictures into their successful era. We saw through this great medium that the voice could reach the world and aid in the teaching of better faith and tolerance among men. This is beginning to bear fruit, and the enthusiastic world-wide acceptance of 'One Foot in Heaven' proves it conclusively. I am positive that talking pictures, from here on, will play a greater part in creating a better understanding of all mankind.

**Widespread Influence**

"In fact, most people do not appreciate the extent of the influence that religion bears upon motion pictures and motion picture making. I do not need to enumerate the many pictures that have been made on religious, church or spiritual subjects. But I do want to emphasize that motion pictures, like any institution which touches the lives of millions of people, must walk hand in hand with religion and those who teach it.

"Speaking for my brothers and myself, we recognize and accept this responsibility. Our pictures, to be sure, are designed first to provide sound entertainment. But there is something more than that. We aspire to make pictures which will help preserve our traditional freedom of religion, which teach tolerance, which build sound morals and which foster faith in God and respect for our religious institutions.

"Remembering with pleasure and pride the lessons we learned from you, Dr. Peale, we pledge ourselves to the spiritual leaders of America. We look to you for help and guidance in the future," Warner concluded.

## *Sylvania Purchase of Colonial Stock Set*

Sylvania Electric Products, Inc., has virtually completed negotiations for the purchase of all the common stock of the Colonial Radio Corporation for about $3,250,000, payable 60 per cent in cash and the balance in its own common stock, it became known yesterday when a special meeting of stockholders was called for May 18 to approve an increase in authorized common stock from 905,000 to 1,200,000 shares.

## *Olson to Arbitration*

MINNEAPOLIS, May 10.—C. E. Olson has been named secretary of the motion picture arbitration board here, succeeding Sheldon M. Ostroot, recently commissioned a lieutenant (j. g.) in the Navy. Olson was formerly with the U. S. Employment Service.

# Launch 'Wac Week' Here and in Field

(Continued from page 1)

women in Times Square highlighted ceremonies which started with a parade made up of Army officers, Army bands, women, soldiers, and others.

In Times Square, Edward Dowden, publicity chairman for New York, introduced Edward L. Alperson, national campaign chairman, who led the rally. Newbold Morris, president of the city council, representing Mayor LaGuardia, greeted the assemblage. In an entertainment program that followed, Jane Powell sang "The Star Spangled Banner." Additional numbers were supplied by the Wac band and the Fort Jay army band.

Present on the grandstand were officials of the War Activities Committee, including Charles C. Moskowitz, Harry Mandel, Harry Brandt, also Samuel Rinzler, Oscar Doob, Gene Meyers, Edward Schreiber and John A. Cassidy.

Preceding the parade and rally, Moskowitz tendered a breakfast in the Hotel Astor, where both the officials of the Army and the War Activities Committee were guests.

Brooklyn will herald Wac recruiting week today with a noontime double salute, rally and parade at Borough Hall and Albee Square with Milton Berle as master of ceremonies; while Queens will stage a demonstration and parade on Saturday, featuring Lucy Monroe, Louis Prima, Gloria Wood and Jerry Mahoney at the Court House in Jamaica.

# *Salesmen Organize*

(Continued from page 1)

participation of film salesmen to date is in local Variety Clubs. There are a few other territorial organizations numbering salesmen among their memberships, along with others, such as Motion Picture Associates in New York. The national unionization of film sellers has been recently discussed in and around the Midwest and an AFL charter will be requested through the IATSE when the latter meets in convention in St. Louis at the end of this month. It is not known whether the new Motion Picture Colosseum has unionization of film salesmen in mind.

The Atlanta Column is described as having in its membership 90 percent of the salesmen in the Southeast. Some 75 were present at a recent banquet at the Henry Grady Hotel here, at which the following officers were installed: W. G. Carmichael, Universal, president; Frank W. Salley, RKO, vice-president; Francis H. Rudolph, Warners, chairman of the board; E. H. Hays, United Artists, treasurer; Bill Talley, Republic, recording secretary; E. B. Foster, financial secretary. A committee on publicity and promotion consists of George M. Jones, Columbia; Michael Hogan, United Artists, and Riley P. Davis, Universal. The organization can be reached through Postoffice Box No. 958, Atlanta.


FRIDAY, MAY 19th—THE NIGHT OF NIGHTS

Charity Dinner-Dance

MOTION PICTURE ASSOCIATES

HOTEL ASTOR

25th Silver Anniversary

Mammoth Stage Show . . . Two Bands

Informal — Starts at 8:30 p. m.

Tickets $7.50 each

TICKET COMMITTEE:

JACK ELLIS—*Chairman*

HARRY BRANDT
DAVID A. LEVY
SAM RINZLER
BERT SANFORD
JACK BOWEN
ED ALPERSON
JACK HATTEM
WM. WHITE
W. E. MacKEE

Proceeds to help the needy in our industry. MPA has been in the forefront for 25 years, helping the deserving. Endorsed by the industry—supported by the industry. Help us to help others.

MOTION PICTURE ASSOCIATES, Inc.

MORRIS SANDERS, *President*

# MOTION PICTURE DAILY'S BOOKING CHART

| WEEK OF | COLUMBIA | M-G-M | MONO. | PARA. | PRC | REPUBLIC | RKO RADIO | 20TH-FOX | U. A. | UNIVERSAL | WARNERS |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| April 15 | | (Sixth Block)<br>SEE HERE, PRIVATE HARGROVE<br>Robert Walker<br>Donna Reed<br>C—101 mins. (420)<br>THE HEAVENLY BODY<br>Hedy Lamarr<br>William Powell<br>D—95 mins. (421)<br>SWING FEVER<br>Kay Kyser<br>Marilyn Maxwell<br>M—81 mins. (423) | LADY, LET'S DANCE<br>Belita<br>James Ellison<br>Frick & Frack<br>M—84 mins. (301)<br>HOT RHYTHM<br>M—79 mins.<br>Dona Drake<br>Robert Lowery<br>(314) | (Fourth Block)<br>THE HOUR BEFORE THE DAWN<br>Franchot Tone<br>Veronica Lake<br>D—75 mins. (4317)<br>YOU CAN'T RATION LOVE<br>Betty Rhodes<br>Johnnie Johnston<br>C—79 mins. (4318)<br>THE NAVY WAY<br>Robert Lowery<br>Jean Parker<br>D—75 mins. (4316) | THE MONSTER MAKER<br>D—62 mins. (419)<br>SHAKE HANDS WITH MURDER<br>D—63 mins. (422)<br>PINTO BANDIT<br>O—(456)<br>MEN OF THE SEA<br>D—50 mins. (420)<br>Wilfrid Lawson<br>VALLEY OF VENGEANCE<br>Buster Crabbe<br>Al St. John<br>O—(464)<br>THE CONTENDER<br>Buster Crabbe<br>Arline Judge<br>Julie Gibson<br>O—(418) | ROSIE, THE RIVETER<br>Jane Frazee<br>Frank Albertson<br>Vera Vague<br>C—75 mins. (313)<br>OH SUSANNA<br>Gene Autry<br>(reissue)<br>O—(3303)<br>TROCADERO<br>Rosemary Lane<br>Johnny Downs<br>Bob Chester's Orch.<br>M—74 mins. (314)<br>JAMBOREE<br>Ruth Terry<br>George Byron<br>M—71 mins. (316)<br>TUCSON RAIDERS<br>(Red Rider Series)<br>"Wild Bill" Elliott<br>George "Gabby" Hayes<br>Bobby Blake<br>O—55 mins. (3311)<br>COWBOY AND THE SENORITA<br>Roy Rogers<br>Mary Lee<br>Dale Evans<br>M—78 mins. | (Block Four)<br>TENDER COMRADE<br>Ginger Rogers<br>Robert Ryan<br>D—102 mins. (416)<br>PASSPORT TO DESTINY<br>Elsa Lanchester<br>Gordon Oliver<br>D—64 mins. (417)<br>THE CURSE OF THE CAT PEOPLE<br>Simone Simon<br>Kent Smith<br>D—70 mins. (418)<br>ESCAPE TO DANGER<br>Eric Portman<br>Ann Dvorak<br>D—84 mins. (419)<br>ACTION IN ARABIA<br>George Sanders<br>Virginia Bruce<br>D—75 mins. (420)<br>UP IN ARMS<br>(special release)<br>Danny Kaye<br>Dinah Shore<br>(Technicolor)<br>C—105 mins. (452)<br>(Color) | (April Releases—no definite date set)<br>BUFFALO BILL<br>(Technicolor)<br>Maureen O'Hara<br>Joel McCrea<br>D—(424)<br>90 mins.<br>TAMPICO<br>Ed G. Robinson<br>D—75 mins. (425)<br>SHRINE OF VICTORY<br>British Documentary<br>45 mins. | VOICE IN THE WIND<br>Francis Lederer<br>Sigrid Gurie<br>D—85 mins.<br>LUMBER JACK<br>(Harry Sherman Production)<br>William Boyd<br>O—64 mins. | WEIRD WOMAN<br>Lon Chaney<br>Anne Gwynne<br>Evelyn Ankers<br>D<br>D—64 mins. (8027)<br>HER PRIMITIVE MAN<br>Louise Albritton<br>Robert Paige<br>D—79 mins. (8016)<br>MOON OVER LAS VEGAS<br>Ann Gwynne<br>David Bruce<br>D—69 mins. (8037) | UNCERTAIN GLORY<br>Errol Flynn<br>Paul Lukas<br>D—102 mins. (314) |
| April 22 | GIRL IN THE CASE<br>Janice Carter<br>Edmund Lowe—D<br>WYOMING HURRICANE—O<br>Russell Hayden | | | | | | | | | | |
| April 29 | THE BLACK PARACHUTE<br>Larry Parks<br>Jeanne Bates<br>John Carradine<br>Osa Massen<br>D | | OUTLAW TRAIL<br>(Trailblazer)<br>53 mins. (364)<br>O | | | | | | | | |
| May 6 | ONCE UPON A TIME<br>Cary Grant<br>Janet Blair<br>James Gleason | RATIONING<br>Wallace Beery<br>Marjorie Main<br>C—93 mins. (418) | LAW MAN<br>Johnny Mack Brown<br>O—55 mins. (354) | | | | | (May Releases. No definite date set)<br>PIN-UP GIRL<br>Betty Grable<br>John Harvey<br>Martha Raye<br>Joe E. Brown<br>M—(427)<br>(Color) | | SLIGHTLY TERRIFIC<br>Leon Errol<br>Anne Rooney<br>Evelyn Ankers<br>C—58 mins. (8036) | THE ADVENTURES OF MARK TWAIN<br>Fredric March<br>Alexis Smith<br>Donald Crisp<br>D—130 mins. (315) |
| May 13 | UNDERGROUND GUERILLAS<br>(British)<br>John Clements<br>Mary Morris—D<br>RIDIN' WEST<br>Charles Starrett<br>Shirley Patterson<br>O | BROADWAY RHYTHM<br>Ginny Simms<br>George Murphy<br>M—114 mins. (419)<br>(Color) | DETECTIVE KITTY O'DAY<br>Jean Parker<br>D—61 mins. (322) | (Special)<br>LADY IN THE DARK<br>(Technicolor)<br>Ginger Rogers<br>Ray Milland<br>M—100 mins.<br>(4336) | | | | | | COBRA WOMAN<br>(Technicolor)<br>Maria Montez<br>Jon Hall<br>Sabu<br>(8006)—70 mins. | |
| May 20 | STARS ON PARADE<br>Lynn Merrick<br>Larry Parks<br>Judy Clark<br>M | TUNISIAN VICTORY<br>(Special Release)<br>(466)—80 mins.<br>(Documentary) | THE CHINESE CAT<br>Sidney Toler<br>D—64 mins. (320) | (Fifth Block)<br>AND THE ANGELS SING<br>Dorothy Lamour<br>Fred MacMurray<br>Betty Hutton<br>M | WATERFRONT<br>John Carradine<br>J. Carroll Naish<br>D—(415) | | | | | PARDON MY RHYTHM<br>Gloria Jean<br>Patric Knowles<br>M<br>(8032)—62 mins. | BETWEEN TWO WORLDS<br>John Garfield<br>Paul Henreid<br>D—(316) |
| May 27 | ADDRESS UNKNOWN<br>Paul Lukas<br>K. T. Stevens<br>D—72 mins. | (Seventh Block)<br>ANDY HARDY'S BLONDE TROUBLE<br>Mickey Rooney<br>Lewis Stone<br>C—107 mins. (424) | JOHNNY DOESN'T LIVE HERE ANYMORE<br>Simone Simon<br>James Ellison<br>D<br>FOLLOW THE LEADER<br>East Side Kids<br>D | DOUBLE INDEMNITY<br>Fred MacMurray<br>Barbara Stanwyck<br>Edward G. Robinson<br>D<br>THE HITLER GANG<br>Robert Watson<br>Victor Varconi<br>D—(4320) | MINSTREL MAN<br>Benny Fields<br>Gladys George<br>Roscoe Karns<br>O—(404)<br>SPOOK TOWN<br>(Texas Rangers)<br>O—(457) | MELODY TRAIL<br>(Reissue)<br>Gene Autry<br>O—(3304)<br>SILENT PARTNER<br>Beverly Loyd<br>William Henry<br>Grant Withers<br>O—(317) | (Block Five)<br>THE FALCON OUT WEST<br>Tom Conway<br>Barbara Hale<br>D—64 mins.<br>DAYS OF GLORY<br>Tamara Touranova<br>Gregory Peck<br>D—86 mins.<br>THE YELLOW CANARY<br>(British)<br>Anna Neagle<br>Richard Greene<br>D<br>SEVEN DAYS ASHORE<br>Wally Brown<br>Gordon Oliver<br>C<br>SHOW BUSINESS<br>Eddie Cantor<br>Joan Davis<br>George Murphy<br>Constance Moore<br>M—92 mins. | (June Releases—no definite date set)<br>EVE OF ST. MARK<br>Anne Baxter<br>William Eythe<br>Michael O'Shea<br>(429) D—96 mins.<br>LADIES IN WASHINGTON<br>Sheila Ryan<br>Trudy Marshall<br>Doris Merrick<br>(430)—D | | THE SCARLET CLAW<br>Basil Rathbone<br>Nigel Bruce<br>D—74 mins. (8019)<br>THIS IS THE LIFE<br>Donald O'Connor<br>Susanna Foster<br>C—87 mins. (8012)<br>THE INVISIBLE MAN'S REVENGE<br>Jon Hall<br>Evelyn Ankers<br>Alan Curtis<br>D<br>GHOST CATCHERS<br>Olsen and Johnson<br>C<br>SOUTH OF DIXIE<br>Anne Gwynne<br>David Bruce<br>D | MAKE YOUR OWN BED<br>Jack Carson<br>Jane Wyman<br>Irene Manning<br>C—(317) |
| June 3 | | GASLIGHT<br>Ingrid Bergman<br>Charles Boyer<br>D—(425) | SONORA STAGE COACH<br>(Trailblazer)<br>O—(365) | | | | | | | | |
| June 10 | THEY LIVE IN FEAR<br>Otto Kruger<br>Pat Parrish<br>Clifford Severn<br>D | MEET THE PEOPLE<br>Dick Powell<br>Lucille Ball<br>M—100 mins. (426) | RETURN OF THE APE MAN<br>Bela Lugosi<br>John Carradine<br>D | HENRY ALDRICH PLAYS CUPID<br>Jimmy Lydon<br>Diana Lynn<br>Charles Smith<br>GAMBLER'S CHOICE<br>Chester Morris<br>Nancy Kelly | | | | | | | |
| June 17 | SECRET COMMAND<br>Pat O'Brien<br>Chester Morris<br>Ruth Warrick<br>D<br>THE LAST HORSEMAN<br>Russell Hayden<br>Bob Wills<br>"Dub" Taylor<br>O | THREE MEN IN WHITE<br>Lionel Barrymore<br>Van Johnson<br>D—(427) | | | | | | | | | |
| June 24 | SHE'S A SOLDIER, TOO<br>Beulah Bondi<br>Nina Foch<br>Jess Barber<br>D | TWO GIRLS AND A SAILOR<br>Jimmy Durante<br>Van Johnson<br>C—(428) | RANGE LAW<br>Johnny Mack Brown<br>O—(355) | (Special release)<br>MEMPHIS BELLE<br>(Color)<br>(Documentary)<br>41 mins. | DELINQUENT DAUGHTERS<br>D—(416) | YELLOW ROSE OF TEXAS<br>Roy Rogers<br>Dale Evans<br>O—(343)<br>69 mins. | | | | | THIS IS THE ARMY<br>(Re-issue)<br>George Murphy<br>John Leslie<br>M—(224)<br>115 mins. |

Dates Are Based On National Release Schedules and Are Subject to Change. Letters Denote the Following:

Theatres' Women's Army Corps Recruiting Week May 11-17


# MOTION PICTURE DAILY

VOL. 55. NO. 94 NEW YORK, U.S.A., FRIDAY, MAY 12, 1944 TEN CENTS


Theatres' Women's Army Corps Recruiting Week May 11-17

## Curbs on Film Promotions In Key Cities

### *Bill Poster Advertising Latest Media Affected*

Several film companies are encountering mounting difficulties in securing adequate advertising and promotional coverage on key city openings of top budget films, MOTION PICTURE DAILY learned yesterday from home office advertising spokesmen. The securing of adequate billposting coverage is the newest problem confronting film advertising and promotion heads, with difficulties in securing necessary advertising space to promote film openings increasing daily.

**As a result of the tight situation and space limitations in customarily used advertising media, advertising heads have**

(*Continued on page 6*)

## Joint Group Sets Invasion Filming

All preparations to film the invasion of Europe have been completed for some time by a joint Anglo-American Planning Committee, according to J. L. Beddington, director of the film division of the British Ministry of Information, who is in New York on a visit. "When I left London," Beddington said, "the city was tense about the invasion; everybody was speculating on when it may come."

The BMOI division director and

(*Continued on page 7*)

### *Capra New Assistant Chief of Army Films*

**Washington, May 11.—Colonel Frank Capra has been appointed to serve as assistant chief of the Army Pictorial Service, it was announced here today by the War Department.**

**Capra was associate in charge of production on the documentary, "Tunisian Victory" and also worked on the more recent film, "The Negro Soldier." He is presently working on war film matters at the Signal Corps Photographic Center in Astoria, L. I., and in Washington.**

### *New MGM Contracts Ready for '44-45*

**Metro - Goldwyn - Mayer's new 'streamlined' sales contract, now being drafted, is expected to be ready in time for the new sales season. Basically, the present contract is being simplified, by Sidney Bromberg of the company's home office legal staff.**

**The objective is a direct and easily readable sales agreement, it was said.**

## 2 More From Levey For United Artists

Jules Levey, independent producer releasing through United Artists, plans two more productions this year for release in 1944-45 through that company, he disclosed to MOTION PICTURE DAILY yesterday in an interview.



Jules Levey

One of the two will star William Bendix, in an original comedy, now being written on a post-war theme. The second will be selected from five story properties now under consideration. Levey is considering a legitimate stage production starring Bendix in the "Hairy

(*Continued on page 6*)

## Hazen to Head N.Y. Office for Wallis; Para. Deal Is 'Hot'

An agreement by which Joseph H. Hazen, former Warner vice-president and general counsel, will be associated with Hal Wallis as head of the latter's New York office has been reached, the producer said here yesterday.

Simultaneously, it was reported that Wallis will head his own producing company which will release through Paramount and will work at that company's studio. The reports are that an agreement in principle was reached prior to the departure of Barney Balaban, Paramount president, and Y. Frank Freeman, vice-president and

(*Continued on page 6*)

## *40 Named for Anniversary*

Forty exhibitor leaders have accepted state chairmanships on the national committee for the industry's 50th aniversary of commercial motion pictures. Harold J. Fitzgerald, president of Fox Wisconsin Theatres and national director for the observance, yesterday announced the acceptances, as follows:

Elmer Rhoden, Missouri; Ed Kuykendall, Mississippi; Howard E. Jameyson, Kansas; John Danz, Washington; Fred Larkin, South Dakota; John J. Friedl, Minnesota; George Tucker; New Mexico; Frank Larson,

(*Continued on page 6*)

## *500 Spur Fifth War Loan Drive at Boston Rally*

BOSTON, May 11.—More than 500 exhibitors from every corner of New England came to Boston today at the call of Samuel E. Pinanski, of M. and P. Theatres, chairman of the industry's Massachusetts Fifth War Loan drive, to launch the New England campaign at a rally in the Hotel Statler. Robert J. O'Donnell, industry national chairman, attended with his lieutenants, R. M. Kennedy, Ray Beall and Ned Depinet.

Governor Leverett Saltonstall opened the meeting with a tribute to the work done by the industry during the war. F. Winchester Denio, chairman of the War Finance Committee of the U. S. Treasury, and Maurice Tobin, Mayor of Boston, also spoke, and so did Connie Russell, state chairman for Maine; Ed Vahey, state chairman for New Hampshire; Frank Vennett, state chairman for Vermont; Lou Brown, representing Harry Shaw of Connecticut; I. J. Hoffman of Connecticut, and Ed Fay, chairman for Rhode Island. John J. Friedl of Minneapolis offered the slogan "Invest in Invasion" as the keynote of the drive. Still other speakers were Leonard Goldenson, vice-president of Paramount in charge of theatre operations and head of the industry bond

(*Continued on page 6*)

## 'IndefiniteStay' Prospect for Men Over 29

### *U. S. Sets New Policy On Essential Workers*

WASHINGTON, May 11.—Ironing out uncertainties about the induction of workers in essential positions in the motion picture and other industries, Selective Service Director Lewis B. Hershey announced tonight that while there will be no change in the limitations on the deferment of registrants in the 18-25 year category, those in the 26-29 year class may expect to remain in civilian life "for the time being," and men over 29 have the prospect of an indefinite stay.

**Production of motion pictures and the development of film are listed as "essential activities" by**

(*Continued on page 6*)

## Rank Urges Council Plan on British

LONDON, May 11.—J. Arthur Rank called a meeting here today of representatives of the British Film Producers Association, Cinematograph Exhibitors' Association and the Kinematograph Renters' Society, relative to his projected plan for the establishment of a grand industry council for the two-fold purpose of resisting attempts at government control, and of cultivating an awareness in the nation of the industry's ideals and sense of responsibility.

A prolonged discussion ensued as to whether the CEA or the KRS

(*Continued on page 7*)

### *Union Filing Is Now Off Until Aug. 15*

**Washington, May 11.—Unions and Guilds in the Motion Picture and other industries have been given until August 15 to file their 1943 income and expenditure information returns, it was announced by the Internal Revenue Bureau here today.**

**Announcement of the August 15 deadline follows a postponement of the final date of May 15 authorized last month, to July 15.**

# Personal Mention

COL. NATHAN LEVINSON, head of the sound department at the Warner Bros. studios, will leave New York for the Coast on Monday.

•

ALFRED W. SCHWALBERG, International Pictures Eastern representative, and ROBERT GOLDSTEIN, New York manager, have delayed their departure to the Coast until May 19.

•

JULES FIELD, 20th Century-Fox assistant exploitation manager, left for Indianapolis and Cincinnati yesterday for conferences with branch managers GEORGE LANDIS and LEAVITT BUGIE.

•

DAVE PALFREYMAN of the Motion Picture Producers and Distributors of America is expected back from Columbus, O., on Monday.

•

MIRIAM QUIRK, secretary to MAURICE BERGMAN, Universal's Eastern advertising-publicity director, has returned to her desk after a honeymoon.

•

THEODORE A. SHAW, assistant to W. C. GEHRING, 20th Century-Fox Western sales manager, celebrated his 25th year with the company yesterday.

•

LILLIAN BLISS, secretary to LARRY KENT at 20th Century-Fox, was married yesterday to DAVID MOORE, New York businessman.

•

STANLEY HAND, Altec Service staff representative, has returned to New York from a swing around the country.

•

FRED MEYERS, Universal's Eastern sales manager, is on vacation. He is expected back May 22.

•

EDWARD FINNEY, independent producer, in New York for a short visit, will return to Hollywood on Tuesday.

## Schaefer, 20th-Fox In Release Deal

A releasing deal for Mr. and Mrs. Armand Denis' "Outposts Unknown," made in Africa, India and Burma, and financed by George J. Schaefer, was closed yesterday with 20th Century-Fox. The same couple made "Goona Goona," "Dark Rapture" and "Wheels Across India."

## Dave Bader to Omaha

OMAHA, May 11.—Dave Bader of St. Louis has been named to succeed Elmer Dunas on the sales staff of the Columbia exchange here. Dunas is on an extended leave of absence due to illness.

## 'Jacobowsky' for 1945

Columbia's film production of the Theater Guild's "Jacobowsky and the Colonel" will be released next year and not this year.

## Engel Clan Will Gather on May 28

BOSTON, May 11.—Members of the industry's Engel Family—of which the industry's Dembows and Greenbergs are a branch—will hold a reunion here on May 28. Plans for the affair are in the hands of Phil Engel, film publicist. The Engels - interrelated branches claim that no other single family tree in the country can claim a 100 per cent record of being so numerously engaged in motion pictures.



Sam Dembow

Members of the clan will come from Massachusetts, Pennsylvania (where the clan first settled scores of years ago), New York, New Jersey, Washington, D. C., and Rhode Island.

Every man in the gathering was in some respects a pioneer in the industry. Sam Dembow, vice-president of Paramount, and George Dembow, vice-president and general sales manager of National Screen, will be among the honored members of the clan. Joseph Engel holds an executive position with Republic; Jack Engel is Republic's district manager in Philadelphia; Jack Greenberg operates 20 theatres; Ben Greenberg is a theatre operator in Rhode Island; Harold Greenberg is film buyer in the Poughkeepsie district for Netco; Samuel Dembow was one of the first officials of the old Famous Players; Harry Dembow operates a circuit in New Jersey and Pennsylvania; Phil Engel is New England publicist for United Artists. These and many others of the family will be on hand.

## U. S. Asks Dismissal Of 'Little Three'

BUFFALO, May 11.—The Department of Justice has filed a motion in Federal District court here, returnable May 19, for the dismissal of Columbia, United Artists and Universal from the Governments' anti-trust suit against the Schine Circuit.

The action follows agreement by the Government and the three companies in New York last week to enter into stipulations eliminating the three as defendants in the action. Trial of the suit against Schine is scheduled to get under way here May 19 but court observers believe that a postponement is likely.

## William Klehr Dies

William Klehr, 68, who designed electric fixtures for theatres and hotels, including Radio City Music Hall and the Waldorf-Astoria, died Wednesday at his home in Forest Hills, Queens, L. I.

## Industry Tribute For UJA Drive

Plans for a film-amusement industry luncheon to honor an outstanding member of the industry as part of the United Jewish Appeal's 1944 campaign to raise $32,000,000 took shape here yesterday at a luncheon and meeting of representatives of the amusement division at the Hotel Astor. The industry tribute will be held at the Astor with a tentative date of June 6 set. David Bernstein, Loew's vice-president and treasurer, presided at yesterday's meeting.

The tribute was recommended by a special committee designated to study the best method of the film and amusement industries' participation in the drive.

Present at yesterday's meeting were Malcolm Kingsberg, Samuel Schneider, Abe Schneider, George J. Schaefer, Louis Phillips, Arthur Israel, Jr., Harry Brandt, Sam Rinzler, Harry Mandel, Sol Schwartz, Samuel Cohen, Emil Friedlander, Leopold Friedman, Ida Garretson, Irving H. Greenfield, Marcus Heiman, William Klein, Samuel Machnovitch, Arthur Mayer, Harry A. Nadel, Abe Olman, Ralph I. Poucher, J. J. Robbins, Morris Sanders, R. Sanders, Max Seligman, Sam Shain and Max Wolff.

## Sam Moscow Dies After Long Illness

ATLANTA, May 11.—Sam Moscow, 59, Columbia division manager here, died this morning at his home after an illness of several years, during most of which he directed the operation of his office by telephone.

Moscow, a native of London, began a theatrical career by singing the accompaniment for illustrated slides and later, in 1911, formed Moscow Film Co. He was with Warner Features, Boston Photoplay Co. and Independent Films, prior to joining Columbia when it was organized, in 1924. He traveled New England for that company until 1931, when he was appointed division manager.

Moscow is survived by his wife, a daughter, Mrs. A. S. Daniels, Newton, Mass., and a son, Pfc. Bob Moscow, Camp Edison, Ft. Monmouth, N. J.

Columbia executives Jack Cohn, A. Montague, Joseph A. McConville, Rube Jackter, Louis Weinberg, Louis Astor and Hank Kaufman will leave tomorrow for Boston, where funeral services will be held Sunday for Sam Moscow at Solomon's Funeral Parlor, Brookline.

## UA-Powell Reception

United Artists will sponsor a reception and musicale in honor of 14-year-old Jane Powell, star of "Song of the Open Road," at the Hampshire House Monday afternoon. Miss Powell is on a tour of Army camps, hospitals and canteens.

## Regional Meetings For PRC This Year

The PRC national convention scheduled for May 29-31 in Hollywood has been cancelled for three regionals, it was learned here yesterday. Lack of traveling and hotel accommodations are the reasons for the change. The Coast meeting will be held in Hollywood on the original dates scheduled, with Leon Fromkess, vice-president in charge of production, and Leo J. McCarthy, general sales manager, as chairmen. Meetings at Chicago and New York will be held directly after the Coast session, also attended by Fromkess and McCarthy.

Modified distributor contracts will be presented to each franchise holder at the meetings, it is understood.


NEW YORK THEATRES

RADIO CITY MUSIC HALL
Showplace of the Nation Rockefeller Center
Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer's production
"THE WHITE CLIFFS OF DOVER"
Starring IRENE DUNNE
with ALAN MARSHAL
A Clarence Brown Production
Gala Stage Revue Symphony Orchestra
First Mezzanine Seats Reserved. Circle 6-4600

LOEW'S STATE B'WAY at 45
ON SCREEN MGM'S BROADWAY RHYTHM
GEORGE MURPHY GINNY SIMMS
IN PERSON ADRIAN ROLLINI TRIO
SUNNY SKYLAR

RKO PALACE B'WAY & 47th St.
"SHOW BUSINESS"
Eddie Cantor — George Murphy
Joan Davis — Nancy Kelly

Paramount presents
"GOING MY WAY"
with BING CROSBY and RISE STEVENS
In Person CHARLES SPIVAK Tip tap & Toe
WESSON BROS.
PARAMOUNT Times Square

Betty GRABLE • Charlie SPIVAK & Orch.
'PIN-UP GIRL'
IN TECHNICOLOR
Plus on Stage—Connee Boswell
Raymond Scott & Orch. • Willie Howard
BUY MORE BONDS ROXY 7th Ave. & 50th St.

The Inside Story of the World's Worst Gangsters
PARAMOUNT'S
"The Hitler Gang"
BRANDT'S B'way & 46 St. GLOBE


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### *Ohio ITO to Spur Action on Decree*

**Columbus, May 11.—The Independent Theatre Owners of Ohio passed a resolution yesterday at its closing session asking members to contact their Congressmen with a view to obtaining more vigorous action on the consent decree.**

**All officers were reelected, likewise all directors, except two.**

## Delay Foreign Film 'Cultural' Program

WASHINGTON, May 11.—Legislation authorizing the State Department to undertake on a world-wide basis the cultural programs applied in Latin America by the Coordinator of Inter-American Affairs, including a sizeable use of motion pictures, is likely to be pigeonholed by the House Foreign Affairs Committee.

Chairman Sol Bloom of New York and some other members of the committee indicated doubt about the wisdom of such programs, which, it is felt, might lead abroad to distrust and dislike. The legislation provided for the exchange of motion pictures, radio programs, etc.

Hearings which had been scheduled to open here this week have been postponed and there is some question whether they will be called before the Summer recess of Congress.

## *Opposition to Bill To End War Time*

WASHINGTON, May 11.—Legislation to return the country to Standard Time ran into its first hurdle today when Representative Clarence Cannon of Missouri told a House Interstate Commerce sub-committee that the War Production Board estimated that abandonment of War Time would necessitate the consumption of an additional 1,500,000 kilowatts of electricity and 1,000,000 tons of coal.

Cannon appeared as the first witness before the sub-committee to tell of the large volume of approving letters which he has received on the bill. The legislation is expected to receive the support of theatre owners, particularly those operating open-air projects, and of farmers' organizations.

## *Permanent Record of Theatres' 'Wac Week'*

The names of those theatres which participate in the current Women's Army Corps Recruiting Week drive will be recorded, with the number of recruits, in a special booklet which is to be sent to the War Department as representative of the role of the industry in the war effort, the War Activities Committee reported here yesterday.

Meanwhile, Walter J. Kessler of Loew's Theatre in Canton, O., informed WAC headquarters here that he had enlisted a full squad of recruits for the Wac two hours after the drive opened.

## Yates, Grainger End Republic Meet Here

Herbert J. Yates, chairman of the board of Republic Pictures, and James R. Grainger, president and general sales manager, concluded the 1944-45 series of regional sales meetings with yesterday's closing session of a two-day conference at New York Athletic Club here. Meetings had previously been held in Hollywood and Chicago.

Grainger repeated that eight high budget productions are slated for the coming year as the first step toward added concentration on such product. Breaking down the balance of the 32 features on next season's schedule, Grainger said that eight "Victory" productions head the list, which also includes eight "Anniversary," eight "Jubilee" productions and eight Roy Rogers' pictures. He reported that business on Rogers' films has doubled during the last year. The company's straight Western program lists eight Red Ryder subjects, starring "Wild Bill" Elliott, eight Smiley Burnette films and eight with Allan Lane. Four serials complete the list. In addition, Republic will reissue eight Gene Autry pictures during the year.

## *WB Circuit Meeting Called by Bernhard*

A meeting of Warner circuit Eastern and Midwestern zone managers and film buyers and home office executives has been called by Joseph Bernhard for Monday at the home office here.

Bernhard, general manager, and Harry M. Kalmine, assistant general manager, will preside. Other home office executives participating will be: Clayton Bond, Harry Goldberg, Frank Phelps, Sam E. Morris, Abel Vigard, W. Stewart McDonald, Harry Rosenquest, Louis Kaufman, Frank Marshall, Nat Fellman, Herman Maier, Rudolph Weiss, Martin F. Bennett.

Zone managers will include: James Coston, Chicago; Nat Wolf, Cleveland; I. J. Hoffman, New Haven; Don Jacocks, Newark; C. J. Latta, Albany; Ted Schlanger, Philadelphia; M. A. Silver, Pittsburgh, and John J. Payette, Washington. Film buyers will be: Bert Jacocks and Max Hoffman, New Haven; Frank Damis, Newark; Max Friedman, Albany; John Turner, Philadelphia; George Crouch, Washington; Harry Feinstein, Pittsburgh; Alex Halperin, Chicago, and Tony Stern, Cleveland.

## *British Get Postwar Demands of CEA*

LONDON, May 11.—Following submission of data previously presented to the Board of Trade on behalf of film producers, trade unions and laboratories, detailing their post-war requirements, a Cinematograph Exhibitors' Association delegation, including president Sidney Clift, vice-president G. W. Scarborough, and secretary W. R. Fuller, saw BOT officials today, including Hugh Gaitskill, assistant secretary, for the purpose of outlining demands for post-war priorities on labor release, theatre material, rebuilding of blitzed theatres, and theatre reconditioning.

## *Hurst To Review Films*

Novelist Fannie Hurst will review one film a month for *Modern Screen* magazine.

## OPA Cracks Down On Black Market On Theatre Popcorn

CHICAGO, May 11.—A proposal that theatre owners declare a moratorium on the sale of popcorn to patrons to eradicate the widespread Southern and Midwestern 'Black Market' on this product has been made by the Office of Price Administration and Federal law enforcement agencies here.

While invoices to independent theatres record the ceiling prices of $11.50 to $12.50 per 100 pounds purchased from wholesale sources, actual off-the-record payments range from $16 to $20 in Chicago, it was learned here. And theatres in Southern states, particularly in Florida, are reported to be paying as high as $25.

It was indicated here that if corrective steps are not taken voluntarily by theatre operators, Federal investigations will be instituted. While theatre operators may be looked upon as innocent victims of war-time circumstances they are as guilty as the black market bootleggers, it was stressed by OPA officials. The investigations, it was promised, might lead to actions similar to that which resulted in a $15,000 fine imposed upon an offender in Omaha, rated as "the pop corn pit" of the nation.

**Ban Lobby Machines**

Major circuits in Chicago have banned popcorn machines in lobbies. Only independent theatres are featuring the stands and managers of some small circuits say they are helpless to combat the growing evil because the concessions are leased to private confection concerns.

It is well known to theatre operators here that a black market has been flourishing in the heart of Chicago's film row for weeks. One standard theatre supply house is known to have "muscled" into the popcorn market in flagrant competition to the established, nationally recognized dealers.

First to agree to the proposed moratorium on popcorn is Maurice Saulkins, proprietor of "The Popcorn Trading Post" on film row. He has closed his place.

## *KAO, Keith Annual Meets Next Week*

Annual stockholders' meeting of Keith-Albee-Orpheum, RKO theatre subsidiary, will be held here next Tuesday. Stockholders of B. F. Keith Corp., another RKO circuit subsidiary, will meet on the following day.

Stockholders of both corporations will be asked to reelect the present boards of directors with the possibility of one or two exceptions, to serve for another year. Present directors of both corporations are N. Peter Rathvon, Ned E. Depinet, Malcolm Kingsberg, Monroe Goldwater, J. Miller Walker, William E. Whitman and Gordon E. Youngman.

## *Henningsen Is Manager*

DES MOINES, May 11.—Cliff Henningsen has been named booker and office manager for Monogram's local branch. He succeeds Iola Lehman, who was recently married.

# *Coast Flashes*

*Hollywood, May 11*

BARNEY BALABAN, Paramount president, and Y. Frank Freeman, vice-president in charge of production, arrived here today from the East.

•

Margaret Buell Wilder has been signed by Warners to collaborate with Albert Maltz on the screenplay of "This Love of Ours," the story of Sgt. Al Schmid, Marine hero, in which John Garfield will star. Vincent Sherman will direct for producer Jerry Wald.

•

N. Peter Rathvon, RKO president; Nicholas M. Schenck, president of Loew's, Inc., and Ben Goetz, M-G-M British studio managing director, arrived from New York today. Louis B. Mayer, M-G-M production vice-president, is due tomorrow.

•

Paramount has announced "Masquerade in Mexico," a comedy with music, starring Paulette Goddard and Arturo De Cordova. Karl Tunberg and Darrell Ware will write and produce the film.

•

Production will be started July 5 by 20th-Fox on "Jean Valjean," a remake of "Les Miserables," with William Perlberg producing and John Brahm directing.

•

George Borthwick, treasurer of the Motion Picture Producers and Distributors of America, arrived today for two weeks of conferences here.

•

Lou Edelman, Warner producer, has returned to the studio from South America.

## *Bruen, Poole East On OCR Theatres*

HOLLYWOOD, May 11.—H. W. Bruen and Robert Poole of the Pacific Coast Conference of Independent Theatre Owners will leave early next week for New York, Philadelphia and Washington, to confer in the latter city with Tom Clark, U. S. Assistant Attorney General, and George W. McMurphey, chief of the Office of Civilian Requirements' recreation section, concerning OCR's plans for the erection of new theatres in congested war industry areas.

The PCCITO contends that there is no need for additional theatres on the West Coast, and where such need exists, independents are capable of undertaking this construction.

The PCCITO officials will attend National Allied meetings in Philadelphia, May 23-26.

## *Reserves Gem Decision*

Supreme Court Justice Julius Miller here yesterday reserved decision on the motion by Universal Pictures to dismiss the complaint filed by Gem Pictures alleging breach of contract and demanding damages of $4,500.

## *Lundy, Exploiteer, Dies*

James Felix Lundy, 39, Paramount West Coast advertising representative, died yesterday of a heart ailment at the Gramercy Hotel here.

HERALDING A NEW ERA IN THE GENIUS OF AMERICA

# Man from Frisco

## MICHAEL O'SHEA • ANNE SHIRLEY
## GENE LOCKHART

DAN DURYEA • STEPHANIE BACHELOR • RAY WALKER • TOMMY BOND

*and a cast of 20,000*

•

ROBERT FLOREY—DIRECTOR

Original Story and Adaptation: GEORGE WORTHING YATES • GEORGE CARLETON BROWN

Screenplay by ETHEL HILL • ARNOLD MANOFF

A REPUBLIC PICTURE

# WORLD PREMIERES

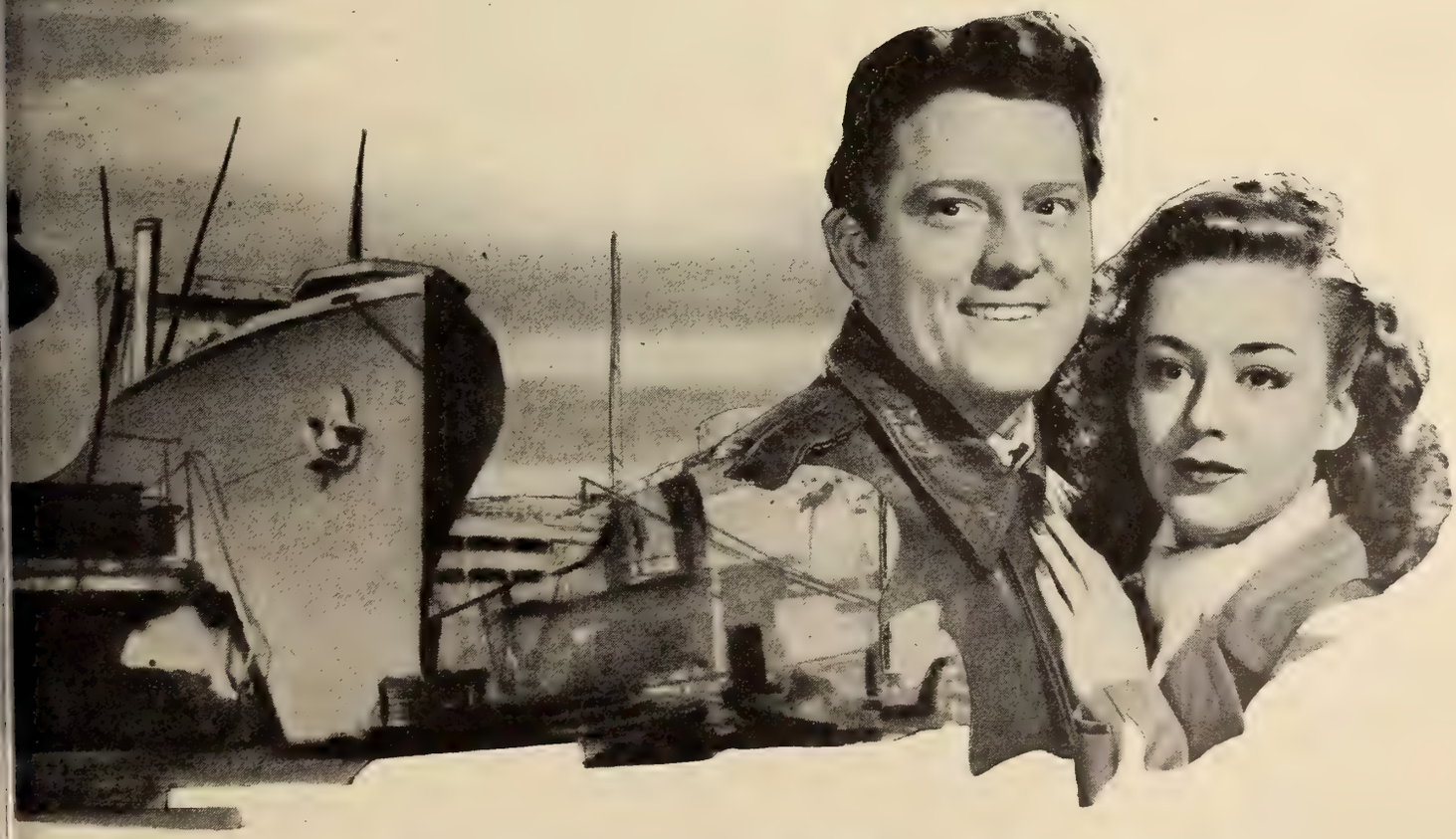
DAY AND DATE **MAY 18**

*3 Fox West Coast De Luxe Theatres*

**PARAMOUNT • SAN FRANCISCO**

**PARAMOUNT • OAKLAND**

**COSTA • RICHMOND**



DAY AND DATE **MAY 19**

**PARAMOUNT, LOS ANGELES • PARAMOUNT, HOLLYWOOD**

# Curbs on Film Promotions In Key Cities

(*Continued from page* 1)

**begun to scout around for new media; radio is a partial solution in some instances.**

Manpower shortages in many key cities, coupled with limitations placed on the number of available billboards due to their utilization for war messages, is making it almost impossible to secure billboard coverage on key city film openings unless a campaign is set up three months in advance, it was said. Advertising heads here frankly admit that they can not hope to secure any widespread billposter coverage otherwise. In many cities the supply of men available for posting is exceedingly limited with distribution of posters and store cards also facing increasing curtailment for similar reasons.

**Cut News Space Further**

Newspapers in most key cities are further limiting film advertising with the overall curtailment reaching 50 per cent in the amount of space available in some places. Theatres are limited to 400 line newspaper ads in Philadelphia and Cleveland with Pittsburgh papers holding theatres to 300 line maximums, as typical of conditions. Other cities have set monthly quotas for theatres but this does not guarantee the availability of space when it is required for film openings. There has also been considerable space curtailment in magazines.

Further space difficulties are expected once the invasion of Fortress Europe gets underway since newspapers will probably double space alotted to news coverage, and further reductions in newsprint are in the offing.

In an effort to meet newspaper space limitations on amusement pages, several film companies have recently managed to place advertising copy in sections other than amusements, paying increased lineage.

# 'Indefinite Stay' for Men Over 29 Seen

(*Continued from page* 1)

**the War Manpower Commission, under the heading of "communications services," as are radio and television also. All men 30 and over in these fields are eligible for deferment; those between 26 and 29 are eligible if they are "necessary" men.**

Because the Army already has reached its authorized strength and the Navy is near that point, General Hershey explained, fewer men will be needed for service and emphasis will be placed on the vigorous and physically fit men between 18 and 26 years. It was emphasized, however, that registrants up to the age of 38 who do not qualify for occupational deferment may be called by draft boards where necessary to supplement the supply of younger men.

# *500 Spur Fifth War Loan Drive at Boston Rally*

(*Continued from page* 1)

sales during the campaign; Major Allen V. Martini, U. S. Army Air Forces, known for his many exploits during World War II.

A highlight was the introduction of New England's "Honored Hundred" winners, who had just returned from the industry's war loan meetings in Washington. They were: Fred M. Hugley, Westbrook, Me.; Melvin Morrison, Dover, N. H.; Eugene C. Keenan, Newport, Vt.; H. W. Beals, Brockton, Mass.; W. S. Canning, Fall River, Mass.; Arthur J. Keenan, Lowell, Mass.; P. J. Crawley, Central Falls, R. I.; Albert M. Pickus, Stratford, Conn.; Joseph G. Samartino, Meriden, Conn.

Pinanski introduced others at the head table, who did not speak. They included: M. J. Mullin, member, WAC advisory committee; A. M. Kane, area distributor chairman; I. J. Hoffman, New Haven campaign and WAC leader; Joseph Brennan, executive secretary, WAC, Boston area, and secretary of Allied of Massachusetts, and Ed W. Ruff, Connecticut distributor chairman.

Pinanski thanked the arrangement committee of Harry Browning, Paul Levi, Joseph Yongo, Jack Saef, Arnold Van Leer, Don Prince and Red King. He also thanked the U. S. Coast Guard Band for appearing.

State chairmen and WAC directors met with O'Donnell after the meeting to discuss last minute instructions in further detail.

The meeting opened with a parade of the colors and the formation of a color guard of Wacs and Marine auxiliaries on the stage.

**16 Rallies Are Set; Buffalo on Monday**

The industry's Fifth War Loan area rallies will be resumed on Monday with a luncheon in the Hotel Statler in Boston. Lou Golding, upstate New York exhibitor chairman, and M. A. Brown, Buffalo area distributor chairman, are scheduled to participate, along with delegations from Albany, Rochester, Syracuse, Gloversville, Utica and Oneida.

Union crafts are being contacted to attend all regional rallies. Chairmen have also been asked to invite the attendance of representatives of equipment companies, trucking services and other lines allied with films.

Following Buffalo, other regional meetings, as now definitely set by the national committee in consultation with state and regional chairmen, will be as follows: Cleveland, May 16; Indianapolis, May 17; St. Louis, May 18; Chicago, May 19; Minneapolis, May 20; Des Moines, May 22; Omaha, May 22; Denver, May 23; San Francisco, May 25; Los Angeles, May 26; Dallas, May 29; Atlanta, May 31, and New York, June 2.

# *40 Named for Anniversary*

(*Continued from page* 1)

Idaho; J. L. Cartwright, Florida; F. H. Ricketson, Colorado; J. J. Rubens, Illinois; Ed Fay, Rhode Island; Harry F. Shaw, Connecticut; M. S. McCord, Arkansas; William Miskell, Nebraska; Tony Sudekum, Tennessee; L. C. Griffith, Oklahoma; John Harris, Pennsylvania; Fred Dolle, Kentucky, Tom Berta, Wyoming; Lewis Black, Delaware; Don Sheedy, Montana; Fenton Scribner, New Hampshire.

Also, Nikitas Dipson, West Virginia; Bob White, Oregon; Ben Amsterdam, New Jersey; Frank Vennett, Vermont; E. C. Grainger, New York; Lou Christ, Arizona; Harold Chessler, Utah; A. D. Kvoll and T. M. Ellis, Wisconsin; Earl Hudson and Martin Thomas, Michigan; M. C. Cooper and Ed Kraus, North Dakota; Marc Woolf, Don Rossiter and Ken Collins, Indiana; Robert Poole, California.

**SMPE Will Celebrate Industry's 50 Years**

A 50th aniversary program covering the past, present and future of the industry has been scheduled for the Hotel Pennsylvania here on the evening of May 24 by the Atlantic Coast section of the Society of Motion Picture Engineers.

James Frank, Jr., who arranged the program, has obtained from the Museum of Modern Art a 16mm historical sound film produced several years ago by the March of Time. Lieut. Robert Longini, who served 18 months in North Africa and Italy, will report on the technical problems of newsreel cameramen overseas and will show several reels of 16mm sound film taken at the front. Also on the agenda are a General Electric picture showing how television will work in the future and an International Projector exhibition of historic projector mechanisms.

# *Wallis, Hazen Set; Maybe Para. Next*

(*Continued from page* 1)

studio head, for the Coast last weekend and that final details will be worked out during the next few days by Wallis and Hazen, with Austin Keough, Paramount vice-president and general counsel. It was further predicted that an announcement of the closing of a deal would be made early next week.

When questioned yesterday Wallis would not confirm the report. He said he still is considering several offers and has made no irrevocable decision yet.

"My talks with Paramount," he said, "are no different than those which still are continuing with several others. Anything still is possible."

Loyd Wright, Wallis's West Coast attorney, who has been here for the past several weeks, plans to leave for Hollywood today or tomorrow.

Specifying that Hazen would head his organization in the East, Wallis said: "We have reached an understanding and all that remains is to put it in writing."

# *Discards Para. Claims*

Federal Judge Alfred C. Coxe here yesterday signed an order removing from the reorganization record of Paramount-Publix Corp., now Paramount Pictures, Inc., two claims filed by New York State for franchise taxes amounting to $61,814. Bankruptcy Referee John E. Joyce, who heard testimony in the case, recommended that the claims be stricken from the record, pointing out that state authorities had offered no objection to the procedure.

# *RKO Files Denial In Film Lawsuit*

RKO-Radio yesterday filed a denial in Federal Court here of allegations contained in the $506,702 breach of contract suit filed against it by Stephens-Lang Productions, Inc., producers of a series of six "Dr. Christian" films.

The company pointed out that the plaintiff was required to spend a minimum of $100,000 for the production of each of the films but stated that prior to the execution of the agreement, the plaintiff advised RKO that it lacked sufficient funds to enable it to meet production costs unless it borrowed the money. RKO offered to refund $12,430 in charges billed against the six films, stating that the charges were billed in error. No date has been set for the trial.

# *Denies Injunction to Stop 'Negro Soldier'*

Following his action on Tuesday vacating a stay granted by Federal Judge Henry W. Goddard here on April 25, Federal Judge Alfred C. Coxe has dismissed a petition for an injunction to prevent the run of "The Negro Soldier," produced by the War Department and scheduled for War Activities Committee distribution.

The petition was sought by Negro Marches On, Inc., producers of "We've Come a Long, Long Way," which, it was alleged, would suffer unfair competition from the Government film.

A. Allen Saunders, counsel for the plaintiff, has stated that he will now seek a similar injunction against the War Department in Federal Court in Washington.

# *SOPEG To Meet on Contract for 3,000*

Progress of negotiations for new contracts with film companies here for some 3,000 "white collar" workers, and other important phases of the work of the Screen Office and Professional Employes Guild, Local 109, CIO, will be discussed at an all-day conference to be held at the Fraternal Clubhouse here tomorrow. Peter K. Hawley, CIO member of the War Labor Board Region II and member of the general executive board of the United Office and Professional Workers of America, and H. Richard Seller of the New York Newspaper Guild, will be guest speakers.

# *2 More from Levey For United Artists*

(*Continued from page* 1)

Ape" or in another property, opening on Broadway or the Coast this Fall, he said.

Levey will leave New York next week on a five-week tour of key cities to explore publicity media available for his recently completed "Hairy Ape," soon to be released by UA, and also to meet with exhibitors.

# Selznick to Appeal In Chaplin Action

Raising a Constitutional issue which could pave the way for taking David O. Selznick's Vanguard Films' defense in the Charles Chaplin action for accounting and recovery of production assets to the U. S. Supreme Court, Selznick's attorneys yesterday sought leave of the Appellate Division here to file an appeal with the state Court of Appeals at Albany.

Selznick's attorneys are contesting the validity of service performed on the defendant corporations in New York, contending that the defendants are California corporations and that Chaplin's suit should be tried there. Justice Ferdinand Pecora ruled in state supreme court that the Selznick companies were engaged in business here and that the service was proper. The ruling was upheld by the Appellate Division on appeal by the defendants, who now seek to carry the appeal to the state's highest court at Albany and from there, if necessary, to the U. S. Supreme Court.

The Constitutional issue raised in the new appeal move is in the contention that defendants could be deprived of their property without due process of law. It establishes grounds on which, if recognized by the court, the case could be taken to the U. S. Supreme Court.

Chaplin's action charges that Selznick's sale of certain production assets to 20th Century-Fox violated Selznick's production agreement with United Artists and seeks a recovery for the latter.

## *Texas House Files Combined Complaint*

W. V. Adwell, operator of the Roxy, Sangelo, Tex., has filed a combined some-run and clearance complaint at the Dallas tribunal against the five decree companies, the American Arbitration Association reported here yesterday.

The complainant states that on March 23, 1942, he filed a some-run complaint against the companies, excepting RKO. This was dismissed, but the appeal board, in a decision later on an appeal by the plaintiff, held that the distributors had violated section six of the decree in failing to offer Adwell some-run of "current" product except with what the board held was unreasonable clearance.

The plaintiff now states that despite the directive by the appeal board, the distributors have failed to adhere to the decision, and asks an award for pictures available to him, otherwise for clearance upon expiration of 30 days after the first run and at a time less than 90 days after the tradeshowing of pictures.

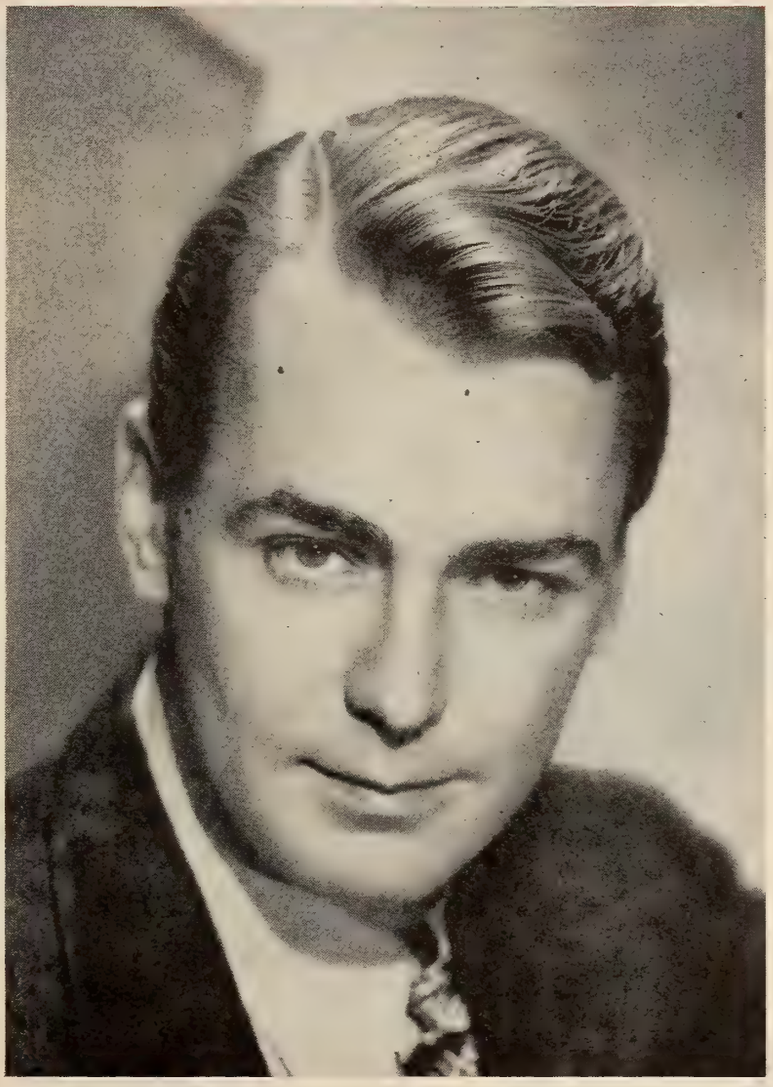
## *Rank Urges Council Plan on British*

(*Continued from page* 1)

might have to surrender powers inherent and explicit in their respective constitutions, but with Rank pressing the necessity of the council, the meeting today agreed to the principle of such an industry setup and the secretaries of the three associations were directed to prepare preliminary standing orders for discussion at the next meeting on June 1.

Paramount NEWS

AND NOTHING *BUT* THE NEWS



HERE'S A SAMPLE OF NEW ALAN LADD SITTING THAT JUST CAME IN FROM THE COAST. THE LADD LOOKS EVEN HANDSOMER THAN EVER, DOES'NT HE, AFTER HIS ARMY SERVICE? HE'S JUST FINISHED **AND NOW TOMORROW** WITH LORETTA YOUNG, BY THE "ALL THIS AND HEAVEN, TOO" AUTHOR, AND IS WORKING NOW IN "TWO YEARS BEFORE THE MAST."

# Joint Group Sets Invasion Filming

(*Continued from page* 1)

Robert Riskin, director of the overseas film division of the U. S. Office of War Information, now here, met in London with the planning committee, which is comprised of three representatives of the British War Ministries, one of the U. S. Navy, one of the Canadian Expeditionary Force; Jock Lawrence, former executive of the Association of Motion Picture Producers, representing the European theatre of operations, U. S. Army; Col. DuPuis, representing supreme headquarters of the Allied Expeditionary Force, and Matthew Fox, former Universal executive, representing the U. S. War Department.

During his six-week stay in this country, Beddington plans to visit Hollywood "to study American motion picture production methods." He will also confer with British and American officials in Washington.

### Met with Sales Executives

Beddington and Thomas Baird, chief of BMOI's film division here, have been meeting with the general sales managers and foreign sales managers of several film companies who have distributed BMOI documentary films in the United States.

Beddington and Baird are scheduled to lunch with William F. Rodgers, M-G-M vice-president in charge of distribution. M-G-M released "Tunisian Victory" here. They have already met with Tom Connors and Maurice Silverstone of 20th Century-Fox and plan to see Joseph H. Seidelman of Universal. Twentieth Century-Fox released "Desert Victory" and Universal, "Next of Kin." Other meetings will follow.

# ITOA Theatre Poll On Film Telecasts

The Independent Theatre Owners Association of New York is understood to be planning to poll theatre owners throughout the country either directly or through an organization like Gallup Surveys on individual exhibitor sentiments on the use of Hollywood motion pictures for reproduction by television. ITOA has gone on record as being "unalterably" opposed to any move by the companies to allow their pictures to be telecast on the grounds that such practice would be in direct opposition to theatres.

Harry Brandt was re-elected president of the ITOA at a luncheon meeting at the Hotel Astor here yesterday. Max A. Cohen was elected second vice-president and all other officers and directors, listed in MOTION PICTURE DAILY yesterday, were re-elected for another year.

Elected to ITOA committees were: Abraham Shenk, chairman, Charles Steiner and Gilbert Josephson, finance; Herman Rachmil, chairman and Ray Rhonheimer, auditing; J. J. Goldberg, chairman, Samuel Seelen, Rhonheimer, Abraham Schenk, Cohen and Irving Renner, membership; and Rudolph Sanders, Goldberg and John C. Bolte, legislative. Installation of officers will be held at the Hotel Astor June 8.

PARADES!

TRAILERS!

RALLIES!

OFFICIAL PROCLAMATIONS!

LOBBY BOOTHS!




THE DRIVE IS ON!

Again the loyal, untiring theatre men of America win the praise and gratitude of their beloved country. The response to the Army's desperate call is answered magnificently with showmanship throughout the land.

*Sponsored by War Activities Committee of Motion Picture Industry, 1501 Broadway, N.Y.C.*

First in Film and Radio News Brief, Accurate and Impartial

# MOTION PICTURE DAILY

Alert, Intelligent and Indispensable to the Motion Picture Industry

VOL. 55. NO. 95 NEW YORK, U. S. A., MONDAY, MAY 15, 1944 TEN CENTS

DO NOT COPY

## Fear Ban on Joint Foreign Trade Action

### *State Dept. Shift Snubs Exporter Agreements*

WASHINGTON, May 14.—Industry executives interested in the possibilities of postwar foreign trade are highly disturbed, after three weeks of study, over the order issued by the State Department last month setting up an industry branch in the Office of Economic Affairs, which is to be responsible for "initiation, formulation and coordination of policy and action on all cartel and related international arrangements."

**Possibilities that the Department, which has promised to give full support to U. S. nationals operating abroad, is leaning toward a policy of encouraging international agreements while barring joint action of exporters in foreign fields,**

(*Continued on page 7*)

## *Name 6 Film Envoys Soon*

Approximately six industry envoys may be selected in the near future for assignment to foreign capitals as official industry representatives, it was learned at the weekend.

Assignments which are regarded as likely to be filled without undue delay are those at Rio de Janeiro, Buenos Aires, Mexico City, Barcelona and, possibly, at Moscow and Bombay. The posts are expected to be filled as soon as qualified men are available. Assignments to other world capitals

(*Continued on page 7*)

## *$249,628 Quarter Net for CFI*

Consolidated Film Industries, Inc., on Saturday, reported a net profit of $430,394 before Federal taxes. Estimated Federal taxes amount to $180,765, leaving a net of $249,628, which compares with a net for the same period for 1943 of $248,153. Per share earnings for the first quarter of 1944 are equivalent to 50 cents per share on the 400,000 shares of preferred stock outstanding and nine cents on the 524,973 shares of common, which compares similarly with the preferred and common share earnings in the same quarter of 1943.

## *3 Music Fees For Canada*

TORONTO, May 14.—Canadian theatre owners are now compelled to pay for the use of musical compositions virtually three times through a judgment handed down by the Copyright Appeal Board granting authority for the American Performing Rights Society of New York to impose an annual license fee. Exhibitors already contribute an annual seat tax to the Canadian Performing Rights Society of Toronto as well as a score charge included in film rentals.

The board's decision permits the American Society of Composers to impose an annual tax of a half cent per seat for theatres of 1,600 seats or more; one quarter of a cent per seat when the capacity is less than 1,600 seats and one-eighth of a cent for theatres open less than four days weekly. The American Society is also authorized to collect an annual fee from broadcasting stations. The Canadian Performing Rights Society schedule of seat fees up to 75 cents was not reduced to compensate for the new impost as asked by theatre owners.

## *See Adoption of UA Amendments Today*

Amendments designed to transfer wider operating authority in United Artists from owners to management through changes in the company's certificate of incorporation are scheduled to be acted upon at the adjourned annual meeting of stockholders at Wilmington, Del., today. Adoption of the amendments by a majority vote is expected within the company.

The proposed amendments would increase the United Artists board of

(*Continued on page 7*)

## *'Free Movie Day' Is Set for July 6*

**Thursday, July 6, has been set as "Free Movie Day" in the Fifth War Loan drive, R. J. O'Donnell, national industry chairman, announced at the weekend. Objective is a "Free Movie Day" in every theatre in the U. S. on that day.**

**The event will take place toward the campaign's close, July 8, to stimulate sales in the waning days.**

## Final 5 Gives 20th 33, Kupper Reports

Five features to be released during June and July will complete 20th Century-Fox's 1943-44 schedule, it was disclosed at the weekend by general sales manager William J. Kupper. The five, making up block No. 11, include: "Roger Touhy, Gangster," "Candlelight in Algeria," British; "Eve of St. Mark," "Ladies of Washington" and "Home in Indiana," all slated for release in June and July.



William J. Kupper

Kupper said that the 1943-44 schedule totaled 33. Trade showings of the June-July releases will be handled individually by exchanges in the field between now and June 11.

## *'Honored 100' to Function For Duration of War*

WASHINGTON, May 14.—The "Honored 100" of the industry's Fourth War Loan drive, who became a special advisory committee to the Fifth War Loan industry committee at ceremonies here last week, have resolved to continue functioning for the duration of the war in all officially sponsored campaigns of the War Activities Committee, Ralph J. Batschelet of Denver, chairman of the group, announced at the weekend. The decision was reached at a final meeting here before the 100 left for their homes.

First official act of the "Honored 100" will be unified participation in the Fifth War Loan. On behalf of the assembled group, Batschelet pledged to Robert J. O'Donnell, industry national chairman of the drive, the full support of his committee.

"The 'Honored 100' does not feel its job is done," Batschelet said. "The men and women who were brought to Washington unanimously agreed to carry on in an official capacity as an active and cooperative arm of the WAC."

The "Honored 100" will have its own publication, campaign books, idea-exchange and plans for each of the WAC-endorsed activities, Batschelet said.

## Films for Bond Premieres in Small Towns

### *Distributors Move to Help Sales in Fifth Drive*

Distributors in the Fifth War Loan campaign will, for the first time, make it possible for exhibitors in small towns to stage "Bond Premieres," children's "School's Out" premieres and similar bond-selling special events, by permitting theatres in towns of not over 7,500 population to book pictures for these purposes without regard to whether or not they are customers of the distributor.

Ned E. Depinet, national chairman of the WAC distributors' division, made public the bond premiere agreement of the national distributors at the weekend. The agreement has been turned over to R. J. O'Donnell, national industry campaign chairman, and members of the national Fifth War Loan committee.

The section of the agreement relat-

(*Continued on page 7*)

## *See Cost Rise In Film Music*

HOLLYWOOD, May 14.—An estimated rise of from 20 to 40 percent in studio music costs would be necessary in maintaining 30- to 35-piece standby orchestras and meeting other conditions affording musicians more work and higher pay, sought by James C. Petrillo, head of the American Federation of Musicians, it was said following a discussion by company heads held here at the Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer studio, prior to meetings at the weekend with Petrillo to discuss a union contract.

Conferences between film executives,

(*Continued on page 7*)

## *Scully Names 'U' Sales Meeting Personnel*

W. A. Scully, Universal vice-president and general sales manager, announced at the weekend the complete list of sales and home office executives who will attend the company's sales meeting at the Ambassador Hotel in Los Angeles, beginning June 5.

In addition to E. T. Gomersall, assistant general sales manager, and divisional sales heads Fred Meyers, A. J. O'Keefe and J. A. McCarthy, the following executives will attend:

(*Continued on page 7*)

# Personal Mention

GEORGE DEMBOW, vice-president of National Screen Service, returned to New York over the weekend from Hollywood.

•

PHILLIP SPIEGEL, son of HARRY SPIEGEL, Comerford Theatres city supervisor in Scranton, Pa., has been commissioned a Second Lieutenant in the U. S. Army Air Force.

•

JOHNNY JONES, head of World Wide Pictures, Chicago, plans to leave that city May 27 for a two-month vacation in Los Angeles.

•

RUTH STONE, secretary to FRED A. LEROY, Paramount home office sales executive, is leaving the company to be married to MURRAY BACKER.

•

ERMA MILLER of Paramount's home office publicity department, was married yesterday to T/SGT. CHARLES ROSENFELD.

•

JULES ALBERTI and HARRY GOURFAIN, representatives for Constance Bennett, have returned to New York from the Coast.

•

KENNETH C. ADAMS, former head booker in Universal's Minneapolis exchange, has been promoted to salesman covering North Dakota.

•

WALTER BRANSON, RKO Western sales manager, returned to the home office at the weekend, after a trip of several weeks in his territory.

•

SI FABIAN, head of Fabian Theatres, will return to New York tomorrow from Spartanburg, S. C.

•

A. J. JEFFREY, general manager of United Artists in Canada, Toronto, will tour the Canadian West.

•

LOYD WRIGHT, Hollywood attorney, left for the Coast on Friday after several weeks in New York.

•

KENNETH R. BISHARD has joined Universal in Des Moines as salesman.

## Columbia Executives At Moscow Rites

BOSTON, May 14.—Funeral services were held yesterday for Sam Moscow, former Columbia Atlanta division manager who died Thursday in that city, at Solomon's Funeral Parlor, Brookline.

Columbia home office executives attending the services included Jack Cohn, A. Montague, Joseph A. McConville, Rube Jackter, Louis Weinberg, Louis Astor and 'Hank' Kaufman.

## Hazen's Mother Dies

Funeral services were held here Friday at Park West Memorial Chapel for Mrs. Fanny Hazen, mother of Joseph Hazen, and Mrs. Abel Vigard, wife of the Warner Bros. Circuit executive.

Mrs. Hazen died here Thursday. Burial was at Kingston, N. Y.

# Tradewise . . .

By SHERWIN KANE

THE potency of the publicity and promotional efforts which have been put behind television in recent months is forcefully demonstrated by the report recently brought back by Tom J. Connors of 20th Century-Fox that television was the No. 1 subject of interest among exhibitors with whom he met in visits to six key cities.

Professionally considered, it has been a good campaign by the television interests. As pointed out in this space once before, they have the advantage of a subject that is highly technical, that appeals to the public imagination, that has undeniable potentialities for the future, and now is in a stage of development at which almost anyone can make almost any prediction for it without fear of being conclusively refuted. That all adds up to a golden opportunity for the sincere enthusiasts, the hopeful dreamers and the inevitable promoters, all of whom, it would seem in the case of television, have their capable press agents.

Only one serious flaw in the publicity campaign has come to light to date. That is in the recent exchange of viewpoints on postwar television standards which narrowed down, in the public prints, to NBC's declaration for preparations to market television, as soon as possible after the war, on standards as they exist today and then go on from there, and to the CBS rejoinder that to do so might make obsolete television equipment in the hands of the public at such time as refinements and further development of the medium emerge from the postwar laboratories.

The Radio Technical Planning Board's subcommittee on television standards, in its recent report, gave no clear vindication to either viewpoint but, if it could be said to lean in either direction, it would appear to be in that of CBS's.

Replying to CBS, Niles Trammell, NBC president, said: "Television is a precise and highly complicated technical system and should be discussed and evaluated at this time only by engineers. . . ." With that we are in complete agreement, and if Mr. Trammell would take the first step by calling off his press department and leave the subject to his engineers we think it would be a splendid move in the right direction, and an example which other radio-television interests would do well to emulate.

Mr. Trammell's statement, arguing the justification for prompt launching of commercial television, says that radio and motion pictures, among other things, were not held back from the public until they achieved high practical perfection. So why, he asks in effect, should television be? Well, it is just possible that the fact that no previous standards of auditory and visual mechanical entertainment existed prior to the introduction of radio and films had something to do with that. Both now have established standards of public entertainment, and television, invading the fields of both, inevitably will be judged by radio and motion picture standards, for television has no original standard. Its premature launching could do the new medium a grave disservice.

But the thing that impresses most about all the statements being issued on television is that what the reader really ends up with is nothing more substantial than one man's opinion.

• •

That was a swell contribution to public understanding of the problems involved in getting new films to American service men around the world which Paul Hunter, publisher of *Liberty* magazine, penned for the May 20 issue. And the picture which headed it was eloquent testimony of what motion pictures mean to service men. Hunter explains why old films showed up on the battle fronts; tells how new films are rapidly replacing them everywhere.

*Addenda*: Industry travelers returning from London are telling about the night Warrant Officer Matty Fox "took" Spyros Skouras, Bob Riskin and others for plenty at gin rummy. . . . Henry Koop, dignified, white-haired receptionist at the Paramount ninth floor desk for many years, recently retired to his New Jersey seashore home. Once he was a portrait artist of note, lived at the summer palace of the King and Queen of Rumania, where he did portraits of the Queen and members of the royal family. Illness sent him to the merchant marine in search of renewed health. He went to Paramount about 20 years ago.

# Coast Flashes

*Hollywood, May 14*

BARNEY BALABAN, Paramount president, will leave here today for the East.

•

The premiere of "Little Devils," which is described as one of Monogram's more ambitious undertakings, is planned for Washington. Story concerns activities of Chinese guerrilla children against the Japs, and is being filmed with the cooperation of the Chinese government. It will include a foreword by Madame Chiang Kai-shek. Grant Withers is producing. Sam Ornitz did the screenplay.

•

Arnold Albert, assistant to Gordon Hollingshead, Warners' short subject production supervisor, will leave here tomorrow for Chicago to photograph the "I Am an American Day" activities there on May 21. Crane Wilbur who will direct the subject, will film similar activities in the Los Angeles Coliseum.

•

A. W. Hackel, under a new contract to Monogram, will resume producing, after a year's absence from the studio. His first will be "Baby Shoes," a mystery based on a notorious diamond robbery.

•

Boris Karloff has signed for two horror pictures with RKO, Val Lewton producing. The first will be "Carmilla," a vampire story.

•

John Grant and Edumund Hartmann will co-produce the next Abbott and Costello comedy, "In Society," for Universal.

•

M-G-M has signed for the film rights, before publication, of a novel by Charles Nordhoff and James Hall, now being written and as yet untitled.

•

Columbia player Marguerite Chapman is due here from a vacation in New York. She recently completed a four-week tour of Army hospitals.

•

Paramount has signed Barry Fitzgerald to a five-year contract, calling for two pictures a year.

## Benefits for B. & K. Managers, Aides

CHICAGO, May 14.—Reduction in working hours for managers and assistants was promised at the weekend by Walter R. Immerman, general manager of Balaban and Katz, and John Balaban, secretary and treasurer, revealed plans for a pension and retirement fund for employees at a breakfast meeting at the Hotel Drake here. More than 125 executives, managers and assistants were present.

Edward O'Donnell, manager of the Marbo theatre, and Miles Concannon, co-manager of the Chicago, were each presented with diamond-studded wrist watches in recognition of more than 20-years of service with Balaban and Katz. Leonard Schill was awarded a $100 War Bond for record bond sales in the Fourth War Loan.

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## *26 'A' Films for Summer Release*

**Encouraged by sharply climbing summer grosses during the past three years, eight distributors have scheduled 26 'big-budget' films for release during June, July and August, according to *Motion Picture Herald*. At least two of the pictures, David Selznick's "Since You Went Away" and 20th-Fox's "Wilson," will be launched in Mid-summer on a roadshow basis prior to general release.**

**Heavy advertising-publicity campaigns via radio, newspapers and magazines will accompany each of the 26.**

## *Palmerton Assistant WE Radio Manager*

P. L. Palmerton has been promoted by Western Electric from radio merchandise manager to assistant manager of the company's radio division, F. L. Lack, vice president in charge of the division, announced at the weekend.

At the same time, it was announced, D. C. Hickson, manager of the division's Washington office, is being transferred to New York as staff assistant. J. W. Sprague, former comptroller of the specialty products division, becomes radio division comptroller; and H. N. Willets, former manager of commercial sales, becomes contract service manager.

## *Technicolor Reelects 4 Directors Today*

Four directors of Technicolor, Inc., nominated without opposition for reelection, are to be returned to their posts by the company's stockholders in annual meeting here today. They are Dr. Herbert T. Kalmus, president and general manager, who will preside, J. L. Anderson, L. G. Clarke and Eversley Childs. Terms are for three years each.

Holdover directors of Technicolor are Robert Cushman, James H. Hayes, George F. Lewis, H. K. McCann, John McHugh, Albert W. Hawkes and Murray D. Welch.

## *Truckers Meet Today*

National Film Carriers will hold its annual convention here today and tomorrow, at the Hotel Astor. The organization, with headquarters in Philadelphia, represents a majority of film truckers. Problems stemming from the war, with particular emphasis on transportation, will be taken up.

## *'Key' to Wac Enlistees*

Borough president John Cashmore of Brooklyn has announced that he will offer the "Key to the Borough of Brooklyn" to all joining the Women's Army Corps during the current recruiting campaign at all theatres throughout Brooklyn, which is sponsored by the War Activities Committee.

## *Capt. Gable to Denver*

Capt. Clark Gable will be assigned as an instructor in the aerial gunnery school of the AAF in Denver, according to press dispatches from Washington.

# *Review*

## *"Johnny Doesn't Live Here Any More"*

*(Monogram)*

*Hollywood, May 14*

GIVING Simone Simon the kind of thing to do that she does best, and surrounding her with sailors, marines, a gremlin and a judge, all as comedians contributing to the merriment of her experiences, the King brothers, producer Maurice and associate producer Franklin, supply showmen with a comedy rich in laughs and like none they have offered their customers. On account of the gremlin, which figures in "Johnny Doesn't Live Here Any More," as genuine and as able to influence the heroine's life for seven weeks, the picture classifies technically as fantasy, but it's fantasy with both feet on the ground and strictly for purposes of fun.

James Ellison, William Terry, "Chick" Chandler and Alan Dinehart are the four players principally concerned in Miss Simon's romance, but important laughs are supplied by Minna Gombell, Chester Clute and others in the cast, which includes Gladys Blake, Robert Mitchum, Dorothy Grainger, Grady Sutton, Fern Emmett, Jerry Maren and Janet Shaw. Joe May's direction keeps events moving and sparkling.

Philip Yordan and John Kafka wrote the script, from a story by Alice Means Reeve, and it boils down to the tale of what happens when a girl rents an apartment from a young man about to enter armed service who forgets to tell her he's given keys to the place to a circle of friends who, as the picture rolls along, arrive in succession to take advantage of the young man's absentee hospitality. Consequences are amusing, plausible and skillfully presented.

Running time, 79 minutes. "G."* Release date May 12.

WILLIAM R. WEAVER

**"G" denotes general classification.*

## *Arguments on Prefect Motion Again Delayed*

Selection of a date for arguments on Prefect Theatres' motion for a new trial of its unsuccessful Connecticut anti-trust suit against eight distributing companies, has again been delayed. Federal Judge Caroll Hincks, before whom the arguments will be held in New Haven, was scheduled to return there late last week from Arizona, where he was called by the illness of his mother, but his arrival is not now expected before the end of this week.

On April 14, following 20 days of testimony by plaintiff's witnesses, Judge Hincks handed down a verdict in favor of the defendants on Prefect's charge of conspiracy to deny product to their Pickwick Theatre in Greenwich. The new trial motion holds that the verdict was not justified by the evidence and that the function of the jury was usurped.

## *Zeeman Heads Col. Branch Operations*

Bernard E. Zeeman, former assistant manager of domestic branch operations, has been named manager of foreign branch operations by Joseph A. McConville, Columbia's vice-president in charge of foreign distribution.

McConville also disclosed at the weekend that Arnold Picker, his assistant in the supervision of foreign sales, has been granted a temporary leave to accept a Government assignment as a representative of the Office of War Information.

## *Herbie Kay Dies*

DALLAS, May 14.—Herbie Kay, 40, orchestra leader who had played in theatres and night clubs throughout the country, as well as over radio networks, died at the weekend in a hospital here. He is survived by his widow and his mother.

## *Chicago House Files Combined Complaint*

R. J. Miller, operator of the Colony, McHenry, Ill., has filed a combined some-run and clearance complaint at the Chicago tribunal against the five consenting companies, the American Arbitration Association reported here yesterday.

Paintiff states that clearances granted by the defendants to the Crocker, Rialto and Grove, at Elgin; Miller, Woodstock; El Tovar, Crystal Lake; Grove, Fox River Grove; Catlow, Barrington and Dundee, at Dundee; Chicago, Roosevelt, Apollo, United Artists, Garrick, Woods, Grand, Palace and State-Lake, Chicago, over Miller's Colony, are unreasonable, and, further, that the decree distributors have refused to grant some-run to the Colony.

## *Montana ITO Elects Anderson President*

BILLINGS, Mont., May 14.—Carl Anderson of Kalispell, was elected president of the Montana Independent Theatre Owners at its annual meeting here late last week. Jack Suckstorf of Sidney was reelected secretary-treasurer.

Stuart North, retiring president, told MOTION PICTURE DAILY: "It was the best meeting we have ever held," devoting, as it did, most of the organization's attention to the industry's participation in the Fifth War Loan.

## *CWV to Honor Cantor*

Eddie Cantor will be awarded the 10th annual Catholic War Veterans' citation for "outstanding loyalty to American ideas and principles," in recognition of his establishment of the "Purple Heart" circuit to entertain wounded veterans of World War II. The presentation will be made May 21 at the CWV annual pageant at the Waldorf-Astoria.

## 'Don't Pull Good Ones', Midelburg Tells Exhibitors

Exhibitors playing a good picture beyond the point where it is profitable, rather than replacing it with a poor, but new production, stand to benefit in the long run because poor features make dissatisfied customers, "and dissatisfied customers stop going to theatres." This was the advice given to exhibitor colleagues by Charles Arnold Midelburg, owner of the Capitol Theatre, Charleston, W. Va., in New York Friday as the guest of Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer. The occasion was a luncheon at the Astor Hotel to present Midelburg to the trade press as "Typical M-G-M Showman," having played every M-G-M feature, short and trailer for the past 20 years.



Charles A. Midelburg

### Pays Tribute to M-G-M

Midelburg paid tribute to the company and to William F. Rodgers, its general sales manager, for "the loyalty of both" to him as an exhibitor.

Introducing Midelburg to some two-dozen representatives of the trade press, Rodgers disclosed that while the exhibitor had not missed a single M-G-M release of any kind in 20 years, he has never had a Metro franchise. Typifying the company's relations with the theatre operator, Rodgers told how, at the peak of the depression in the late 1920's, Midelburg disclosed to Rodgers how he, like many others, had incurred threatening personal losses, his theatre was losing heavily and he felt he could not continue. Rodgers assured him, he said, "that as long as he remained a customer of the company I had nothing to fear."

### Left for Coast Friday

Midelburg and Mrs. Midelburg were brought here by Rodgers to meet the company's executives and on Friday they left New York for Hollywood to meet studio officials as representative of "thousands of M-G-M customers who have played the company's product since the merger of Metro, Goldwyn and Mayer, in 1924," on the occasion of the approaching 20th anniversary of M-G-M next month.

On the dais at Friday's luncheon, beside Midelburg and Rodgers, were Harry Rapf, visiting here from Hollywood; David Bernstein, Charles C. Moskowitz, E. K. (Ted) O'Shea, Ed Saunders and Si Seadler. Others on hand from the home office were: Howard Dietz, Henderson Richey, Herbert Crooker, E. W. Aaron, William R. Ferguson, Herman Rippe, Harold Postman, Mike Simons, Russell Stewart, Bill Danziger and William Ornstein. From the trade press were: Pete Harrison, James Cunningham, R. W. Baremore, Al Steen, Herb Miller, Mel Konecoff, Floyd Stone, William Formby, Abel Green, James Cron, Tom Kennedy and Ben Shylen.

ANOTHER SIZZLING **FIRST** FOR MONOGRA

The SHOWMANSHIP COMPANY crashes through with a roaring success- or to "WHERE ARE YOUR CHILDREN"! It's the scoop expose' of thrill-thirsty parents turning their backs while today's youth hits the road to ruin!



The SHAME-STORY OF OUR TIME!

PLAY IT HOT!



MONOGRAM PICTURES
*presents*

# "ARE THESE OUR *Parents*"

with

**HELEN VINSON**
**LYLE TALBOT**
**IVAN LEBEDEFF · NOEL NEILL**
**ODISON RICHARDS · RICHARD BYRON**
**ANTHONY WARDE**

Produced by JEFFREY BERNERD
Directed by WILLIAM NIGH
Screenplay by MICHEL JACOBY
Original Story by HILARY LYNN



TEEN-AGE KIDS IN THE POLICE LINEUP
. . . WHILE GROWNUPS PAINT THE TOWN!

# 'Heavenly' and Show Do a Heavy $52,000

CHICAGO, May 14.—"The Heavenly Body" attracted $52,000 to the Chicago theatre here where Lou Breese and his band continues on the stage for the seventh week of a return engagement. The Oriental's receipts soared to $42,000 with the Andrew Sisters on the stage, plus a dual film, "Around the World."

Estimated receipts for the week ending May 12:

**"The Bridge of San Luis Rey" (UA)**
**"Tunisian Victory" (M-G-M-MOI)**
APOLLO—(1,200) (55c-65c-95c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $11,000. (Average: $11,400).
**"The Heavenly Body" (M-G-M)**
CHICAGO—(3,850) (55c-65c-95c) 7 days. Stage: Lou Breese and band. Gross: $52,000. (Average: $51,500).
**"Cry Havoc" (M-G-M) and**
**"Memphis Belle" (WAC-Para.) 4 days, 5th week.**
**"Women in Bondage" (Mono.) and**
**"The Chinese Cat" (Mono.) 3 days.**
GARRICK—(1,000) (55c-65c-95c) 7 days. Gross: $10,000. (Average: $9,100).
**"Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs" (RKO)**
**"The Falcon Out West" (RKO)**
GRAND—(1,250) (50c-60c-85c-95c) 7 days, 3rd loop week. Gross: $11,000. (Average: $9,100).
**"Around the World" (RKO)**
ORIENTAL — (3,200) (44c-55c-60c-80c-95c) 7 days. Stage: Andrew Sisters. Gross: $42,000. (Average: $24,000).
**"The Imposter" (Univ.)**
**"Her Primitive Man" (Univ.)**
PALACE—(2,500) (50c-60c-85c-95c) 7 days. Gross: $14,000. (Average: $24,000).
**"In Our Time" (WB)**
ROOSEVELT — (1,500) (55c-65c-95c) 7 days. Gross: $26,000. (Average: $24,000).
**"Lady in the Dark" (Para.)**
STATE-LAKE — (2,700) (55c-65c-95c) 7 days, 5th week. Gross: $29,500. (Average: $29,000).
**"A Guy Named Joe" (M-G-M) 6 days, 6th week.**
**"Broadway Rhythm" (M-G-M) 1 day.**
UNITED ARTISTS—(1,700) (55c-65c-95c) 7 days. Gross: $22,000. (Average: $20,200).
**"Up in Arms" (RKO)**
WOODS—(1,200) (55c-65c-95c) 7 days, 3rd week. Gross: $19,000. (Average: $10,000).

# 'Harvest Moon' Dual Nets $6,000 Over

DENVER, May 14.—"Shine On, Harvest Moon" on a dual at the Denver and Esquire theatres proved to be the bright spot here for the week with the former house high with $21,000. "Cover Girl" was next at the Paramount with $14,800.

Estimated receipts for the week ending May 8-10:

**"Uncertain Glory" (WB)**
**"Moon Over Las Vegas" (Univ.)**
ALADDIN—(1,400) (46c-74c) 7 days, moveover. Gross: $5,600. (Average: $5,600).
**"Up in Arms" (RKO)**
**"The Falcon Out West" (RKO)**
BROADWAY—(1,040) (46c-74c) 7 days, moveover. Gross: $4,875. (Average: $3,900).
**"Shine On, Harvest Moon" (WB)**
**"Girl in the Case" (Col.)**
DENVER—(2,600) (46c-74c) 7 days. Gross: $21,000. (Average: $15,000).
**"Shine On, Harvest Moon" (WB)**
**"Girl in the Case" (Col.)**
ESQUIRE—(740) (46c-74c) 7 days. Gross: $6,750. (Average: $4,500).
**"The Uninvited" (Para.)**
DENHAM—(1,750) (35c-45c-70c) 7 days. Gross: $11,000. (Average: $9,000).
**"Woman in Bondage" (Mono.)**
**"Rosie the Riveter" (Rep.)**
PARAMOUNT—(2,200) (46c-74c) 7 days. Gross: $14,800. (Average: $9,300).
**"Cover Girl" (Col.)**
**"The Memphis Belle" (WAC-Para.)**
RIALTO—(900) (46c-74c) 7 days. moveover. Gross: $8,750. (Average: $5,000).

# Reviews

## "The Yellow Rose of Texas"

*(Republic)*

THE established Roy Rogers appeal will draw children and oldsters in the usual droves to see the "King of the Cowboys" in Republic's latest Rogers Western with lavishly staged production numbers. "Yellow Rose of Texas" also has Trigger, the Sons of the Pioneers, Dale Evans, Harry Shannon and George Cleveland, who, with Rogers, all rise nobly to overcome story difficulties.

Rogers, representing an insurance company, joins a showboat to investigate the leading lady, Miss Evans, whose father, convicted of an old express company holdup, has escaped from jail. Miss Evans convinces Rogers that her father, Harry Shannon, is innocent. Shannon is given a chance to prove his integrity but is foiled when the law interferes. Meantime, Rogers does some further investigating and discovers that Grant Withers, express agent, is the real culprit.

Jack Townley's screenplay loses much of its punch in his endeavor to gear the story to the musical aspects of the production, but Jack Kane's direction keeps the film rolling rapidly to maintain a degree of interest throughout. Harry Grey produced.

Running time, 69 mins. "G."* Release date, June 24.

## "Beneath Western Skies"

*(Republic)*

AN abundance of gun duels and street brawls puts "Beneath Western Skies" right up with the best in action for small-scale Westerns, augmented considerably by the refreshing comedy of Smiley Burnette. Also, the story has some new angles.

Bob Livingston comes to Stokesville at the request of Effie Laird, his old school teacher, who has undertaken to rid the town of lawlessness and its chief renegade, Leroy Mason. Livingston suffers a head injury in a scrape with Mason's gang and loses his memory. Mason then uses Livingston for his own ends until the latter gets another jolt which cures his amnesia. After considerable excitement and the customary shooting, Livingston gets his man and Miss Laird gets just recognition for her clean-up efforts.

Director Spencer Bennet moves the picture along at a rapid pace. Albert DeMond and Bob Williams wrote the screenplay. Louis Gray produced. The supporting cast is adequate.

Running time, 56 mins. "G."* Release date, March 3.

HELEN MCNAMARA

*"G" denotes general classification.

## 4A Board Endorses Interim Election

The international board of the Four-A actor unions met here at the weekend and endorsed the interim election of Florence Marston of the Screen Actors Guild as executive secretary, and Emily Holt of the American Federation of Radio Artists as executive vice-president of the organization.

Paul Dullzell, Four-A international president, reported that the organization's financial position was stronger than it has been in many years.

## Mrs. Emerich Honored

The Eastern Motion Picture Previewers will sponsor a luncheon today for Mrs. Jeannette Emerich, representative on that group of the Motion Picture Producers and Distributors of America, at Town Hall, West 44th St. Film companies will be represented and Carl Milliken, MPPDA executive will speak.

## NAACC Cites Newman

The National Association for American Composers and Conductors presented Alfred Newman, musical director for 20th-Fox, a special citation for his score in "The Song of Bernadette," at the group's annual reception held Friday night at the Waldorf-Astoria Hotel. Dr. Sigmund Spaeth, president of NAACC, made the presentation.

## 'Buffalo' Dual Hits Healthy $18,200

MILWAUKEE, May 14.—"The Adventures of Mark Twain" at advanced prices grossed about $16,750 at the Warner here. "Buffalo Bill," coupled with "Jam Session" at the Wisconsin, took $18,200.

Estimated receipts for the week ending May 13:

**"Buffalo Bill" (20th-Fox)**
**"Jam Session" (Col.)**
WISCONSIN—(3,200) (40c-60c-80c) 7 days. Gross: $18,200. (Average: $14,500).
**"Cover Girl" (Col.)**
**"The Whistler" (Col.)**
PALACE—(2,400) (40c-60c-80c) 7 days. Gross: $11,500. (Average: $11,500).
**"Lady in the Dark" (Para.)**
**"The Miracle of Morgan's Creek" (Para.)**
STRAND—(1,400) (40c-60c-80c) 7 days, 2nd week downtown. Gross: $4,950. (Average: $5,500).
**"The Adventures of Mark Twain" (WB)**
WARNER—(2,400) (40c-76c-$1.10) 7 days. Gross: $15,750. (Average: $14,000).
**"Uncertain Glory" (WB)**
**"Trocadero" (Rep.)**
ALHAMBRA—(1,900) (50c-72c) 7 days, 2nd week downtown. Gross: $9,000. (Average: $10,000).
**"The Falcon Out West" (RKO)**
RIVERSIDE—(2,700) (65c-85c) 7 days. On stage: Woody Herman and orchestra. Gross: $15,000. (Average: $15,000).

## RKO Realigns District

PHILADELPHIA, May 14.—John Phelan has been assigned to independent city accounts for RKO in the realignment of booking territories at the local exchange. Marty Clark will handle Warners and several other circuit bookings.

# Short Subject Reviews

## "The Battle of Europe"

*(United Artists)*

With the tempo of the air assault of the combined aerial might of the Allied forces mounting daily, this documentary, produced by the National Film Board of Canada, and depicting the fusing of operations, is an interesting and timely film. Incorporated in the well-assembled footage are some highly exciting shots of aerial warfare.

Editing by Stuart Legg and the commentary written by Legg and spoken by Lorne Green sustains interest throughout. Several scenes emphasize the widespread nature of the operations over Germany, scenes familiar to American audiences by now, but nevertheless, fascinating. Format of the film resembles that of "March of Time" subjects. It is one of the World-In-Action series distributed in this country by United Artists. Running time is 17 minutes.

## "Underground Report"

*March of Time (20th-Fox)*

March of Time, in "Underground Report," presents a vivid picture of Nazi-occupied lands in Europe today as organized resistance movements among the subjugated peoples continue to harass Axis armies. Impressive scenes from captured Nazi films also show the enemy's preparations for the defense of Hitler's European fortress, now being battered by Allied air armadas, and the attempts of German militarists to force resisters into submission.

"Underground Report" is a graphic portrayal of Hitler's gradual defeat, facilitated in great part by the courage of people who will not stay conquered. Excellent photographs by news cameramen on the spot and deeply moving commentary combine to make this one of the finest war shorts produced to date. Running time, 20 mins.

## Omaha Yields 'Hour' Dual Neat $10,600

OMAHA, May 14.—"The Adventures of Mark Twain," showing at increased prices at the Brandeis Theatre, slumped here this week netting only $4,500 at a house that averages $6,500. "The Hour Before the Dawn" and "Navy Way" at the Orpheum grossed $10,600. Rainy weather continued.

Estimated receipts for the week ending May 10-11:

**"Mark Twain" (WB)**
BRANDEIS—(1,200) (76c-$1.10) 7 days. Gross: $4,500. (Average: $6,500).
**"Shine On, Harvest Moon" (WB)**
**"She's for Me" (Univ.)**
OMAHA—(2,000) (44c-60c) 6 days, 2nd week, moveover from Paramount. Gross: $8,900. (Average: $8,400).
**"The Hour Before the Dawn" (Para.)**
**"The Navy Way" (Para.)**
ORPHEUM—(3,000) (44c-60c) 7 days. Gross: $10,600. (Average: $9,800).
**"Jane Eyre" (20th-Fox)**
PARAMOUNT—(2,900) (44c-60c) 7 days. Gross: $10,600. (Average: $11,700).

## Corcoran for Senator

BOSTON, May 14.—John H. Corcoran, mayor of Cambridge and owner of a Cambridge theatre, will compete for the U. S. Senatorial nomination on the Democratic ticket here in the July 11 primaries.

### *M. Blumenstock Does 'Victory' Pressbook*

**Mort Blumenstock and his publicity staff at Warner's home office have completed a press book for "Road to Victory," Fifth War Loan short subject which will be released May 18.**

**The film was produced by Jack L. Warner and will be distributed by Warners for the War Activities Committee.**

# Upstate N. Y. Hears O'Donnell Today

BUFFALO, May 14.—Upstate New York exhibitors and distributors will gather at the Statler Hotel here for a luncheon meeting tomorrow to hear R. J. O'Donnell, national industry chairman of the Fifth War Loan campaign, and other national and area leaders detail plans for the drive. In addition to O'Donnell, national drive leaders attending will be R. M. Kennedy, John J. Friedl, Ray Beall and Claude F. Lee.

H. M. Richey, director of exhibitor relations for M-G-M, will represent the national distributor committee at the Buffalo meeting. Lou Golding of Albany, upstate New York chairman, has delegated Vincent McFaul of Buffalo to act for him as regional chairman for the meeting.

Exhibitor representatives who will lead delegations include Myer Schine, Gloversville; C. J. Latta and Charles Smakwitz, Albany; Jay Golden, Lester Pollock and William Selman, Rochester; Vaughn O'Neill, Jake Flex and Sid Grossman, Syracuse; Andy Roy, Utica, and Mike Kallett, Oneida.

C. G. Eastman and M. A. Brown, district distributor chairmen for the Albany and Buffalo areas, respectively, will lead the state distributor contingent at the meeting.

# Vanities Ups 'Action' To a Good $18,000

MINNEAPOLIS, May 14.—The Earl Carroll Vanities on the stage and "Action in Arabia," at the Orpheum grossed $18,000 to lead here. Most situations were below average.

Estimated receipts for the week ending May 11:

**"Action in Arabia" (RKO)**
ORPHEUM—(2,800) (50c-65c) 7 days. On stage: Earl Carroll Vanities. Gross: $18,000. (Average: $15,000).
**"The Sullivans" (20th-Fox)**
RADIO CITY—(4,000) (44c-60c) 7 days. Gross: $12,000. (Average: $15,000).
**"Up in Arms" (RKO-Goldwyn)**
STATE—(2,300) (44c-60c) 7 days. Gross: $11,000. (Average: $12,400).
**"Shine On, Harvest Moon" (WB)**
CENTURY—(1,600) (44c-60c) 7 days, 2nd week downtown. Gross: $7,000. (Average: $7,400).
**"The Uninvited" (Para.)**
LYRIC—(1,250) (44c-60c) 7 days, 2nd week downtown. Gross: $6,000. (Average: $5,600).
**"Swingtime Johnny" (Univ.)**
GOPHER—(998)—(40c) 5 days. Gross: $2,400. (Average, 7 days: $3,700).
**"The Cross of Lorraine" (M-G-M)**
WORLD—(350) (44c-55c-60c-80c). Gross: $2,500. (Average: $2,400).
**"Escape to Danger" (RKO)**
**"Rosie the Riveter" (Rep.)**
ASTER—(900) (25c-35c) 7 days. Gross: $2,400. (Average: $2,600).

# *Films Available to Small Towns for Bond Shows*

(*Continued from page 1*)

ing to towns of not over 7,500 population, makes the provision that "the picture booked for the premiere shall have been generally released prior to Dec. 1, 1943."

In making a picture available to the exhibitor for these shows, under terms of the agreement, the distributor committee, Depinet stated, wants to obviate a situation in which the exhibitor may object to running a bond premiere on the ground that it might reduce the gross when the picture is played at a regular engagement.

The distributor chairman in each territory will make available to the small-town exhibitors a list of all pictures released prior to Dec. 1, 1943, for which prints are available.

**Other Points in Agreement**

The agreement further states that for all theatres in places of more than 7,500 population, the distributors will furnish, for one bond premiere performance only, any picture the exhibitor has under contract, but not earlier than 30 days prior to its availability for booking at his theatre, providing the exhibitors having clearance do not object. Re-issues will be considered the same as new films.

They also agree to furnish a picture for a children's morning premiere, under the same conditions.

They endorse the plan of the campaign committee for "Free Movie Day" on July 6 and agree that free admission may be accorded bond purchasers on that day. They also agree to provide pictures for repeat showings at bond premieres wherever exhibitors so desire. The agreement excludes such features as may be handled at advanced admission prices.

**June 2 Set for Fifth Bond Meeting Here**

Friday, June 2, has been set for a mass mobilization meeting of the New York area in advance of "E" day, the opening of the industry's Fifth War Loan campaign here, Charles C. Moskowitz, general chairman, announced at the weekend.

"The Fifth War Loan will be the the toughest job of all drives so far," Moskowitz said. "Our 'E' day will be the day we start a theatre-by-theatre attack to reach the E-bond quota of the New York area."

**John Balaban, Others Due at Chicago Meet**

CHICAGO, May 14.—Leading exhibitors of Illinois, Wisconsin and Michigan who will be present to formulate plans at a meeting May 19 at the Blackstone Hotel here for the Fifth War Loan campaign include: John Balaban, Jules J. Rubens, Jack Kirsch, of Chicago; Earl Hudson and L. Whisper, Detroit, and Harold J. Fitzgerald, Milwaukee.

# See Big Cost Rise In Studio Music

(*Continued from page 1*)

Petrillo and Pat Casey, producers' labor contact, continued over the weekend.

In a press interview Petrillo reiterated the old AFM complaint that the advent of sound had cut the number of AFM members in theatres from 22,000 to about 4,000. Prior to talking pictures, he said, musicians were earning $48,000,000 a year in American theatres.

He also said that the new Government cabaret tax "must be repealed or half our musicians now employed will lose their jobs." He said that 7,000 have already lost out since the tax was put into effect, indicating that he looks to the film studios to increase musicians' employment.

Studio heads present at the conferences include Barney Balaban of Paramount, Nicholas M. Schenck of M-G-M and N. Peter Rathvon of RKO. Company spokesmen declined to make any prediction as to the outcome of negotiations.

# *ScullyNames'U' Sales Meeting Personnel*

(*Continued from page 1*)

Maurice A. Bergman, Adolph Schimel, F. T. Murray, J. J. Jordan, E. L. McEvoy, B. B. Kreisler and A. J. Sharick. District managers who will be present are M. M. Gottlieb, D. A. Levy, J. E. Garrison, John J. Scully, P. F. Rosian, S. E. Applegate, Dave Miller, C. J. Feldman and H. D. Graham.

# See Adoption of UA Amendments Today

(*Continued from page 1*)

directors from four to nine members and would permit a majority of the board to perform all usual management functions, eliminating the power of veto by any one stockholder which has prevailed heretofore under the company's unanimous consent procedure. Unanimous consent would be retained only in the case of proposed sales of company stock.

Neil F. Agnew, vice-president of David O. Selznick's Vanguard Films, is expected to be elected to the new directorate, along with Edward C. Raftery, United Artists president; Gradwell L. Sears, vice-president; Charles Schwartz, Arthur W. Kelly, George Bagnall and Daniel T. O'Shea. Each owner, Mary Pickford, Selznick and Charles Chaplin, will be entitled to elect three directors under the proposed amendments.

Bagnall was expected from the Coast at the weekend to attend the meeting and to insure a quorum being present. Raffery, Sears, Schwartz and Isaac Pennypacker, Philadelphia attorney for Miss Pickford, also are expected to be at the meeting, which was adjourned from May 5 because of technicalities involving phraseology of the proposed amendments.

# *Kirsch to Philadelphia*

CHICAGO, May 14. — Jack Kirsch, president of Allied Theatres of Illinois, will represent his organization at the Allied Caravan and National Allied board meetings in Philadelphia, May 23-26.

# Fear Ban on Joint Foreign Trade Action

(*Continued from page 1*)

**are seen by the U. S. Chamber of Commerce in the failure of the order to list the Federal Trade Commission among the Federal agencies with which the industry branch is to collaborate.**

The Commission, it is pointed out, has for years supervised the Webb Pomerene Associations, organized by competing units of industries for effective exploration of foreign markets.

Chamber officials also saw a hostile attitude toward joint private actions in the authority given the branch in the "development of policies and programs for controlling cartels, combines, restrictive patent agreements and other restrictive international business arrangements," which, it is charged, is in sharp contrast with its instructions for the "determination and promotion of standards for intergovernmental industrial agreements and also of the form of international organization required to implement such standards and general programs." Since the United States already has engaged in conversations with Britain regarding postwar policies and principles to be applied to world aviation and development of world petroleum reserves, which are to be followed by conferences regarding postwar film distribution and other industrial subjects, there is considerable uncertainty as to the support which will be given American companies in foreign operations which depend upon joint action to preserve their competitive position against other countries.

# May Name 6 Film Envoys Soon

(*Continued from page 1*)

will be made in the early postwar period or as soon as international conditions permit.

Industry representatives already are assigned to London and Australia.

The foreign representatives to be appointed will collaborate with U. S. State Department officials in their respective territories on all matters pertaining to the industry, and will be its official spokesmen where its interests are concerned. Their status will correspond with that of film industry representatives of other leading nations in the various world capitals. Approval for their appointment was given to major company foreign managers by the MPPDA board of directors recently.

# *Cecil B. DeMille on Air*

Cecil B. DeMille will make personal appearances on three networks as part of the radio exploitation of his new Paramount production, "The Story of Dr. Wassell." He will be on the Amos and Andy program, May 19, the Bing Crosby show, June 8, and a special Union Pacific broadcast, July 8.

# SPARKLING... CAPTIVATING... CAPRICIOUS...

**A REVEALING STORY OF WHAT GOES ON BEHIND THE GAYETY AND GLAMOR, THE CLOWNING AND CAREFREE SCENES IN THE WORLD'S MOST TALKED OF NIGHT SPOT... SET TO THE MUSIC OF THE WORLD'S MOST FAMOUS DANCE BANDS.**

# Trocadero



*with*

## ROSEMARY LANE

*and*

## JOHNNY DOWNS

**RALPH MORGAN**
**DICK PURCELL**
**CLIFF NAZARRO**

*and Featuring*
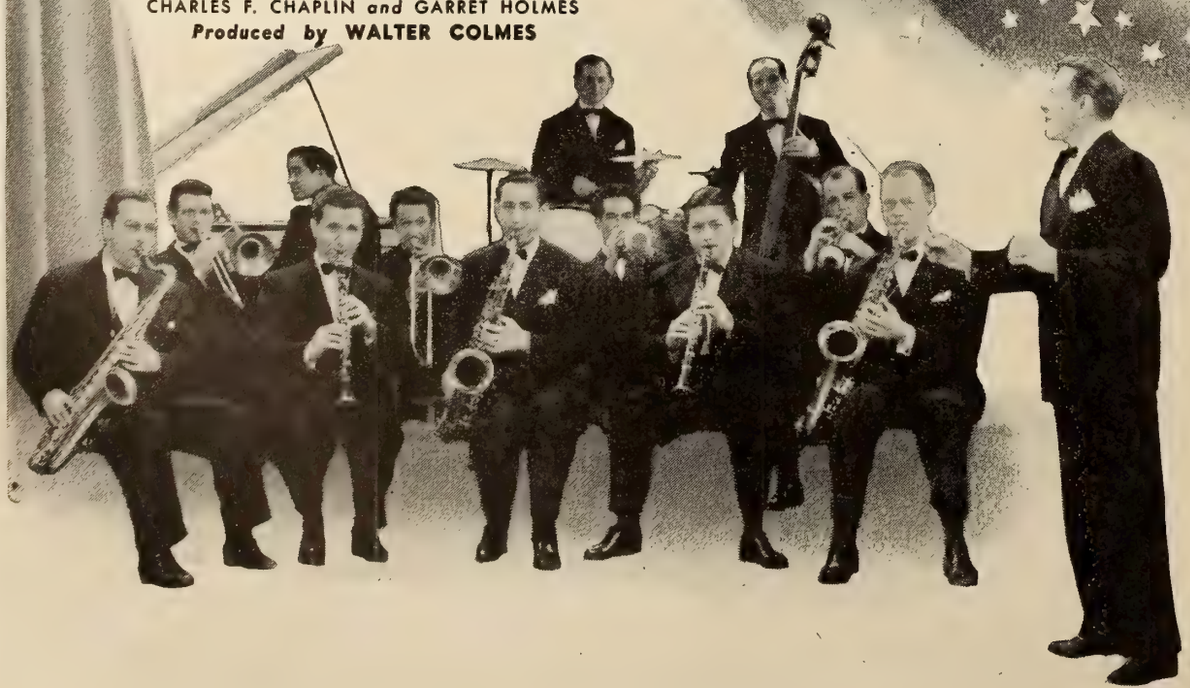
**BOB CHESTER** *and his Orchestra*
**MATTY MALNECK** *and his Orchestra*
**GUS ARNHEIM** *and his Orchestra*
**EDDIE LeBARON** *and his Orchestra*

**WILLIAM NIGH** — *Director*

SCREENPLAY BY ALLEN GALE

*ORIGINAL STORY BY*
CHARLES F. CHAPLIN *and* GARRET HOLMES

*Produced by* **WALTER COLMES**



**A REPUBLIC PICTURE**

First in Film and Radio News Brief, Accurate and Impartial

# MOTION PICTURE DAILY

Alert, Intelligent and Indispensable to the Motion Picture Industry

VOL. 55. NO. 96 NEW YORK, U. S. A., TUESDAY, MAY 16, 1944 TEN CENTS

## Montague Sets Regionals For Columbia

### *1944-45 Sales Meetings Will Start June 2*

Columbia Pictures will hold its 1944-45 sales convention in three sessions, it was revealed here yesterday by A. Montague, general sales manager. The meetings have been set for Chicago, June 2-5; New York, June 13-15, and San Francisco, July 11-13.



A. Montague

Jack Cohn and home office executives will be present at the Chicago and New York meetings. Sales executives present at the latter gatherings will be Rube Jackter,

(*Continued on page* 11)

## 20th Stockholders Meeting Today

Twentieth Century-Fox will hold its annual stockholders meeting here today. Four have been nominated for election to the board: Murray Silverstone, vice-president in charge of foreign distribution; L. Sherman Adams, vice-president of Massachusetts Investors Trust; Robert L.

(*Continued on page* 10)

### *3,000 Vandalism Acts In Carolina Houses*

**Charlotte, N. C., May 15.—More than 3,000 acts of vandalism have been reported in 500 theatres in North and South Carolina within the last six months, according to Mrs. Walter Griffith, secretary of the Theatre Owners of North and South Carolina.**

**Mrs. Griffith disclosed that the acts ranged from ripping upholstery to tearing up whole rows of seats with costs varying from a few dollars to several thousands.**

## UA Votes Change In By-Laws, 2-1, Chaplin Dissenting

WILMINGTON, May 15.—Amendments to United Artists' certificate of incorporation which are designed to increase the operating authority of management and restrict that of ownership were adopted at the adjourned annual meeting of company stockholders by a vote of two to one here today. The Charles Chaplin stock, for which the proxy was held by Harold Jacoby of the New York law firm of Schwartz & Frohlich, was voted against adoption of the amendments.

Voting for the amendments were Mary Pickford and David O. Selznick, whose proxies were voted by Isaac Pennypacker of Philadelphia and Joseph Bennett of the New York law firm of White & Case, respectively.

Indications are that Chaplin may contest the stockholders' action in

(*Continued on page* 11)

## Moss Calls for Aid For N. Y. Fund

B. S. Moss, theatre operator here and co-chairman of the motion picture division of the Greater New York Fund, yesterday announced that the drive for funds within the film industry is now under way. J. Robert Rubin of Loew's, honorary chairman, expressed appreciation for the support given the fund by the industry last year.

Co-chairman Moss said that even larger contributions will be sought

(*Continued on page* 11)

### *Drive for Wacs Is Extended a Week*

**Col. John Johns,' national head of the Women's Army Corps recruiting, has requested the motion picture industry to continue its Wac recruiting drive a second week. Edward L. Alperson, general chairman for the campaign, after consulting Si Fabian and other theatre executives, 'felt certain that exhibitors throughout the country would want to go along with Col. John's wishes,' declared a statement from War Activities Committee headquarters here yesterday.**

**Wac recruiting in theatres will continue through May 25, instead of the 17th.**

## 'White Cliffs' Heads For $120,000 on First at Music Hall

Premature warm weather is considerably affecting matinee business at downtown New York first-run theatres. Grosses are considerably off the profitable pace of recent months. Unaffected, however, is Radio City Music Hall which is having a big opening week with "The White Cliffs of Dover" and a stage show. First four days business up to Sunday night was $75,000; $120,000 is expected for the week.

"Pin-Up Girl" and a stage show with Connee Boswell, Willie Howard and Raymond Scott and his CBS or-

(*Continued on page* 10)

## *Cancellation and Expansion Remain Decree Problems*

WASHINGTON, May 15.—Further delay in the projected meeting between Assistant Attorney General Tom C. Clark and the distributors was in sight tonight as Clark prepared to leave Washington tomorrow to attend a regional meeting of United States Attorneys in St. Louis. In addition, Robert L. Wright, special assistant to the Attorney General in charge of the film unit, is attending a trial in Pittsburgh, and in view of the importance of the next, and possibly the last, meeting on the decree it is considered imperative that he attend.

**There are several points on which the distributors and the Government have not reached an agreement, Clark said, among them cancellation and circuit expansion, which he considers as probably the most important of all the changes sought by the independent exhibitors.**

Clark said there might be some relation between the expansion provision and the recent Oklahoma City findings in the Momand case that major company expansion as a normal business growth is not unlawful, but that he has not studied the latter and could not comment.

Although the next meeting with the

(*Continued on page* 11)

## 'Local Need' Filed for In 20 Cities

### *No Other Applications to Be Made at Present*

The distributors' division of the War Activities Committee disclosed yesterday that applications have now been filed with the War Manpower Commission in 20 exchange centers asking that motion picture distribution in each be classified as "locally needed."

This completes the list of cities where it is intended to file such applications for the present, and includes the following: Albany, Boston, Buffalo, Charlotte, Chicago, Cleveland, Dallas, Detroit, Indianapolis, Los Angeles, Milwaukee, New Haven, New Orleans, Oklahoma City, Omaha, Portland, Ore.; Salt Lake City, San

(*Continued on page* 11)

## Technicolor's 1945 Volume Sold Out

"Technicolor Motion Picture Corp. has sold out its entire volume for 1945, as permitted under wartime conditions, and has been forced to give all studios less color films than requested," Dr. Herbert T. Kalmus, president and general manager, told the stockholders of Technicolor, Inc., at their annual meeting here yesterday. The restriction of volume, Dr. Kalmus said, has prevented the company from putting into effect its policy of gradually lowering prices.

Dr. Kalmus, along with J. L. An-

(*Continued on page* 11)

### *Kelly Denies Rank, Wallis Deal 'Dead'*

**"While the chances of our closing a deal with Hal Wallis are not promising at the moment the negotiations have not been abandoned entirely," Arthur W. Kelly, head of J. Arthur Rank's Eagle-Lion Films here, said yesterday when asked about current Broadway reports that a Wallis-Rank deal, which looked promising for a time, has been called off.**

**Wallis has extended his stay again and plans to remain here through the week.**

# Personal Mention

JOHN HERTZ, JR., board chairman of Buchanan & Co., New York agency, will leave here today for Hollywood.

•

CHARLES ALICOATE became a grandfather here Sunday and JACK ALICOATE, both of *Film Daily*, became a grand-uncle, with the birth of a son, WILLIAM CHARLES, to Air Corps LIEUT. and MRS. WILLIAM E. WILD.

•

HARRIETT FLAGG, DAVID SELZNICK'S New York office manager, has arrived at Trinidad on a four months' leave of absence; MARCELLA NAPP, Hollywood manager, temporarily replaces MISS FLAGG here.

•

JACK MILLS of Mills Music Co., and MRS. MILLS, announce the engagement of their daughter, HELEN, to 2ND LT. WILLIAM ALPERT, AAF, of Newton, Mass.

•

ARTHUR BRILANT of RKO's home office publicity department, has returned to his desk after a week's illness at home.

•

HENDERSON M. RICHEY, head of exhibitor relations for M-G-M, is visiting Buffalo, Cleveland and Indianapolis on behalf of war bond rallies.

•

WILLIAM K. SAXTON, Loew Theatre's Baltimore manager, visited his family in Long Island over the weekend.

•

LEO ISRAEL, assistant to ABE GOODMAN of 20th Century-Fox's advertising production department, left yesterday for a two-week vacation in Florida.

•

EDWIN SHERWOOD, Ascap Cleveland district supervisor, has been in Baltimore for several days.

•

HOWARD BURKHARDT, Loew State manager in Cleveland, is vacationing in New York and Baltimore.

•

TOM FIZDALE, head of Tom Fizdale, Inc., will leave for the Coast Friday.

•

EDWARD FINNEY, Hollywood producer, will leave New York today for Hollywood.

## *Korda Takes Over Ruggles Production*

LONDON, May 15.—Wesley Ruggles has relinquished direction of "Perfect Strangers" for Sir Alexander Korda for M-G-M at the Denham studios, with Korda taking over production-direction himself, according to an M-G-M disclosure here today. The shift has been made "owing to differences of opinion arising regarding treatment" of the story, it was said.

Production of the film, scheduled to start several months ago, has been held up by a series of difficulties, including the obtaining of studio space and also disagreement over several script versions.

## Urges Economy in Film Truck Routes

Elimination of duplicate routes covered by trucks carrying motion picture film was recommended by William J. Clarke, former New York and New England director of the Office of Defense Transportation, speaking at the annual convention of the National Film Carriers in the Hotel Astor here yesterday. Clarke also called for strict economy of gasoline, tires and other equipment.

First general session of the two-day convention opened yesterday afternoon, with Harold Shertz, attorney for the organization, presiding, following a routine executive committee meeting in the morning.

Feature of the closing sessions today will be a luncheon at 12:30, with the following film company branch supervisors scheduled to speak: J. S. McLeod, M-G-M; Jack Sichelman, 20th-Fox; J. Knox Haddow, Paramount, and I. F. Dolid, Warners. Arthur Dickinson of the Motion Picture Producers and Distributors of America will also speak.

The NFC will also elect officers today. James P. Clark is the incumbent president; Thomas W. Gilboy, vice-president, and Clint Weyer, secretary.

### Gross Again Head of Ohio Association

COLUMBUS, May 15.—The Ohio Film Carriers Association in a two-day session at the Neil House, re-elected as president Louis C. Gross of Central Shipping Terminal, Cleveland, and as secretary-treasurer, Jack Kavanaugh of the Columbia-Cincinnati Trucking Company. The members met with officials of the public utilities to discuss transportation problems.

## *Projector Making Survey Continued*

Allen G. Smith, chief of the theatre equipment section of the War Production Board held further conferences with representatives of International Projector here over the weekend on the possibility of locating the manufacture of projection equipment and parts in New York.

No definite decisions have been made but it is understood that a study of facilities will be made with a view to locating this type of manufacture away from war areas having manpower shortages.

## *Kinsky Temporarily In Charge of Drive*

While R. J. O'Donnell, Fifth War Loan film campaign chairman, and members of the national committee are making a tour of the country to address all-industry regional meetings, Joseph Kinsky, coordinator, will remain at campaign headquarters in New York to supervise national operations. Kinsky is preparing campaign plans in preparation for O'Donnell's return and the June 12th drive kickoff.

## Record Turnout at Buffalo Fifth War Loan Drive Meet

BUFFALO, May 15.—The largest industry turnout for a War Loan meeting in the history of Buffalo greeted film industry national leaders of the Fifth War Loan drive here today. More than 200 exhibitors and distributors attending pledged to go 'over the top' in the drive, to be held June 12-July 8.

With exhibitor delegations from Albany, Rochester, Syracuse, Gloversville, Utica and Oneida, and all distribution companies represented, the rally heard an outline of plans by R. M. Kennedy, campaign vice chairman; John J. Friedl, campaign director; H. M. Richey, representing the distributors' committee; Ray Beall, publicity director, and Claude F. Lee, industry consultant to the Treasury. R. J. O'Donnell, national committee chairman, was unable to attend. He will join the rest of the committee in Cleveland for a meeting there tomorrow and continue on for the rest of the Coast-to-Coast tour.

Local speakers included Lou Golding, state drive chairman; Charles A. Smakwitz, Albany public relations chairman; Mannie Brown, Buffalo chairman of the War Activities Committee; Vincent R. McFaul, co-chairman of the Buffalo drive committee; Charles B. Taylor, Buffalo public relations chairman, and A. Charles Hayman, Buffalo exhibitor chairman.

### Moskowitz Sets Meet Of N. Y. Committee

Charles C. Moskowitz, Fifth War Loan industry chairman in Metropolitan New York, has called a meeting of his headquarters staff and borough chairmen for tomorrow in the Loew Building.

On the agenda is the erection of a large cash register indicator of war bond sales in Times Square, the "Invasion Convoys" which will invade the boroughs after a big rally on Broadway, "The Bond Battle of the Boroughs" . . . a no-prize competition among theatres, setting dates for 'Bond Premieres,' the appointment of zone captains, and the tabulation of war bond sales throughout the area. Chas. McDonald has been appointed borough chairman for Brooklyn, replacing Lou Goldberg, who has recently assumed new duties in the RKO home office.

### Cleveland Meeting To Be Held Today

CLEVELAND, May 15.—A Fifth War Loan drive luncheon-meeting will be held here tomorrow at the Hotel Statler with Martin G. Smith, exhibitor state chairman presiding.

Col. Arthur Frudenfeld will head the exhibitor delegates from Cincinnati and M. A. Silver will lead the contingent from Pittsburgh. Also attending will be Harry Dudelson, Cincinnati; H. H. Greenblatt, Pittsburgh, and Maury Orr, Cleveland, distributor chairmen of their respective cities.

## Aaron Jones, 67, Was Pioneer Operator

CHICAGO, May 15.—Funeral services were held here today for Aaron J. Jones, 67, president of the Jones, Linick and Schaefer circuit here, who died of a heart attack at the weekend at his home in Flossmoor, Ill.

Jones, who is accredited with having operated the first motion picture theatre in the Loop, controlled the Vickers and La Salle theatres and one in Homewood, a Chicago suburb. His sons, Aaron, Jr., and John, were associated with him. At one time he operated 52 theatres in and around Chicago. Besides his sons, he leaves his widow, a brother, and three grandchildren.

## *Skouras Leaving London*

LONDON, May 15.—Spyros Skouras, 20th Century-Fox president, is scheduled to leave here for New York this week following a business visit of more than two months.


NEW YORK THEATRES

RADIO CITY MUSIC HALL
Showplace of the Nation Rockefeller Center
Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer's production
"THE WHITE CLIFFS OF DOVER"
Starring IRENE DUNNE
with ALAN MARSHAL
A Clarence Brown Production
SPECTACULAR STAGE PRESENTATION
First Mezzanine Seats Reserved. Circle 6-4600

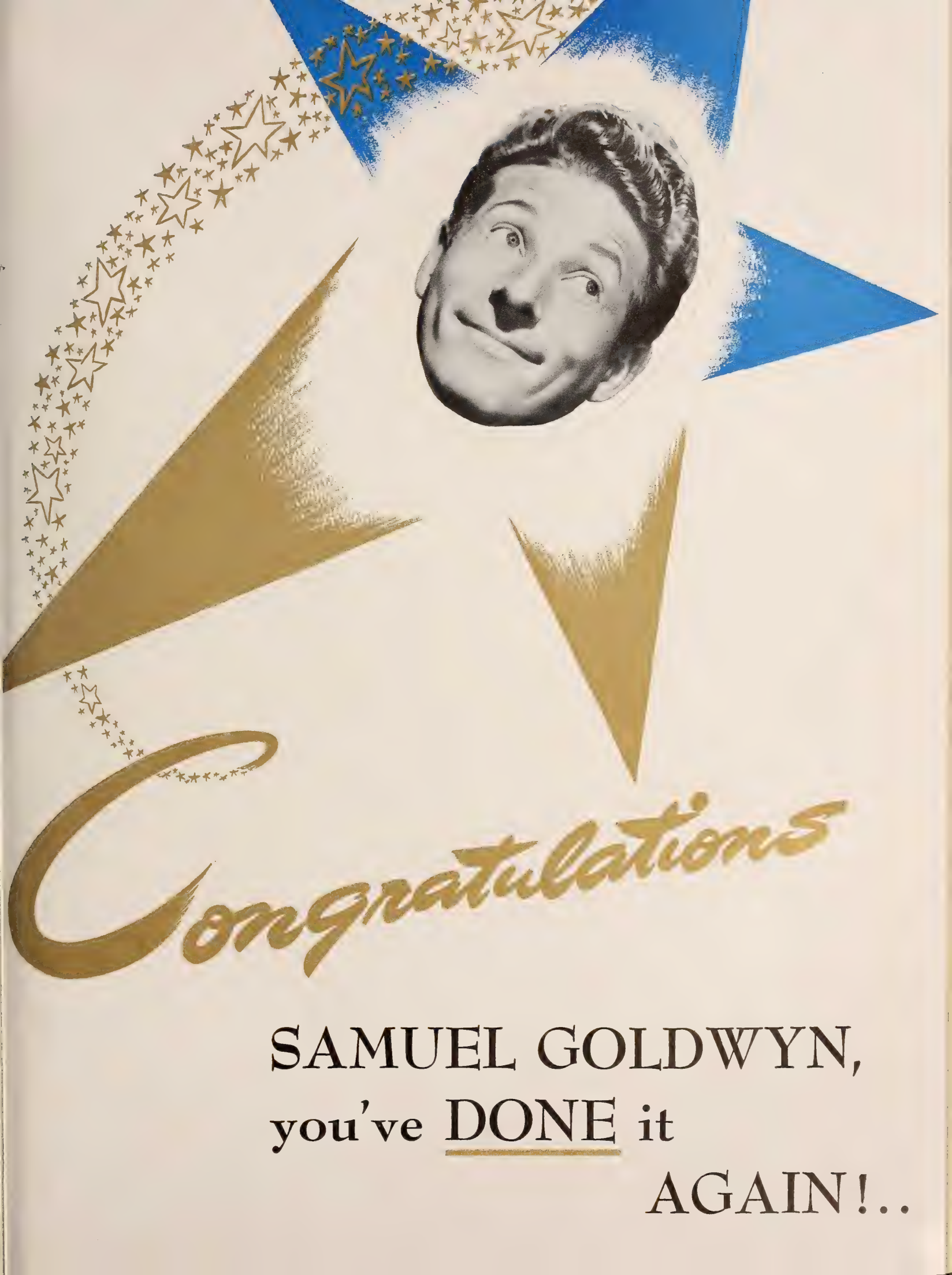
LOEW'S STATE B'WAY & 45
ON SCREEN
MGM'S
BROADWAY RHYTHM
GEORGE MURPHY
GINNY SIMMS
IN PERSON
ADRIAN ROLLINI TRIO
SUNNY SKYLAR

RKO PALACE B'WAY & 47th St.
"SHOW BUSINESS"
Eddie Cantor — George Murphy
Joan Davis — Nancy Kelly

PARAMOUNT'S
"GOING MY WAY"
with BING CROSBY
In Person
CHARLIE SPIVAK and His Orch.
PARAMOUNT Times Square

The Inside Story of the World's Worst Gangsters
PARAMOUNT'S
"The Hitler Gang"
BRANDT'S B'way & 46 St. GLOBE


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SAMUEL GOLDWYN,

you've DONE it

AGAIN!..



YES... ..Mr. Goldwyn,

you've done it again . . you've given the screen not only the most brilliant new comedy star in years, but you've also given the theatres of the world one of the most fabulous box-office pictures of this fabulous show year!

Danny



Kaye

# UP IN ARMS

IN TECHNICOLOR!

DANNY KAYE IN *"Up in Arms"*

WITH DINAH SHORE · DANA ANDREWS
CONSTANCE DOWLING
*and the*
*Gorgeous Goldwyn Girls*



*Associate Producer* DON HARTMAN
*Directed by* ELLIOTT NUGENT
Original Screen Play by Don Hartman,
Allen Boretz and Robert Pirosh
Songs by
Harold Arlen & Ted Koehler—
Sylvia Fine & Max Liebman

Released through RKO RADIO PICTURES, INC.

# Congratulations DANNY KAYE!

(to quote just a few of hundreds:)

**"The fans nearly tore the theatre down applauding Danny Kaye."**
*—Louella Parsons*

**"Danny Kaye is what I call sensational."**
*—Hedda Hopper*

**"Danny Kaye belongs in the ranks of the great comic specialists of our day."**
*—Kate Cameron*
*N. Y. Daily News*

**"Danny Kaye is terrific."**
*—Frank Quinn,*
*N. Y. Daily Mirror*

**"Danny Kaye starts off on the top rung of the ladder."**
*—Liberty Magazine*

**"Danny Kaye is perfect."**
*—Hortense Morton,*
*S. F. Examiner*

**"Danny Kaye is a sensation."**
*—Harrison Carroll,*
*L. A. Herald-Express*



FIGHTING SHOWMEN: JOIN THE FIGHTING FIFTH WAR LOAN, STARTING JUNE 12.

# McDonald Opposes 'Dated' Television

CHICAGO, May 15.—Voicing approval of Columbia Broadcasting's announced policy of giving wartime improvements in television to the public as soon as possible, E. F. McDonald Jr., president of Zenith Radio, today issued a statement calling for "the public and the dealers to be told now if we are not coming out with improved television after the war."

"We are on the eve of writing a prescription that should serve for a long time to come," McDonald said. "The stake in television is great. But I am sure neither stockholders nor I would want quick profits from television receivers foreknowingly built to die in their first few years," he added.

**Speaks of RTPB**

Speaking of the Radio Technical Planning Board, "which has the responsibility of securing the opinions of television scientists and technicians and of consolidating them for the consideration of the Federal Communications Commission," McDonald said, "We don't know for a moment whether this board will recommend the standards which the FCC adopted for pre-war television or whether it will take due cognizance of the CBS proposal. There is reason to believe it may not. The statement issued by the Television Broadcasters Association says that 'Columbia's suggestions are contrary to the carefully considered recommendations of engineers of the industry comprising the television panel of the board'," he pointed out.

McDonald agreed with FCC chairman James Lewis Fry, who was reported on May 3 as being "opposed to any move to freeze television standards at the present level."

**Dual Receivers Wasteful**

Regarding the suggestion that "receivers could be built to receive both systems," McDonald declared, "It's going to be a big enough problem to build a moderate priced receiver to operate on the better system. Dual operation receivers would be costly and wasteful."

The CBS policy, announced by Paul W. Keston, executive vice-president, was reported in MOTION PICTURE DAILY on April 28.

## U. A. Entertains for Jane Powell Here

Jane Powell, 14-year-old singing star of Charles R. Rogers' "Song of the Open Road," was guest of honor at a reception given by United Artists, distributor of the film, at the Hampshire House yesterday. She is now on a tour of camps, hospitals and canteens, entertaining service men.

Representatives of newspapers, trade papers and "fan" magazines attended the reception in addition to company officials and other guests.

**Will Visit Chicago Sunday**

CHICAGO, May 15.—United Artists' juvenile star, Jane Powell, featured in "Song of the Open Road," will appear here Sunday in conjunction with the *Herald-American's* "I Am an American" day. The remainder of her Midwest itinerary includes appearances in Battle Creek, Cincinnati and Milwaukee, from where she will go to Portland, Ore., to participate in the world premiere of her picture.

## *2,000 War Films To Canada Plants*

**The industrial division of the National Film Board of Canada has made available 2,000 16mm. war films monthly to workers in this country. The board has 37 projectionists functioning in the field with extras on hand for special screenings, according to Gordon Adamson, chairman.**

**In plants where there are projection machines, the board supplies the film to the plants, free of charge, through the NFB's five exchanges. The circuit also distributes pictures from the U. S., England and Canada to the factories, Adamson said.**

## *Mutual Makes Plans, Re-elects Officers*

Expansion of the already enlarged program structure of the Mutual network in the immediate future was determined upon by members of the board of directors, shareholders and executive committee of the organization at meetings in Chicago last week.

Re-elected at the meeting were: Alfred J. McCosker, chairman of the board; W. E. McFarlane, chairman of the executive committee; Miller McClintock, president; Theodore Streibert and Lewis Allen Weiss, executive vice-presidents; J. E. Campeau, vice-president; and E. M. Antrim, executive secretary and treasurer. J. E. Wallen was elected controller, succeeding Miles E. Lamphiear. The board of directors reelected includes: Antrim, Hope Barroll, Jr., Willett H. Brown, H. K. Carpenter, Leonard Kapner, MacFarlane, McClintock, McCosker, John Shepard III, Streibert and Weiss. The executive committee reelected by the board of directors includes Carpenter, MacFarlane, McClintock, Shepard, Streibert and Weiss.

## *Policy, Product Are Topics at WB Meet*

Seasonal operating policy, manpower problems and forthcoming product were among subjects discussed yesterday at a meeting of Warner circuit Eastern and Midwestern zone managers, film buyers and home office executives at the home office here. Joseph Bernhard, general manager, and Harry Kalmine, assistant general manager, were the principal speakers.

Other home office executives attending were: Clayton Bond, Harry Goldberg, Frank Phelps, Sam E. Morris, Abel Vigard, W. Stewart McDonald, Harry Rosenquest, Louis Kaufman, Frank Marshall, Nat Fellman, Herman Maier, Rudolph Weiss and Martin F. Bennett. Zone managers and film buyers returned last night to their territories except Lou Halper, West Coast zone manager, who will remain here for two weeks.

## *Brennan Dies Abroad*

CHICAGO, May 15.—George Brennan, 38, former executive of Ideal Pictures here, who volunteered as an ambulance driver with the American Field Service abroad, died of wounds received in India, it was reported by the War Department here at the weekend. Brennan is survived by his widow.

# New WE Contracts Offer Royalties Cuts

HOLLYWOOD, May 15.—New license contracts for producers using Western Electric sound-recording systems provide substantial reductions in royalties, D. C. Collins, manager of the company's research products division, told MOTION PICTURE DAILY on his arrival here from New York.

"The industry is evidencing considerable interest in the proposed new recording license agreement which we have offered our licensees, to become effective Jan. 1, 1945," he said. "The agreement provides a substantial reduction in royalties at the same time that it continues patent indemnity on a basis which will prove satisfactory to licensees," he added.

## *100 Film Previewers Honor Mrs. Emerich*

Over 100 representatives of motion picture previewer groups attended a testimonial luncheon yesterday for Mrs. Jeannette Emerich of the MPPDA in recognition of her work in instructing previewers. The luncheon was held at Town Hall here.

Among those on the dais were: Mrs. Dean Gray Edwards of the General Federation of Women's Clubs; Hal Hode, Columbia; Harold Hende, RKO; Madeleine White, Monogram; Beatrice Ross and Evelyn Coleman, Republic; Hetty Gray Baker, 20th-Fox; Mrs. Mary D. Blankenhorn, British Information Services and Dr. Sigmund Spaeth, president of the National Society of Composers and Conductors.

## *RKO Golf Tourney Being Held Today*

Some 400 RKO executives, home office employes and guests will attend the RKO annual golf tournament at Westchester Country Club at Rye, New York, today. The tournament will culminate in the evening with a dinner at which Ned E. Depinet will act as toastmaster and present prizes of $25 war bonds to winners.

Thirteen main prizes, as well as prizes to the winner of each foursome, will be awarded by the committee headed by Depinet and including Sen. J. Henry Walters, John A. Farmer, Harry Pimstein and R. S. Gavin.

## *Directs Companies to Pay Wage Boost*

The National War Labor Board has directed 20th Century-Fox, M-G-M and United Artists to put into effect the 15 per cent retroactive wage increase for some office workers employed in their New York exchanges and approved by the WLB here on Feb. 22.

The three companies have appealed to the NWLB on other provisions of the regional board's directive but no decision has been rendered yet.

## *Dwyer Again Heads TPU*

Joseph Dwyer was re-elected president of IATSE Theatrical Protective Union, Local 1, New York, in an election held over the weekend. Solly Pernick and Vincent Jacobi were unopposed for re-election as business agents.

# *Coast Flashes*

*Hollywood, May 15*

CHARLES ARNOLD MIDELBURG, M-G-M's 20th anniversary exhibitor, will be honored Wednesday at an exhibitor luncheon to be given by the company at the Ambassador Hotel here.

•

The Hollywood premiere of RKO Radio's "Show Business," produced by Eddie Cantor, at Grauman's Chinese here, netted $10,000 for local hospital funds. The event was sponsored by the AWVS and was attended by Bob Hope, Lana Turner, Edgar Bergen, Ray Milland, Toumanova, Lucille Ball, Merle Oberon, Claire Trevor, Edward G. Robinson and Joan Davis.

•

Hugh King, former head of the Myron Selznick agency story department, joined Republic Pictures today in a similar post, succeeding Frances Manson, resigned. Mabel Search, personal representative for David O. Selznick, handling writer-publisher contacts, succeeds King.

•

Armand Schaefer, Republic executive producer, has announced "Girl's Town," based on a story of juvenile delinquency by Clara Mae Walker, as one of the first films on the 1944-45 schedule.

•

Paramount has announced plans to produce "Red, Hot and Blue," starring Betty Hutton, based on the 1937 Vinton Freedley musical with score by Cole Porter.

•

William Bacher, now preparing "Bon Voyage" and "The Gay Illiterate," has been signed to a new producer contract by 20th-Fox.

•

Sol Lesser has signed Charles Ruggles for a role in United Artists' production of "Three's a Family" which Edward Ludwig is directing.

•

Universal has added "Miss I. Q." to Felix Feist's producing-directing schedule. The film will star Gloria Jean.

•

S. Barret McCormick, RKO-Radio advertising and publicity director, arrived here today from the East.

•

Paramount has added a new, untitled ghost mystery, starring Betty Field, to Kenneth MacGowan's schedule.

•

Joseph J. White, 65, father of Edward White, Republic producer, died here recently.

•

The King brothers will produce "Matrimony Preferred" for Monogram for 1944-45.

•

Republic has purchased "Chicago Kid," by Alfred Justin Edwards, as a vehicle for Don Barry.

•

Andre Daven, 20th-Fox producer-director, has been signed to a new contract.

## *Fire Alarm at Astor*

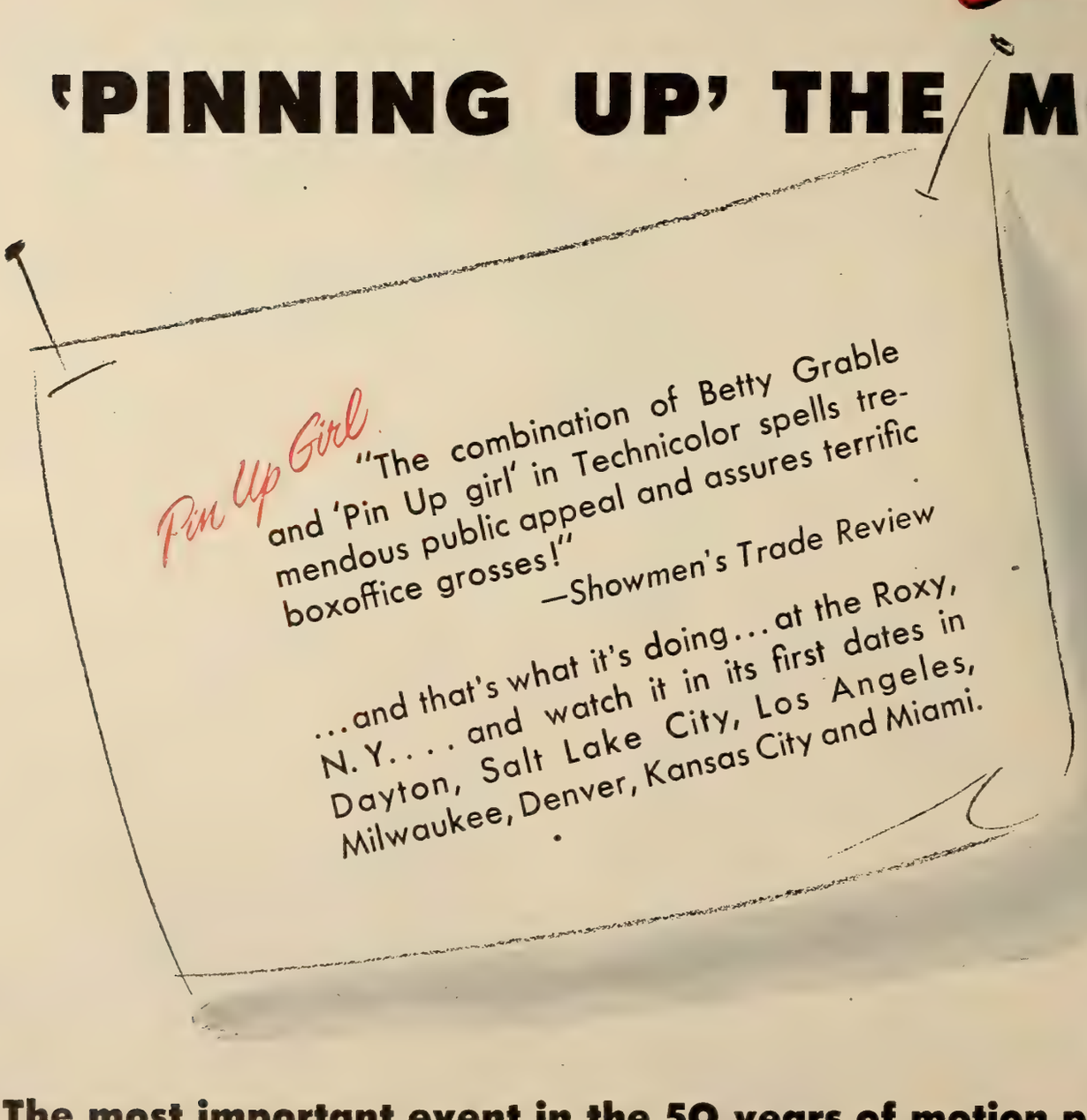
Firemen responded to an alarm from the Astor Theatre here at 4:30 p.m. yesterday when a cigarette ash caused a fireproofed curtain in the gentlemen's lounge to smolder slightly.

# The most beautiful figure

2

Cen

## 'PINNING UP' THE MO




Coming **The most important event in the 50 years of motion pictu**



# ...th in the industry

...y-Fox

# ' BEAUTIFUL FIGURES !

*The Song of Bernadette*
10,000,000 people have seen it in 262 openings! It's a miracle from coast to coast!

*Four Jills in a Jeep*
Surpassing such winners as "The Gang's All Here" and "Sweet Rosie O'Grady" in every engagement.

*Buffalo Bill*
241 spots tag it the biggest from the biggest figure in the industry . . . 20th.

*and still making hit-history*
Darryl F. Zanuck's "The Purple Heart" . . .

...tertainment . . . DARRYL F. ZANUCK'S **WILSON**
IN TECHNICOLOR

# 'White Cliffs' Heads For $120,000 on First at Music Hall

(Continued from page 1)

chestra at the Roxy are registering nicely with $92,000 expected on the first week on the basis of $72,000 recorded on the first five days ending Sunday. Business is below the recent pace set by Betty Grable films at the Roxy but is spells plenty of profit and it will hold over. The second week of "Going My Way" and a stage show headed by Charlie Spivak at the Paramount will yield a profitable $90,000, although below the pace set by "Lady in the Dark." The third week for this combined bill will start tomorrow.

### 'Gaslight' $65,000

"Gaslight" and Phil Spitalny's "Hour of Charm" all-girl orchestra on the stage are scoring handsomely at the Capitol with $65,000 expected on the second week on the basis of $40,000 grossed on the first four days. The combination is expected to remain for several weeks. The second week of "Between Two Worlds" and the Coast Guard show, "Tars and Spars" are expected to bring the Strand a modest $35,000 on the basis of the three-day gross of $18,500 ending Sunday night. The combined show will hold.

"Show Business" is doing satisfactorily at the Palace on an expected $28,000 on its first week ending tonight. This is well above the pace of recent films at this house and a run of several weeks is expected. Business has been building for "The Hitler Gang" at the Globe. The first week's gross was a near-record $30,000 and the second week is expected to bring $25,000. It will continue.

### 'Bernadette' in 16th Week

"The Song of Bernadette" will bring in $21,000 on its 16th week at the Rivoli and will continue since this still represents plenty of profit. "See Here, Private Hargrove" will get $16,000 on its eighth week at the Astor and will continue. "Follow the Boys" will bring in a modest $18,000 on the final eight days of the third week at the Criterion and Universal's "Cobra Woman" will open there tomorrow. The second week of "The Adventures of Mark Twain" at the Hollywood will bring a disappointing $15,000. "Mr. Skeffington" is expected to take over there at the end of the month. Business continues good at the Manhattan with "Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs" bringing in a profitable $11,000 on its sixth week; it will continue. "Up in Mabel's Room" is expected to get about $8,500 on its fourth week at the Gotham, which is satisfactory, and it is expected to hold for a fifth week before making way for United Artists' "It Happened Tomorrow." "Bermuda Mystery" will bring the Rialto a moderate $7,000 on a single week. Universal's "The Scarlet Claw" will open there on Friday.

## *Martin-Harvey Dies*

LONDON, May 15.—Sir John Martin-Harvey, 80, British actor-producer who appeared in several British films in the 1930's, died here last night.




# 20th Stockholders Meeting Today

(Continued from page 1)

Clarkson, chairman of the board of American Express Co., and Robert Lehman, president of Lehman Bros.

In addition stockholders will act upon a proposal for the sale of stock to Charles P. Skouras, Elmer C. Rhoden, Harold J. Fitzgerald and F. H. Ricketson, Jr., in the respective 20th-Fox theatre operating subsidiaries which they head.

The stockholders will also be asked to approve granting of common stock options to certain officers of the company. The company's proxy statement listed the following as having been discussed in this connection: Spyros Skouras, president; William C. Michel, executive vice-president; Tom Connors, distribution vice-president; Sidney Towell, treasurer; Murray Silverstone, foreign distribution vice-president; Wilfred J. Eadie, comptroller, and Felix Jenkins, secretary.

## *Pull 'Youth', 'Wives' After Ad Objections*

CHICAGO, May 15.—Herb Elisburg, managing director of the Studio Theatre here, is terminating tonight a showing of two Dezell productions, "Eternal Youth" and "School for Wives," after a two-day run which was said to have aroused the indignation of civic and church leaders throughout Chicago over the weekend.

Only the *Chicago Sun* published an uncensored advertisement Saturday and Sunday, billing "Eternal Youth" as "the story of an unexpected baby" and "School for Wives" as "the answer to a maiden's prayer and the solution to the manpower shortage."

While Elisburg stated that the cancellation was due to poor business, religious leaders were making preparations to unite with city officials to enforce legal action to ban such advertising and prohibit exhibiting these attractions.

## *Hobart House Files Clearance Complaint*

The Hobart Theatre Corp., operating the Hobart, Woodside, L. I., has filed a clearance complaint at the New York tribunal against the five decree companies, the American Arbitration Association reported here yesterday.

The plaintiff states that the Crescent, Astoria, operated by the Skouras Theatres, and the Granada, Corona, are two and three miles distant, respectively, from the Hobart. Further, that the defendants grant these theatres several days clearance. The plaintiff claims that any clearance to the Crescent and Granada is unreasonable and seeks complete elimination of clearance.

## *Ogden Theatre Asks 2nd Week Release*

CHICAGO, May 15.—Ben Cooney, operator of the Ogden Theatre here, filed a demand today with the Motion Picture Arbitration Tribunal for the second week of general release from Loew's, Warners Brothers, 20th-Fox, Paramount and RKO, Charging as unfair five weeks of prior release to the Marshall Square Theatre.

# Technicolor's 1945 Volume Sold Out

(Continued from page 1)

derson, L. G. Clarke and Eversley Childs, were reelected to the board of directors for three years each. No date was set for the meeting of the board, but Kalmus said after the session that it would take place before his departure for the West Coast three weeks from now. The incumbent officers, Dr. Kalmus; George F. Lewis, vice-president, general counsel and secretary; and Clarke, treasurer, are expected to be reelected.

The stockholders were also told yesterday that the company is putting in a unit for making 16mm films by the regular Technicolor process instead of by Kodachrome. Also announced was the fact that Monopack film, used for exteriors last year on M-G-M's "Lassie Come Home," is now being used experimentally for interiors on M-G-M's "Son of Lassie" and 20th-Fox's "Thunderhead."

Regarding the sellout of the 1945 volume, Dr. Kalmus explained that cancellations and postponements of some films may make it possible for others to be added.

## *Cancellation a Decree Problem*

(Continued from page 1)

distributors may wind up the negotiations for revision of the decree, the Assistant Attorney General said his decision to call for a show-down had no relation to the impending summer court recesses, since it would be possible to find a judge to enter a decree at any time, even if the courts were not sitting.

On the other hand, he said, the negotiations now have dragged out over a number of months, and the companies have had full opportunity to study the Department's recommendations, and there is no reason to carry the meetings further unless the distributors are prepared to offer terms acceptable to the Government.

The decision whether to accept a decree will probably rest on the action of the companies on the important recommendations of the exhibitors, and the Department was represented as unlikely to make any counter-offers. If the Pittsburgh steel case is concluded this week and Wright returns to Washington, it is probable the motion picture problem will be settled, one way or the other, sometime next week, Clark said.

## *Moss Calls for Aid For N. Y. Fund*

(Continued from page 1)

this year because of the increased cost of maintaining the 403 health and welfare agencies supported by the fund and the steadily increasing needs of the institutions. These agencies, which lend aid to 2,000,000 needy New Yorkers, this year are seeking $4,500,000. With the nation at war and extraordinary conditions prevailing, emphasis is being placed on the fact that "the children of the community must not be neglected and that the welfare program to keep alive the spirit of individual initiative must be maintained."

Moss said that committees representing the major companies and other groups allied with the film industry are being formed.

# UA Votes Change In By-Laws, 2-1, Chaplin Dissenting

(Continued from page 1)

court, although no disclosure was made here as to the grounds on which the test might be attempted. It was stated that stockholders will be asked in the near future to nominate directors for the new board of nine, three to represent each owner, as provided for in the newly adopted amendments. When the new board has been named it will be empowered to transact all company business by majority vote, rather than by unanimous consent which has been required heretofore and which, according to management statements, has restricted the operating efficiency of the company.

**No Competing Activity**

One of the new bylaws prohibits a director from serving with a competitive company. Ostensibly drawn to prevent the recurrence of a situation which permitted Sir Alexander Korda, one of the former United Artists owners, from being in a position to veto actions of the board while actively associated with M-G-M's London production organization, the new amendment also would disqualify Arthur W. Kelly, former Chaplin representative on the board, from serving on the new directorate. Kelly is American head of J. Arthur Rank's Eagle-Lion Films.

Los Angeles, May 15.—Charles Chaplin, reported visiting Palm Springs, could not be reached for comment concerning his future intentions to further challenge today's U.A. stockholders' action at Wilmington in voting to increase the operating authority of management and restricting that of ownership.

# O'Shea Gives M-G-M Service Pins to 41

Edward K. O'Shea, Eastern sales manager of M-G-M, last night distributed 41 loyalty pins to employes at the New York exchange who have been with the company ten years or more. Distribution took place at a dinner held in the Hotel New Yorker which was also attended by William F. Rodgers, vice-president and general sales manager; John J. Bowen, district manager for the Metropolitan area, as toastmaster; Benjamin Abner, manager for New Jersey, and Ralph Pielow, manager for the New York area.

Loyalty pins were given to: John Cuniff, Abraham Negrin, Robert J. Ellsworth, Louis Johnson, Estelle Shea, Gerard M. Lee, Gertrude Lalima, Charles C. Wittner, Louis Allerhand, Irving N. Margolin, Max Starke, Rhea Rodofsky, Carmen George, James Blades, George Attilo Magliano, Harold Margolis, Carmen Trink, Sam Wachter, Virginia E. Aaron, Edward Richter, Catherine Connaughton, Sidney Stockton, Morris D. Rose, Kathryn Schwartz, Selma Harris, Dorothy Richter, August Kubart, Thomas Scotti, Laura Tobin, Josephine Radice, Sadie McGowan, Frank Dick, Thomas Farrell, Faye J. Reiss, Matthew Mendicino, Suzanne Armand, David Klein Howard Levy, Harriet Allen, Ann Henrich and Mae Pannese.

# 'Local Need' Filed For in 20 Cities

(Continued from page 1)

Francisco, Seattle and Washington, D. C. Ned E. Depinet is chairman of the distributors' division. The filing of the applications was made through Leon J. Bamberger, his assistant.

It was stated that application cannot be filed in the following exchange centers, for the time being, at least, because there the labor situation is neither critical nor imminently critical: Atlanta, Cincinnati, Denver, Des Moines, Kansas City, Mo.; Memphis, Minneapolis, New York and St. Louis.

The designation of "locally needed" has so far only been accorded to distribution in Pittsburgh and Philadelphia.

In all cities where applications are now on file, the matter is still under consideration by the local area directors of the WMC, with the exception of Cleveland and Washington, where the applications were denied, but in these situations appeal has been made to the regional directors of the WMC.

In all exchange cities, applications were filed by the WAC distributor chairmen, after meetings with all exchange managers who signed the applications.

## *WB Sales Drive Ends*

Warners' "1944 Round-Up" sales drive, which ran for 24 weeks, closed at the weekend with an over-quota business for the entire 21 weeks reported by Ben Kalmenson, sales manager.

# Montague Sets Regionals For Columbia

(Continued from page 1)

Louis Astor, Louis Weinberg and M. J. Weisfeldt. Central division manager Carl Shalit and Midwest division manager Ben Marcus will head the delegations to Chicago; New York division manager Nat Cohn and Mideast division manager Sam Galanty will head the delegation to New York, and Western division manager Jerome Safron to San Francisco.

In addition to those mentioned, home office executives, branch managers and the entire sales forces in the respective territories will be present at the sessions. The groupings of branches to attend each meeting follow: In Chicago: Atlanta, Charlotte, Chicago, Dallas, Des Moines, Detroit, Indianapolis, Kansas City, Memphis, Milwaukee, Minneapolis, New Orleans, Oklahoma City, Omaha and St. Louis. In New York: Albany, Boston, Buffalo, Cincinnati, Cleveland, New Haven, New York, Philadelphia, Pittsburgh and Washington; in San Francisco, Denver, Los Angeles, Portland, Salt Lake City, San Francisco and Seattle.

## *New Mexican Colony*

Mexico City, May 15.—The National Cinematographic Industry Workers Union has purchased land for the founding of a home colony for all branches of the industry.



# ALL ADVENTURE PROGRAM!

## 2 ALEXANDER KORDA THRILLING MASTERPIECES

Combined by Showmanship to make the perfect ALL ADVENTURE PROGRAM . . .





IN TECHNICOLOR

# FOUR FEATHERS

with

RALPH RICHARDSON

C. AUBREY SMITH • JUNE DUPREZ

AND

RUDYARD KIPLING'S

# "ELEPHANT BOY"

Starring SABU

Booked by the following New York Metropolitan Circuits: RKO • SKOURAS • CENTURY • RANDFORCE • INTERBORO PRUDENTIAL • FABIAN • BRANDT • ENDICOTT • RUGOFF & BECKER • RAPF & RUDEN and KAYBERN

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First in Film and Radio News Brief, Accurate and Impartial

# MOTION PICTURE DAILY

Alert, Intelligent and Indispensable to the Motion Picture Industry

VOL. 55. NO. 97 NEW YORK, U. S. A., WEDNESDAY, MAY 17, 1944 TEN CENTS

## Ruggles May Head Rank Production

### *But Treasury Objection Presents Problem*

By PETER BURNUP

LONDON, May 16.—Negotiations have been progressing quietly here for some weeks between J. Arthur Rank and Wesley Ruggles with a view to the latter's taking "supreme command" of Rank's set-up of favored independent producers, including Gabriel Pascal, Paul Soskin, Archers Film Productions, and others.

Present arrangements call for Ruggles to take over in September, according to an agreement reached at the weekend, when Ruggles relinquished the direction of Sir Alexander Korda's "Perfect Strangers," as reported yesterday in MOTION PICTURE DAILY. This film, with Korda now in complete charge, is expected to be

(*Continued on page 8*)

## KAO Stockholders Elect Directors

Stockholders of Keith-Albee-Orpheum in annual meeting here yesterday re-elected N. Peter Rathvon, Ned E. Depinet, Malcolm Kingsberg, Monroe Goldwater, Gordon E. Youngman and J. Miller Walker to the board of directors for another year and elected A. W. Dawson, to succeed William E. Whitman. Stockholders of B. F. Keith Corp., who will meet here this morning, are expected to elect the same board.

The boards of directors of both corporations will meet in about a week to elect officers of both corporations with no changes expected in either set-up, which include Rathvon as president and Kingsberg as executive vice-president and vice-chairman of the board, and others.

## *Petrillo Demands New Hirings*

HOLLYWOOD, May 16.—Interchangeability of musician manpower stands out as one of the more important points at issue in the labor negotiations now under way here between studio and company heads and James C. Petrillo, president of the American Federation of Musicians.

Meetings between Petrillo and the

(*Continued on page 8*)

## *See Hal Wallis Deal For 'Wind' Today*

**Hal Wallis will meet here today with Herman Shumlin, producer of Lillian Hellman's "The Searching Wind," for what may be final negotiations for acquisition by Wallis of screen rights to the outstanding Broadway play property.**

**Wallis said yesterday that negotiations for his distribution affiliation are nearing their closing stages and may be concluded by the end of the week. Paramount continues to be reported as his most likely association.**

## Unrest Among G-B Heads as Rank Silent on Odeon Deal

LONDON, May 16.—A considerable undercurrent of unrest is manifesting itself among Gaumont-British theatre executives and managers here in the absence of any authoritative statement as to J. Arthur Rank's intentions with regard to the impending merger of G-B with Odeon Theatres.

The merger depends upon the agreement between Rank and Spyros Skouras of 20th Century-Fox, by which they would purchase jointly Loew's stock in the Metropolis and Bradford Trust Co., holding company for G-B. This agreement has now

(*Continued on page 8*)

## *To Name U.A. Board June 16*

United Artists' stockholders are scheduled to meet June 16 at Wilmington, Del., to elect nine new directors, authorized under the amendments to the company's charter which were adopted on Monday, Edward C. Raftery, United Artists president, announced yesterday.

The company's amended charter was filed yesterday at the office of the Secretary of State at Dover, Del.

The amended charter, Raftery's statement said, vests in the directors "the following powers: to elect officers; fill vacancies on the board; to manage the company and, in particular, to engage all executives and employes, and to make all contracts for the acquisition of product." The amended charter also provided that

(*Continued on page 8*)

## Services Tomorrow For Newton Steers

WHITE PLAINS, N. Y., May 16.—Funeral services for Newton I. Steers, 68, former president of DuPont Film Manufacturing Co., who died yesterday afternoon, will be held tomorrow at 3:30 P.M. from his late home, 21 Seymour Place, here. Interment will be in the White Plains Rural Cemetery.

Steers was a DuPont employe for 38 years prior to his retirement in

(*Continued on page 8*)

## Skouras and Willkie Again Head 20th-Fox

### *Stockholders Approve Stock for Officers*

Spyros Skouras and Wendell Willkie were elected president and chairman of the board, respectively, of 20th Century-Fox at a board of directors' meeting held yesterday in the home office immediately following the annual stockholders' meeting. All other officers of the company were also re-elected.



Spyros Skouras

At the stockholders' meeting all 15 directors named in the company's proxy statement were elected and all resolutions listed in the

(*Continued on page 8*)

## 20th-Fox Quarter Net $3,186,302

Net profit of 20th Century-Fox Film Corp. for the quarter ending March 25 amounted to $3,186,302, an increase from $2,672,773 for the same period last year, the company reported here yesterday. The 1944 figure, after deducting dividends on preferred and prior preferred stock, amounts to $1.57 per share on 1,742,004 shares of common stock outstanding—in comparison with $1.34 per share for the first quarter of 1943.

The comparisons have been made

(*Continued on page 8*)

## *WPB Order Ends Truckers' Worries*

Encouraged by the War Production Board's order for the manufacture of 80,000 trucks for essential transportation this year and also by the WPB's earmarking of replacement parts for the same purpose, as well as by the increased manufacture of synthetic tires, the National Film Carriers, in annual convention at the Hotel Astor here, yesterday reported to Arthur Dickinson of the distributor committee of the MPPDA that delivery of films will

(*Continued on page 8*)

## *M-G-M In Big Spot Air Buy on 52-Week Tie-Up*

M-G-M will use a nationwide radio film-sales program, having newly purchased a widespread schedule of broadcast time, on a 52-week basis. Howard Dietz, M-G-M vice-president in charge of advertising and promotion, declared yesterday that this sets a precedent in motion picture radio advertising.

Covering some 40 cities with over 55 stations participating, the program, which will include leading stations in virtually every key city in the United States, is the first in the film industry, it is claimed, that will operate on a fixed annual schedule rather than on a picture-to-picture arrangement.

The program will provide a series of spot announcement periods and

(*Continued on page 8*)

## *5 Millions So Far For Red Cross*

**With reports now in from 100 percent of the theatres in five areas, a total of nearly $5,000,000 in collections by 11,000 theatres has been reported to date in the 1944 Red Cross Drive, it was disclosed here yesterday by Joseph Bernhard, industry chairman for the campaign.**

**Hundred percent areas reporting to date include: Washington, Philadelphia, Delaware, Northern New Jersey and New Haven.**

# Personal Mention

NED E. DEPINET, RKO Radio president, is scheduled to leave for Hollywood today.

•

WILLIAM FINNEY, Loew's Theatre Atlanta division manager, and ALLEN SPARROW, Columbus division manager, are in New York to confer with J. R. VOGEL, vice-president in charge of out-of-town theatres.

•

WOLFE COHEN, Warners' Canadian district manager, returned yesterday to Toronto following a two-day conference with BEN KALMENSON, general sales manager.

•

MRS. HELEN B. HILDINGER, director of the Hildinger circuit, Trenton, N. J., was reelected regional director of the Zonta International.

•

ARTHUR GOTTLIEB, head of Du-Art Film Laboratories, arrived in New York yesterday from Toronto.

•

ALEX L. HILLMAN, "fan" magazine publisher, returned to New York yesterday from Chicago.

•

NORMAN ELSON, general manager of Translux Theatres, will leave for Washington today.

•

CHARLES M. REAGAN, Paramount general sales manager, left New York yesterday for Boston.

## WB Acquires 4 More Foreign Outlets

Warner Brothers' plans to build worldwide theatre representation, through theatre acquisitions, building or leasing, or through long-term product deals, have been extended to embrace Australia and Palestine, the home office disclosed here yesterday. The company reports exclusive product deals for long terms with three theatres in Australia and one in Palestine. Houses are the York, Adelaide; Tatler, Sydney; Rex, Brisbane, and Orion, Tel-Aviv.

Latest houses thus brought under Warner control follow earlier deals with other foreign houses, among them the Park, Stockholm; Civic, Auckland; Opera, Cairo; Central, Lima, and Warner, London. In addition, theatre properties already acquired in Mexico City, Sydney and Alexandria will be developed after the war.

## *Lamont, RKO Chief Booker, Resigns*

Jack Lamont, chief booker and assistant buyer for RKO Theatres, with headquarters at the home office here, has resigned, effective June 2, it was reported yesterday by Harold Mirisch, head film buyer.

# Insider's Outlook

By RED KANN

*Hollywood, May 16.*

IT is given as Buddy De Sylva's appraisal of "The Hitler Gang" that this is a film which is "going to war." After a long and successful cycle of musicals, comedies, et al—Paramount earned $16,140,821 as producer, distributor and exhibitor in 1943 after deducting all charges, including taxes and setting aside $2,000,000 in additional reserve for contingencies—there is attributed to him a desire and the intention of making one standout effort geared to the battle.

You may accept this or you may not. What Paramount has done with "The Hitler Gang," however, cannot be denied. It is a film of the socking and rocking kind—the kind that hits between the eyes, numbs the senses with its horrible and horrifying realities and brings the appalling Hitler chapter in world history into grim and unrelenting focus.

■

Hitler and his evildoers long have been described as international gangsters and hoodlums. This picture, founded on that acknowledgement, tells the story of how they rode to power on the uncertainties and the frailties of the Weimar Republic and, with the aid of the German High Command. Like gangsters, they maraud, plunder, kill and wrest from the individual his inalienable freedoms. Like gangsters, there is mistrust of one for the other and jockeyings into position through revolver, machine gun and mass slaughter.

The film starts with the beer hall putsch and ends with the consolidation of Hitler's position as head of the Third Reich. War is inevitable and around the turn yet it is not shown, for this is not a narration of conflict outside Germany but a recording of what went on inside Germany as National Socialism came to malodorous flower.

■

The result is one of total and tremendous impact—a biting, scathing, brutal and staggering account rendered on celluloid. That was the evident purpose; that is the outcome with no compromise on the way.

Paramount and all identified with the making therefore, arrive beyond the limitations of their professional calling and their professional obligation. They deliver in "The Hitler Gang" a public service which in these times is a war service of importance and value.

It is fervently to be wished that the public measures up to the significance of the event which this film symbolizes and that the reflection of its own awareness mirrors itself unqualifiedly at the box-office.

"The Hitler Gang" deserves that.

■ ■

Growing PRC and its offshoots comprise five of the nine units making up the newly-formed Pathe Industries, Inc., Ohio corporation with aggregate assets of about $15,000,000. This is the top company tying together various interests, chiefly theatrical, of Robert R., Kenneth and John Young.

Kenneth is board chairman of Pathe Laboratories of New York and California, two separate companies, and president of PRC Pictures, Inc. John is president of the lab corporations and of Pathe Manufacturing Company, which makes photostatic equipment using film.

■

Leon Fromkess is president of PRC Productions, Inc., PRC Distributing, Inc., a new corporation quietly organized; and PRC Studio, Inc. He is also general manager of other PRC units, including PRC Pictures, Inc., and PRC Realty Corp., the latter a holding company for the studio. Ninth segment in the overall picture is the Terminal Shaker Heights Corp., Cleveland realty enterprises, which embraces theatre interests. Interesting, too, is it that Pathe Laboratories of New York controls a theatre in Denver.

President of Pathe Industries will be determined next month when formal divulgement of the alignments sketched here will be made. Whether Robert Young assumes presidency of the overriding company probably won't matter much since he is the dominant individual in this whole setup, anyway. Interested and ambitious eyes are being turned toward the future.

■ ■

Because his experience points up the formidable advantages of major studio operation, Hal Wallis may be expected to make his deal with one of them. At Warners, he had first call on talent, properties and resources which was an exceedingly handy call to have. Independent producers will so attest.

## RKO Holds Annual Golf Tournament

RKO's annual golf tournament, held yesterday at the Westchester Country Club, Rye, was climaxed by a dinner at which president Ned E. Depinet awarded prizes in war bonds and stamps to 49 winners. Some 400 company executives, home office employes and industry guests were in attendance. The winners in the various classes follow:

Kickers' handicap. $25 bond. Employes: Fred Norman, gross 102, net 75. Guests: J. J. Felder, gross 105, net 70.

Low gross. $25 bond. Employes: south course, Harry Moseley, 93; west course, Herb Walker, 95; Guests: south, Abe Kroenberg, 77; west, J. Murphy, 83.

Low gross runners-up. $10 in stamps. Employes: south, Harry Zeitels, 97; west, Lou Miller and Charles Horstman (tie), 96. Guests: south, Harold Rinzler, 79; west, William Scully, 85.

Putting. $25 bond. H. D. Cole, 37.

Nearest approach to center pin. $25 bond. South, Harry Weiss, 11 feet, 10 inches; west, Dave Fish, 14 feet, five inches.

**Winners in Foursomes**

Foursomes. $5 in stamps to winning member. Max A. Cohen, E. Waxberg, Tom Gibson, Nat Levy, A. W. Dawson, Harry Michalson, Walter Seaton, D. W. Aaron, M. Lane, Abe Schneider, John Farmer, Walter Derham, M. Mink, G. Turner, Walter Hoffman, Charles Levy, Sam Rinzler, Don Velde, Moe Sanders, F. W. Wallen, W. Masscee, Ted Lauder, N. Ayres, R. Stutzman, A. F. Apfel, W. Dolan, Clayton Bond, George Ronan, H. Crown, L. J. Kaufman and Milt Maier.

Among others present at the tournament and dinner were Robert Mochrie, Nat Levy, Walter E. Branson, Malcolm Kingsberg, Alfred W. Schwalberg, M. H. Aylesworth, Major Lester Thomas, Senator Henry Walters, Gradwell L. Sears, Jules Levey, Harry M. Kalmine, Sam Dembow, Jr., Leonard H. Goldenson, Herman Robbins, Harry Brandt, Arthur Brilant, Rutgers Neilson, Martin Quigley, Colvin Brown, Herbert Fecke and Ray Gallagher.

## *RKO Will Distribute 'Attack!' for WAC*

"Attack! The Battle of New Britain" is the title of the latest combat report produced by the War Department and scheduled for distribution by RKO for the War Activities Committee. Release date is June 12, as a spur to war bond sales during the Fifth War Loan.

The film, a six-reeler, will be free to exhibitors; 450 prints have been turned over to the WAC by the War Department to insure rapid coverage. RKO will handle distribution without cost and will prepare a special press book, trailer and advertising accessories.

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## Coast Flashes

*Hollywood, May 16*

G. N. BLATCHFORD, formerly vice-president of Fox Wisconsin Theatres, joined Monogram today as comptroller under George D. Burrows, vice-president and treasurer.

•

David L. Loew and Robert Hakim announced that they will co-produce "Hold Autumn in Your Hand" for United Artists' release. The film, co-starring Joel McCrea and Frances Dee, will have a budget of over $1,000,000.

•

Red Skelton will report to Fort MacArthur for induction on May 25. His last starring vehicle was M-G-M's "Bathing Beauty."

## T. W. Case Dies; Put Sound on Film

AUBURN, N. Y., May 16.—Theodore W. Case, 55, president of Case Research Laboratory and who is credited with developing a process which synchronized sound and pictures on film, died recently at his home here after an illness of several months. The process, which was first known as Phono Films, and later Movietone when Fox-Case Movietone Corp. was organized, was considered to be a milestone in the development of talking pictures.

Case is survived by his wife, Mrs. Eldred Case; two sons, Theodore, Jr., and John P. Case; two daughters, Mrs. W. Thorn Kissel, Jr., and Miss Jane F. Case; his mother, Mrs. W. E. Case, and a sister, Mrs. Dorothy Whitehouse.

## 'Wassell' Two-Coast Premiere June 7-8

Paramount's "The Story of Dr. Wassell" will have its New York premiere at the Rivoli Theatre on June 6. The picture will play continuously with no advance in admissions.

The Hollywood premiere will be on the evening of June 7 at the Paramount Theatre there. Opening night tickets will sell at $5.50 and proceeds will go to the Naval Aid Auxiliary. The film will open extended engagements at both the Hollywood and Los Angeles Paramount theatres on June 8.

## Max Brand, Author of 'Kildare,' Killed

Max Brand, author of the "Dr. Kildare" stories, produced by M-G-M, and of many other stories, was killed in action last week on the lower Garigliano sector in Italy, it was disclosed yesterday by press dispatches reaching New York from Naples.

Brand, whose real name was Frederick Faust, was working as a war correspondent for *Harper's Magazine*.

## Pinson Gets '10 Nights'

CHARLOTTE, May 16.—Tom Pinson, independent distributor here, has acquired re-issue rights to "Ten Nights in a Barroom" for North and South Carolina from Sack Amusement Enterprises.

# Review

## "The Eve of St. Mark"

*(20th Century-Fox)*

FROM Maxwell Anderson's eloquent testament of faith of an inductee who endured trial by fire, 20th Century-Fox has wrought a moving film that contains the mute appeal of young love, the roaring humor of the "G. I." and the gallant stand of an isolated artillery post that reaffirms the American Way. George Seaton's screen play offered abundant opportunity for many fine performances, among them those of Anne Baxter, William Eythe, Michael O'Shea, Vincent Price, Ruth Nelson, Ray Collins, Stanley Prager, Henry Morgan, George Mathews, and others. John M. Stahl's capable direction has sustained the mood, while William Perlberg's production is all that can be desired.

The story, warm with the simplicity of life, concerns Eythe, a young pre-war draftee whose life has been endowed with new meaning by his love for Anne Baxter, coming home to his folks, Ray Collins and Ruth Nelson. He tells them of his new-found emotion, which serves to sustain him through the trying days at camp. Theirs is the appeal of two young people wrenched apart by the harsh realities of impending war. In camp, there is the cheery camaraderie of his buddies as he learns the grim business of fighting. Eythe's unit moves across the Pacific and, with the outbreak of war, is hit by the full fury of the Japanese attack. There, wracked by malaria and decimated by bombing, it resolves to stand yet another day despite an opportunity to evacuate to an American-held island.

The film is studded with the rich characterizations of Eythe and Miss Baxter, whose lyrical love is so touching; that of Michael O'Shea's as a rugged G. I. from Brooklyn; the humanness of Ruth Nelson and Collins, and the others. It remains, however, for Vincent Price as a cynical, poetry-spouting Southern aristocrat to deliver a performance that is perhaps the most spectacular.

Where the rollicking humor and tender romance hold sway the film is completely captivating, but suffers inevitably in the latter portions by similarity to previous war scenes.

Running time, 96 mins. "G."* Release in June, block No. 11.

CHARLES RYWECK.

**"G" denotes general classification.*

## Distributors Ask for Cameo Dismissal

Dismissal of a triple-damage anti-trust suit by Carmel Co., landlord of the Cameo Theatre, Jersey City, was demanded in answers filed in Federal Court yesterday by Paramount, Warner Bros., M-G-M, RKO, 20th Century-Fox, Universal, Columbia and United Artists.

The answers deny allegations in the complaint that they conspired since 1938 to monopolize distribution and restrain trade in the Jersey City area, to the detriment of the plaintiff's theatre investment by causing losses to Rosyl Amusement Corp., operator of the Cameo.

## Government Opposes Cut in 30% Club Tax

WASHINGTON, May 16.—The Treasury Departmenet today expressed opposition to any cut in the 30 percent night club tax.

In a letter to Chairman Robert L. Doughton of the House Ways and Means Committee, the department voiced objections to legislation introduced by Representative Knutson of Minnesota to cut the levy to ten per cent.

## Sellers WB Supervisor

CINCINNATI, May 16.—H. B. Sellers has been named field supervisor of the Warner film checking service for Cincinnati and Indianapolis territories, replacing C. R. Hedger. He will make his headquarters at the local exchange.

## Examination Ordered Before Astra Trial

Federal Judge John Bright here yesterday ordered the examination before trial, at a date to be fixed, of three executives of Astra Pictures, in Astra's $250,000 damage action against David O. Selznick, Ernest L. Scanlon, Raymond A. Klune and Daniel T. O'Shea, for alleged breach of contract.

At the same time, Judge Bright ordered that the pre-trial examination of Scanlon, sought by the plaintiffs, start on five days' notice after completion of the examination of Astra executives Martin Licht, Gustave I. Jahr, attorney for the company, and Oliver Unger.

The suit involves alleged breach of contract in the distribution of three films, "Garden of Allah," "Prisoner of Zenda," and "Adventures of Tom Sawyer."

## Kentucky Tax Bill Further Delayed

FRANKFORT, Ky., May 16.—Governor Simeon Willis late yesterday called a special session of the Kentucky Legislature starting Friday to consider only a school financing program instead of a complete budget including an additional 10 per cent state theatre admission tax. Arguments over the latter had delayed an earlier call. The governor declared he may call a complete budget session later should an emergency arise.

## MGM Tradeshowings Set

M-G-M's "The Canterville Ghost" and "Bathing Beauty" will be tradeshown in all exchanges on May 29.

## Northern Ohio Is Set For Fifth Loan Drive

CLEVELAND, May 16. — Northern Ohio is completely organized for the Fifth War Loan drive, distributor chairman Morry Orry and exhibitor chairman Meyer Fine reported at an industry rally luncheon in the Statler Hotel here today. Fine has succeeded William N. Skirball in his post.

All branch managers of the Cleveland and Cincinnati territories were present among the 250 who attended. Speakers included Robert J. O'Donnell, national industry chairman; John Friedl, campaign director; H. M. Richey, representing the national distributors' division; Major Allen V. Martini, Army Air Force veteran; Pete Wood of Columbus, Percy Brown of the Cleveland War Finance Committee; and Charles Raymond, George Erdmann, Charles Deardourff, J. E. Watson, Phil J. Thornstein, John J. Staltz, H. H. Bredlow and William Allman, "Honored 100" exhibitors of Ohio. Martin Smith, Ohio exhibitor chairman, presided.

**'Victory' Sheet Ready**

A free one-sheet for the "Road to Victory" short has been prepared and is available to all exhibitors playing the film from Warner exchanges as an advance on the Fifth War Loan Drive. May 18 has been set for free release of the picture.

## 'Closed Shop' No. 1 SOPEG Issue

The Screen Office and Professional Employes Guild, Local 109, CIO, intends to make the "closed shop" a major issue when it opens negotiations for a new contract with film companies here covering 3,000 home office workers in the home offices of Paramount, 20th Century-Fox, M-G-M, RKO and Columbia. Present contracts expire on July 28 next. The five companies are now negotiating with SOPEG on job classifications for the 3,000 workers.

SOPEG has started a campaign to organize office workers of the William Morris talent agency here, in an attempt to organize the agency field allied with the film industry. A union spokesman claims that some 35 of the agency's workers attended an organization meeting on Monday night and that plans are being made to bring agent employees into the union as well as office workers.

## U. A. Opens Office in Monterey, Mexico

United Artists' plans for expansion in Central and South America have taken another step with the opening of its own office in Monterey, Mexico, it was announced here yesterday by Walter Gould, foreign manager. Distribution in that territory was formerly handled by an agent.

Rafael Nieto, chief booker at the UA office in Mexico City, will be in charge of the new branch, which will function under the supervision of Joe Goltz, manager in Mexico.

# RADIO CITY MUSIC HALL

Showplace of the Nation • Rockefeller Center

*Proudly presents,*

*the World Premiere of Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer's*

*stirring motion picture production*



## "THE WHITE CLIFFS OF DOVER"

*Starring*

IRENE DUNNE

A CLARENCE BROWN PRODUCTION

*and with* ALAN MARSHAL

RODDY McDOWALL • FRANK MORGAN

VAN JOHNSON • C. AUBREY SMITH

DAME MAY WHITTY • GLADYS COOPER

*Directed by* CLARENCE BROWN • *Produced by* SIDNEY FRANKLIN

*Screen Play by Claudine West, Jan Lustig and George Froeschel*
*Based on the Poem "The White Cliffs" by Alice Duer Miller*

"Random Harvest 11 Weeks!"



"Madame Curie 7 Weeks!"



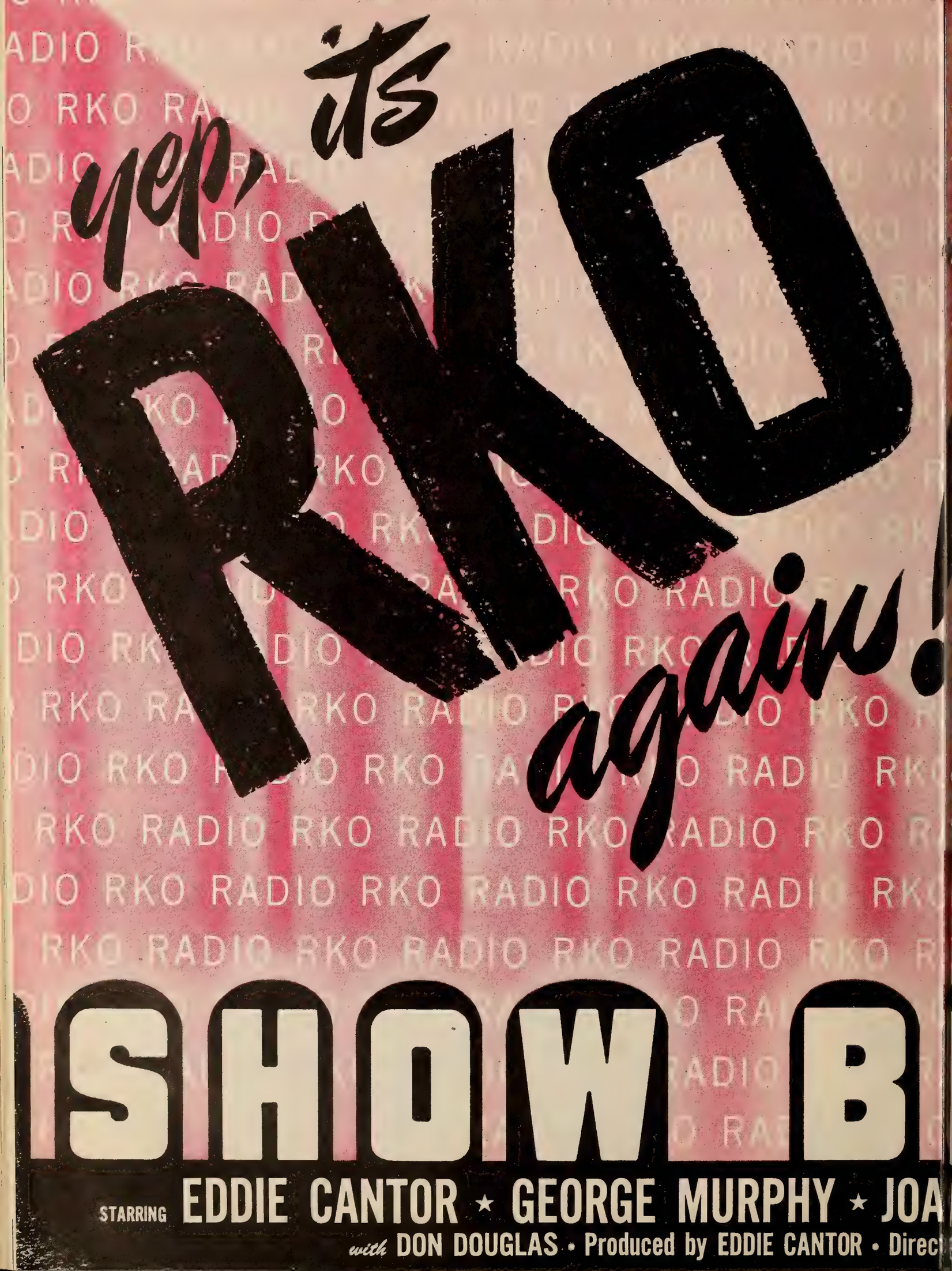
"Mrs. Miniver 10 Weeks!"



# "HERE WE GO AGAIN BOYS!"



FIGHTING SHOWMEN! JOIN THE FIGHTING 5th WAR LOAN!


yep, it's
RKO
again!
SHOW B
STARRING EDDIE CANTOR ★ GEORGE MURPHY ★ JOA
with DON DOUGLAS • Produced by EDDIE CANTOR • Direc

# They ALL Love It!

## THE N. Y. DAILIES:

**"Make it your business to see 'Show Business.' It's a swell show."**
—Jim O'Connor, N. Y. Journal-American

**"A lively, amusing and nostalgic divertisement."** —Kate Cameron, N. Y. Daily News

**"Cantor sparkles... establishes himself as top-drawer producer."**
—Lee Mortimer, N. Y. Daily Mirror

**"A solid package of musical film fare."**
—Irene Thirer, N. Y. Post

**"A pleasant and diverting screen offering."**
—Howard Barnes, N. Y. Herald-Tribune

**"Comedy and old songs . . . light, amiable amusing."** —Eileen Creelman, N. Y. Sun

**"Gay, rough and ready."**
—Alton Cook, N. Y. World-Telegram

## AND THE TRADES:

**"Speedy piece of diverting entertainment geared for profitable biz."** —Variety

**"Generously endowed with everything that a musical requires to be a box-office sock."**
—Film Daily

**"Should prove to be one of RKO's big box-office pictures of the year."** —M. P. Daily

**"Top-flight musical comedy from Broadway to Main Street."** —M. P. Herald

**"Contains plenty of entertainment . . . should do the business."** —The Exhibitor

**"Terrific fun; a top laughmaker . . . Tops for any situation."** —Showmen's Trade Review

**"Should pay off handsomely at the box-office."**
—Hollywood Variety

RKO RADIO PICTURES

# SINESS

AVIS ★ NANCY KELLY ★ CONSTANCE MOORE

EDWIN L. MARIN • Screen Play by Joseph Quillan and Dorothy Bennett • Story by Bert Granet

SHOWMEN: DO MORE THAN BEFORE FOR

# WPB Order Ends Truckers' Worries

(Continued from page 1)

be maintained on schedule all this year.

The two-day convention closed yesterday afternoon with the reelection of all officers: James P. Clark, Philadelphia, president and treasurer; Thomas W. Gilboy, San Francisco, vice-president, and Clint Weyer, Philadelphia, secretary. Renamed to the executive committee, along with Clark, were George F. Callahan, Pittsburgh; E. E. Jameson, Kansas City; C. W. Trampe, Milwaukee, and John Vickers, Charlotte and to the board of managers, A. C. Amsler, Columbus; L. D. V. Benton, Atlanta; M. H. Brandon, Memphis; Eugene E. Fisher, New Orleans; S. J. Marshall, Boston; H. E. McKinney, Des Moines; L. M. Miller, New Orleans; Harold C. Robinson, Chicago; M. G. Rogers, Omaha; W. A. Slater, Seattle, and F. E. Smith, Syracuse. William Larson, Detroit, was added to the latter group.

At a luncheon yesterday a number of minor problems were cleared up by William Brenner of National Theatre Supply and the supervisors of several film companies who were present.

Secretary Weyer reported following the session that trade press publicity had been helpful during the past year in overcoming the theft of films which used to be left, habitually, in theatre lobbies after late shows—for truckers to pick up the next morning.

## 20th-Fox 1st Quarter Net Is $3,186,302

(Continued from page 1)

possible by combining the 1943 earnings of 20th-Fox and the National Theatres Corp., which did not become a wholly-owned 20th subsidiary until July 9, 1943. Excluding National and also Roxy Theatre, Inc., both of which are included in the 1944 report, 20th-Fox's net for the first quarter of 1943 was $1,751,739, or 81 cents per share on 1,742,000 shares of common stock then outstanding.

Federal income and excess profits taxes for the first quarter of 1944 amounted to $3,616,821. Gross income for the period was $43,450,329; expenses, $31,572,239, and interest and depreciation, $681,268. Net profit before the tax deduction was $11,196,821.

## MGM in Big Spot Air Buy on Year Tie-Up

(Continued from page 1)

other programs at preferred broadcasting times. A wide time range is covered by the schedule, much of which is already in operation with additional time to be added wherever it is considered necessary to round out the program. Range runs from station breaks and one-minute spots to specialized five and 15-minute news, sports and variety shows.

The purchase of the radio time is in addition to the Mutual network program called "Screen Tests," which will be launched by M-G-M June 12.

## Folsom on Gov't Staff

WASHINGTON, May 16. — Marion B. Folsom, treasurer of Eastman Kodak, Rochester, has been appointed by the House Committee on Post-War Planning as director of its study and planning staff.

# Skouras and Willkie Again Head 20th Century-Fox

(Continued from page 1)

notice of the annual meeting were adopted, including the sale of stock to Charles P. Skouras, Elmer C. Rhoden, Harold J. Fitzgerald and F. H. Ricketson, Jr., in the respective 20th-Fox theatre operating subsidiaries which they head.

Another proposal adopted by stockholders was that which grants common stock options to certain company officers, not yet named, but who can be named within six months by the board. Officers mentioned in this connection in the company's proxy statement were Spyros Skouras; executive vice-president William C. Michel; distribution vice-president Thomas J. Connors; vice-president-treasurer Sydney Towell, and comptroller Wilfred J. Eadie. Also eligible are secretary Felix A. Jenkins and foreign distribution vice-president Murray Silverstone.

Officers who were reelected, besides Skouras and Willkie were: Michel, Darryl F. Zanuck, vice-president in charge of production, Connors, Silverstone, Towell, Eadie, Jenkins, Read B. Simonson, Fred L. Metzler and Elwood C. McCartney, assistant treasurers, and J. Harold Lang and George F. Wasson, Jr., assistant secretaries.

New directors elected: Robert Lehman, Lehman Bros. partner; Robert L. Clarkson, chairman of the board of American Express Co.; L. Sherman Adams, director and vice-president of Massachusetts Investors Second Fund, Inc., and Silverstone.

The following directors were reelected: Willkie, Skouras, Connors, John R. Dillon of Hayden, Stone & Co.; Daniel O. Hastings of the law firm of Hastings, Stockley & Layton, Wilmington, Del.; Eadie, Michel, William P. Philips, legal adviser, Seton Porter, president of National Distillers, Towell and Zanuck.

The proposal for the stock sale to heads of the theatre operating companies would have Charles P. Skouras obtaining 25 Class "B" shares of National Theatres outstanding at $14,125 each, with six to Rhoden, six to Fitzgerald and three to Ricketson. The proposal for granting options to 20th-Fox stock to its executives calls for reserving 140,000 authorized and unissued shares for this purpose.

## Revenue Bureau Has Ticket Salvage Plan

**A ruling has been obtained from the War Production Board in Washington by the Independent Theatre Owners of New York permitting the salvaging of theatre tickets made obsolete by the 20 percent admission tax.**

**Local Internal Revenue Collectors will explain to exhibitors the method and manner in which they will be salvaged.**

# Ruggles May Head Rank Production

(Continued from page 1)

completed by the end of August for M-G-M.

The British government, however, has so far refused to sanction the Ruggles-Rank arrangement on the ground, it is understood, that Ruggles' British salary would leave this country, in violation of lately-tightened currency regulations. Ruggles' sudden break with Korda is cited as one possible way out of this difficulty.

Rank's associates are said to be anxious to get Ruggles as part of their campaign to clean up redundancies and inefficiencies in the present producing organization, declaring that he would be "the Darryl Zanuck of the Rank set-up."

Incidental evidence of the Treasury's tightened money-export attitude is the circumstance that three weeks of earnest pleading and negotiations were necessary to secure a permit to send sufficient currency to get Rank-producer Paul Soskin home from New York.

Ruggles directed and produced films in the United States for a number of years before coming to this country.

## Jamaica House Files Clearance Complaint

Estates Theatres, Inc., operating the Utopia, Jamaica, L. I., has filed a clearance complaint at the New York tribunal against the five consenting companies, the American Arbitration Association reported here yesterday.

The plaintiff states that the seven-day clearance granted by the distributors to the Mayfair, Flushing, over the Utopia, is unreasonable as to area and seeks complete elimination or a reduction to one day.

# Petrillo Demands New Hirings

(Continued from page 1)

producers, scheduled for today, were postponed until tomorrow on request of the AFM president, who was busy with other matters.

Petrillo demands a basic "standby" orchestra of 35 men for M-G-M, Paramount, 20th Century-Fox and Warner Bros. studios, a standby of 30 men for RKO, and 25 each for Columbia, Republic and Universal. Where additional musicians are required, Petrillo demands that the studios hire from the local musicians union, thereby reducing unemployment, as against the current studio practice of borrowing additionals from each other.

Petrillo further demands that newsreel and trailer producers hereafter record music freshly and discontinue the practice of adapting material from music libraries. Studio heads insist that this would compel newsreels to release without music, because of a lack of time to prepare scores and do recordings and at the same time maintain the speed necessary for current distribution.

## Rank's Silence Gives Rise to G-B Unrest

(Continued from page 1)

been sanctioned by the government, subject to some detail amendments demanded by the British Treasury Department, but has not yet been signed by the contracting parties.

Meanwhile, those in authority continue to maintain complete silence regarding the future of the G-B and Odeon staffs.

An informed source told this correspondent today that although the Rank-Skouras agreement is as yet unsigned, "it won't be long now."

# Services Tomorrow For Newton Steers

(Continued from page 1)

1942, at which time DuPont Film Manufacturing Co. became the Photoproducts Department of E. I. Du Pont De Nemours. He started at the age of 16 for James Macbeth and Co., Jamaica, L. I., of which he was vice-president and general manager when Du Pont absorbed that organization in 1904.

In February, 1925, Steers was made vice-president of Du Pont Pathe Film Corp., a month after its formation, and was made president in 1926. The name was changed to Du Pont Film Manufacturing Co. in 1931. Under his guidance the company grew from a relatively small manufacturer of photographic film to a large supplier of raw stock to the motion picture industry.

**Cited by Army**

Steers originated and developed special blasting apparatus used in the construction of the Panama Canal and during World War I he received recognition from the Army Ordnance Dept. for his work in connection with the assembly and loading of films.

He is survived by his wife, Mrs. Claire L. Steers; four daughters, Mrs. George Burgess and Mrs. Paul Van Winkle, Scarsdale; Mrs. W. B. De Riemer, Bridgeport, and Miss Margaret Steers, with the Red Cross overseas; a son, Lieut. Newton I. Steers, Jr., with the Army Air Force overseas; a brother, Dr. William Steers, and a sister, Mrs. Henry Hottinger, both of Brooklyn.

## Name United Artists Board on June 16

(Continued from page 1)

the stockholders, by a majority vote, could amend the bylaws.

Many of the powers now given to the directors heretofore have been reserved by the company owners or, when exercised by the directors, were subject to veto by owners.

The principal charter amendments provide for the increase of the board from five directors to nine, three to be elected, cumulatively, by each of the three owners, Mary Pickford, David O. Selznick and Charles Chaplin. However, the three owners could appear on all nine and elect a board without exercising cumulative rights, according to Raftery's statement. The amendments also establish qualifications for directors which, among other things, would prevent them from serving competitive interests.

First in Film and Radio News Brief, Accurate and Impartial

# MOTION PICTURE DAILY

Alert, Intelligent and Indispensable to the Motion Picture Industry

VOL. 55. NO. 98 NEW YORK, U. S. A., THURSDAY, MAY 18, 1944 TEN CENTS

# 5 Majors Will Not Yield Any Further on Decree

## *Determined Not to Go Beyond Proposals of Jan. 25 Says Spokesman; Further Jumps in Cancellation Called 'Economically Unsound'*

By MILTON LIVINGSTON

The five consent decree companies will make no further concessions on cancellations, restrictions on theatre expansion, or on their other standing proposals for a new decree, even though that should mean prosecution by the Department of Justice of the Government's New York anti-trust suit, a high-placed spokesman for a decree-company told Motion Picture Daily yesterday.

The five companies are understood to feel that "any further concessions, especially on cancellation and theatre-expansion would be economically unsound and would lead to eventual financial repercussions," the spokesman declared. They feel that they "literally leaned over backward in making the concessions contained in their proposals of Jan. 25," it was said.

The companies informed Assistant U. S. Attorney General Tom C. Clark two weeks ago that they are ready to confer with him to disclose the extent to which they will meet recommendations for broadening the decree, but no date has been set for a meeting. It is understood that Clark is waiting to discuss the situation with other Department of Justice officials, including U. S. Attorney General Francis Biddle, but top Department

(Continued on page 10)

## Rank-Skouras Collaboration Pact Is Signed

### *20th-Fox Head Reaches London Objective*

By PETER BURNUP

London, May 17.—The far-reaching collaborative production-distribution agreement between 20th Century-Fox and J. Arthur Rank was signed here today by Rank and Spyros Skouras, 20th-Fox president, after two-and-a-half months of negotiations.

The collaboration, agreed upon in principle as long ago as March 20, had been held up pending settlement of the future management of Gau-

(Continued on page 11)

## RKO 1943 Profit Is $6,965,005

Consolidated new profit of Radio-Keith-Orpheum Corp., and subsidiary companies for the year ended Dec. 31, 1943, after tax provisions, was $6,965,005, after tax provisions, was $6,965,005, compared with a profit of $736,241 for the preceding year, it was announced here yesterday by N. Peter Rathvon, RKO president, through the home office. Rathvon is now in Hollywood.



N. Peter Rathvon

Income for 1943 before provision for income and excess profits tax was $12,965,005, compared to $1,570,241 in the previous year. Provision for income and excess profits taxes in 1943 was $6,000,000, against $734,000 in 1942.

## *Odlum Selling 57,337 Shares of RKO*

Floyd B. Odlum's Atlas Corp. will dispose of 57,337 shares of RKO six per cent cumulative preferred stock, $100 par value, convertible on or before April 11, 1947, and which had a market value of $5,217,667, based on the closing price on the New York Stock Exchange yesterday.

(Continued on page 11)

## Silverstone Named 20th-Fox Executive Committee Member

Murray Silverstone, 20th Century-Fox vice-president in charge of foreign distribution and a company director, has been elected to 20th's executive committee replacing Hermann G. Place, who resigned several months ago to rejoin Chase National Bank here.



Murray Silverstone

The board of directors, following the company's annual stockholders' meeting held here on Tuesday re-elected the following to the executive committee: Spyros Skouras, president; Tom J. Connors, vice-president in charge of distribution; William C. Michel, executive vice-president, and John R. Dillon of Hayden, Stone and Company.

## Hope for Wage Rises In Exchanges Fades

Washington, May 17.—Prospects of any increase in wages of exchange shippers and inspectors throughout the country were seen today as dimmed by the action of the Regional War Labor Board yesterday in dismissing an appeal from a previous ruling denying a 10 per cent increase in Loew's, Inc., Washington office.

It was explained that although the Loew exchange involved operates only in Washington, the case was of national import since other film companies throughout the country had anticipated similar adjustments.

## *'Locally Needed' Is Out for Industry Under New Order*

By BERTRAM F. LINZ

Washington, May 17.—No branch of the motion picture industry qualifies for designation as a "locally needed" activity, it was disclosed here to night with the announcement by the War Manpower Commission of a new formula which provides that only 15 trades and services are to be so designated.

Only activities necessary for the "health, welfare and safety of an area, and services necessary to the continuance of essential activities" are eligible for such designation, the WMC explained.

The industry has already secured "locally needed" designation for distribution of films in Philadelphia and Pittsburgh. Whether the new order will nullify these designations could not be determined last night. Also, applications were recently filed with the WMC for the "locally needed" listing in 20 other exchange centers, as follows: Albany, Boston, Buffalo, Charlotte, Chicago, Cleveland, Dallas, Detroit, Indianapolis, Los Angeles, Milwaukee, New Haven, New Orleans, Oklahoma City, Omaha, Portland, Ore.; Salt Lake City, San Francisco, Seattle and Washington.

The effect of the new manner of designating an activity as "locally needed" is to afford employers the same opportunity to get their workers through the U. S. Employment Service as employers in essential activities enjoy.

## Petrillo, Producers In 2-Year Pact

Hollywood, May 17.—Producers and the American Federation of Musicians today closed a two-year agreement retroactive to April 1 under which James C. Petrillo, AFM president, won all major points.

A joint statement embraced some phases of the agreement and ignored others. It was divulged that so-called double sessions have been eliminated and wages set at $10 straight per hour while each of the signatory studios guarantee each employed musician $5,200 over a period of a year, thereby setting a guaranteed minimum of $100 for each minimum working week.

Not announced was the constituency

(Continued on page 10)

# Personal Mention

BARNEY BALABAN, Paramount president, has returned to New York from Hollywood.

•

MILDRED ROSENZWEIG, secretary to PAUL BENJAMIN, National Screen Service production manager, will leave June 2 for a four-week vacation on the West Coast.

•

BEN KALMENSON, Warner Bros. general sales manager, left last night for Chicago as his first stop in a tour of key city exchanges.

•

W. J. GERMAN, vice-president of Jules E. Brulatour, Inc., left yesterday for Hollywood for a three weeks' survey of production activities.

•

HAROLD F. WEBSTER of Warners' home office personnel department, is back on the job after a year's absence due to illness.

•

SHERRIL CORWIN, Los Angeles circuit operator, now visiting in Baltimore, will leave this week for New York.

•

ALBERT CADIFF, art director for American Display Company, subsidiary of National Screen Service, has entered the Polyclinic Hospital.

•

ROBERT M. GILLHAM, Paramount advertising-publicity director, will return this weekend from a week's vacation.

•

RUBE JACKTER, Columbia assistant general sales manager, will leave for Philadelphia tomorrow.

•

MORRIS MECHANIC, owner of the New Theatre, Baltimore, is visiting in New York.

## 38 Groups WillRefute Radicalism Charge

HOLLYWOOD, May 17.—A committee reportedly representing 38 film groups has been formulated here to repudiate charges of un-American influences at work within the industry and has decided to hold a mass meeting in the near future to publicize such attacks as unwarranted.

The committee has been formulated through a smaller organizational committee recently set up for the same purpose and headed by Mary McCall, Jr., president of the Screen Writers Guild. A SWG spokesman, however, refused today to name its members.

## WB Has 3,553 in Service

Approximately 200 Warner employes were inducted into the armed forces during the past eight weeks, bringing the total in service to 3,553. Casualties to date include 26 killed or missing in action.

## May Settle Lawsuits Against E. M. Loew

BOSTON, May 17.—Discussions have been held looking to the settlement of suits brought against E. M. Loew theatres here for alleged falsification of reports on percentage pictures, it was learned here today.

Earlier reports that the suits would be dismissed because of an unfavorable report by the special master assigned to take testimony in the cases were denied by Jacob J. Kaplan, of counsel for the distributors.

"These eight suits brought by the various distributing companies against the E. M. Loew theatres are still pending," he said. "There has been no non-suit or even report by the master, and the cases will be tried unless satisfactorily settled."

Loew recently withdrew all but two of seven actions which he had instituted against distribution companies charging conspiracy to deprive him of product for his drive-in theatres. The withdrawals followed dismissal of his action involving his Miami, Fla., Drive-In Theatre recently.

## Wallis-Shumlin Deal For 'Wind' Advanced

An agreement in principle for the acquisition by Hal Wallis of screen rights to Lillian Hellman's "The Searching Wind" was reached by the producer yesterday in negotiations with Herman Shumlin, producer of the Broadway hit. The deal has been turned over to attorneys who are expected to have it ready for signing by the end of the week.

Wallis now plans to leave for the Coast on Sunday or Monday and expects to conclude his new distribution arrangements before then. A tie-up between Wallis and Paramount still is regarded as the most likely association.

## Eastman Reelects, Declares Dividends

ROCHESTER, May 17. — Eastman Kodak officers, headed by Frank W. Lovejoy, chairman of the board, and Thomas J. Hargrave, president, were reelected by the board of directors at its annual organization meeting here yesterday.

The directors also declared the regular quarterly dividend of $1.25 per share on common stock and $1.50 on the six per cent preferred.

## J. Cohen Heads NSS 'Dembow' Sales Drive

Jack Cohen, Eastern division sales manager for National Screen Service, has been named captain of the "George Dembow Tribute" drive scheduled to start June 5.

Cohen, senior divison manager, is now on tour of the 31 NSS exchanges in connection with the campaign.

## MPA Dinner Tomorrow

Motion Picture Associates will hold its 25th anniversary dinner and dance tomorrow evening at the Hotel Astor.

## Seattle Gets First Arbitration Case

**The first arbitration case to be filed in Seattle since the inception of the motion picture arbitration system, more than three years ago has been entered at that city's tribunal by Willard Gamble, partner in the Orchard Heights Theatre, Port Orchard, Wash., in a clearance complaint against the five consenting companies, the American Arbitration Association reported here yesterday.**

**Plaintiff seeks to have clearance changed from 45, 60 and 90 days, to day-and-date with the D. R. Theatre Co.**

## Equity Councils to Elect June 6-9

Actors Equity will meet June 6 at the Hotel Astor here to elect council members for five-year terms. Nominees include Donald Cameron, Alexander Clark, Montgomery Clift, Patricia Collinge, Jose Ferrer, Kathryn Givney, Celeste Holm, E. John Kennedy, Philip Loeb, John Lorenz, Philip Merivale, Beverly Roberts, Harvey Stephens, Frederic Tozere and Frank Wilson.

Chorus Equity will meet June 9 to elect officers and a representative to Equity Council, as well as replacements for the executive committee. Nominations include Paul Dulzell, executive committee chairman; Gerald Moore, recording secretary; Xenia Bank, five-year council term; Miss Bank, Jean Cumming, Charles Dubin, Roger Gerry, Philip Gordon, Juanita Hall and Jean Woods, three-year executive committee terms, and Faye Elizabeth Smith, one-year executive committee term.

## Services Today for William Thalberg

HOLLYWOOD, May 17.—William Thalberg, 75, father of the late Irving Thalberg, former M-G-M production executive, died here last night in Cedars of Lebanon Hospital after a short illness. Private services will be held here tomorrow.

Surviving are his widow, Henrietta, and Sylvia, a daughter.

## $100,000 for Novel

Twentieth Century-Fox is understood to be concluding negotiations for the purchase of film rights to "Leave Her to Heaven," novel by Ben Ames Williams, as yet unpublished. Purchase price is understood to be $100,000. The company plans to co-star Tallulah Bankhead and Ida Lupino, it was learned here.

## Ettinger to WAC

George Ettinger of Columbia's publicity staff, has temporarily moved over to the War Activities Committee to assist with the industry's Fifth War Loan campaign publicity.

# Coming Events

**Through May 31** — Film industry Fifth War Loan regional meetings in key cities.
**May 19**—Motion Picture Associates dinner, Hotel Astor, New York.
**May 23-26**—National Allied Caravan meeting, Warwick Hotel, Philadelphia.
**May 24-25**—National Allied board meeting, Warwick Hotel, Philadelphia.
**May 29-June 3** — IATSE national convention, Jefferson Hotel, St. Louis.
**June 2**—'Mobilization Meeting' for New York exhibitors for Fifth War Loan.
**June 2-5**—Columbia regional sales convention, Chicago.
**June 6**—Start of motion picture industry campaign for United Jewish Appeal.
**June 12-July 8**—Fifth War Loan drive.
**June 13-15**—Columbia regional sales convention, New York.
**June 16**—United Artists' board meeting, Wilmington, Del.
**June 20**—Allied Theatre Owners of New Jersey silver jubilee convention, Hotel Chelsea, Atlantic City.
**July 6**—"Free Movie Day" for Fifth War Loan campaign.
**July 11-13**—Columbia regional sales convention, San Francisco.
**August 15**—Unions and guilds file annual financial statements with Treasury Department.

## 13,378 Anniversary M-G-M Bookings

To date, 13,378 theatres have booked M-G-M features or short subjects for the week of June 22, the company's 20th anniversary week. The San Francisco exchange is the eighth to report a booking from every theatre in its territory.

Additional circuits which have booked for the week include: F & M, Smalley, F. G. Spencer, Ansell Bros., Newbold, C. & P Amusement Co., Combined Bronx Amusements, Stiefel Booking Office, Community Theatres, Sperling & Lowe, Jack F. Goldman, Lane Enterprises, Harford & Hilton, J. J. Theatres and Southeastern Theatre Owners.

## Philco Earnings $946,326

Philco Corp. in the first quarter of 1944 earned $946,326, or 69 cents per share, after estimated Federal and State income and excess profits taxes and after provision for adjustment and renegotiation of war contracts. In the same period last year, adjusted earnings totaled $708,702, or 51 cents per share.

## Phyllis Blum to Goldwyn

Phyllis Blum, former play reviewer for M-G-M and RKO, has joined Samuel Goldwyn as assistant to Kay Brown, Eastern story editor.

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## Legion Objects to 3; Eight Acceptable

The Legion of Decency this week rates three films in Class B, objectionable in part, and at the same time has approved eight others. The three are: "Black Parachute," Columbia, because of "excessive brutality"; "The Hitler Gang," Paramount, because of "suggestions of and allusions to unwholesome abnormalities which should not be presented on the entertainment screen," and "Make Your Own Bed," Warners, which was said to have "suggestive scenes and implications."

The approved films are: "The Last Horseman" and "Once Upon a Time," Columbia, and "Tucson Raiders," Republic, all Class A-1, unobjectionable for general patronage. In Class A-2, unobjectionable for adults are: "Between Two Worlds," Warners; "Double Indemnity" and "Henry Aldrich Plays Cupid," Paramount; "Roger Touhy, Gangster," 20th Century-Fox, and "The Scarlet Claw," Universal. "Between Two Worlds" was the subject of a special Legion notation which observed that "this fantasy should not be accepted as a presentation of the theological teachings concerning life after death."

## Capital Film Men on Advisory Committee

WASHINGTON, May 17.—Washington showmen are well represented on the advisory committee of the newly proposed Washington Municipal Theatre, which is being spearheaded by District Commissioner John Russel Young as honorary chairman. Among local persons on the committee are John J. Payette, general zone manager of Warner Theatres; Carter Barron, division manager, Loew's Theatres; Harry Anger, managing director, Earle Theatre; Floyd Akers, theatre owner and chairman of the War Hospitality Committee; Paul Schwartz, president, Musician's Union; John Eberson, WPB theatre equipment chief and theatre architect; Gene Ford, managing director, Loew's Capitol Theatre; Joseph B. Brecheen, film exchange chairman of the War Activities Committee in the Washington area.

A sponsoring committee to aid the Municipal Theatre in raising $100,000 has been organized with Akers a member.

## Universal Transfers 4 Branch Managers

CHARLOTTE, May 17.—James V. Frew, former New Orleans branch manager for Universal and recently that company's special representative in Cleveland, has been named branch manager of the Universal exchange here. Frew succeeds Leroy Brauer, recently transferred to Atlanta, to replace William Richardson who is now at the New Orleans office, which was managed by Nicholas Lamantia prior to his induction into the armed forces.

## Zevin Sentencing June 7

Federal Judge William Bondy yesterday postponed until June 7 the sentencing of Isadore Zevin, former secretary to George E. Browne, convicted ex-president of the IATSE, now serving a prison term, under a nine-count perjury indictment to which Zevin pleaded guilty.

# Reviews

## "The Hairy Ape"

*(Jules Levey-United Artists)*

JULES LEVEY'S version of Eugene O'Neill's "The Hairy Ape" is a strangely moving and unusual melodramatic picture, highlighted by the grimly realistic and tensely dramatic performance of William Bendix as the almost savage but sensitive chief stoker of a coal-burning freighter, given added import by its stark contrast with the sheer loveliness of Susan Hayward in her projection of a wealthy, perverse and selfish debutante, his nemesis. It is bound to evoke varied reactions from audiences thus providing exhibitors with a strong selling point in addition to the box office draw of Bendix and Miss Hayward; a well-chosen supporting cast including John Loder, Dorothy Comingore, Roman Bohnen, Tom Fadden and Alan Napier; and the appeal of the author's name. In the unfolding of the well-paced action, under Alfred Santell's intelligent and deft direction, emphasis is on the intense emotional conflict wrought in Bendix by Miss Hayward's sudden denouncement of him as a beast. Levey's excellent production, from the screen play by Robert D. Andrews and Decla Dunning, cannot be construed on the surface as carrying any message that O'Neill might have had in mind when he wrote his play many years ago. There is an elaborate and tense build-up with ever-mounting suspense to the dramatic climax of what would appear to be Bendix's murder of Miss Hayward to rid himself of the obsession which her characterization of him as a "hairy ape" has created. There is no suggested romantic attachment between the two but merely a psychological one.

Bendix delivers a memorable performance as the uncouth stoker, one of the best in his career. Miss Hayward is excellent in the unsympathetic role of the self-centered debutante whose external appearance is no mirror of the inward meanness of her soul. Loder is appealing as the young second engineer of the freighter who is a victim of Miss Hayward's capriciousness when he becomes enamoured of her. Miss Comingore is another victim of this perversity. Joseph H. Nadel acted as associate producer for Levey and Lucien Andriot directed the vivid camera work which lends added interest to the action.

Though reactions to this film might be varied, it should be emphasized for the benefit of exhibitors that there is nothing controversial about the film. There is no intent to expose the sordid working conditions in the hold of the freighter, nor is there any suggestion of conflict between Bendix and Miss Hayward because of the different levels of society they represent. Levey has wisely chosen the course of straight melodrama.

Running time, 91 minutes. "G."* No release date set.

## "Summer Storm"

*(Angelus Pictures-United Artists)*

SEYMOUR NEBENZAL has achieved an excellent film of exceptional dramatic proportions in "Summer Storm" as suggested by Anton Chekhov's penetrating and absorbing story, "The Shooting Party." It is splendidly enacted by a cast headed by George Sanders, Linda Darnell, Anna Lee and Edward Everett Horton. Despite the inherent morbidness of the tragic theme, director Douglas Sirk sustains compelling interest throughout in unfolding the engrossing screen play upon which he collaborated with Rowland Leigh, heightening the appeal of this well-assembled production under the Angelus Pictures banner for United Artists release.

The story derives from a contrast between the lives of the uneducated peasantry and the decadent aristocracy in Russia before the Revolution. It centers around the tragedy visited upon the life of Sanders, a magistrate in a small Russian village, by the willful ambition of Miss Darnell. An attractive peasant girl, she attempts to rise above her sordid surroundings by capitalizing on her attraction. She marries the repulsive overseer of the estate owned by Horton, an ineffectual nobleman; ruthlessly ensnares Sanders and breaks up his engagement with Miss Lee, the daughter of a publisher; and then proceeds to insinuate herself upon Horton himself, aspiring to the position of his countess. Sanders kills her in a fit of jealous rage when she refuses to run away with him, but he permits the overseer to take the punishment for his crime. After seven years of spiritual torment, and additionally deprived of Miss Lee's love, which might have brought him happiness, he finally meets a tragic death, his secret crime being discovered through Horton's well-intentioned blundering.

Karl Hajos' musical direction and Archie M. Stout's photography work are distinct assets in the attractive production. Rudolph Joseph was associate producer. Exhibitors will find this an unusual attraction and a distinct departure from the general run.

Running time, 107 minutes. "G."* Release date, not set.

MILTON LIVINGSTON

*"G" denotes general classification.

# Coast Flashes

*Hollywood, May 17*

BEN GOETZ, M-G-M British studio managing director, will leave here tomorrow for New York, from where he will go to England.

•

With the scheduling of "Baby Shoes," to be produced by A. W. Hackel, Monogram's 1943-44 production program is complete. Except for Westerns, the season's quota of 26 features is expected to be completed by July 1.

•

Charles A. Midelburg, M-G-M's "typical showman," was honored today by the company's studio executives and a cross section of Southern California exhibitors at a luncheon in the Ambassador Hotel here. George Hickey, M-G-M district manager, was host.

•

Paramount announced "The Sword of Gascony," an 18th Century romance based on the Emile Gauthier novel "Captain Fracasse." Kenneth MacGowan will produce the film, with Artur de Cordova starred.

•

Rhys Williams, Broadway actor, has been signed by Warners for "The Corn Is Green" and to coach other players in Welsh accents.

## Cobian to Build Four; Gets New Product

Raefel Ramos Cobian, head of Cobian Theatres, Puerto Rico, now visiting in New York, disclosed here recently that he has obtained approval from the War Production Board to construct a theatre in Rio Piedros. Cobian operates 21 houses and has acquired two plots in San Juan and another in Santurce, upon which he will build after the war.

Cobian further disclosed that he has signed with Warners for exclusive first-run of its product, also that he has renewed with 20th-Fox on a similar basis, and has concluded a deal with Columbia for exclusive first-run on a picture-to-picture basis.

Cobian will also purchase theatre equipment.

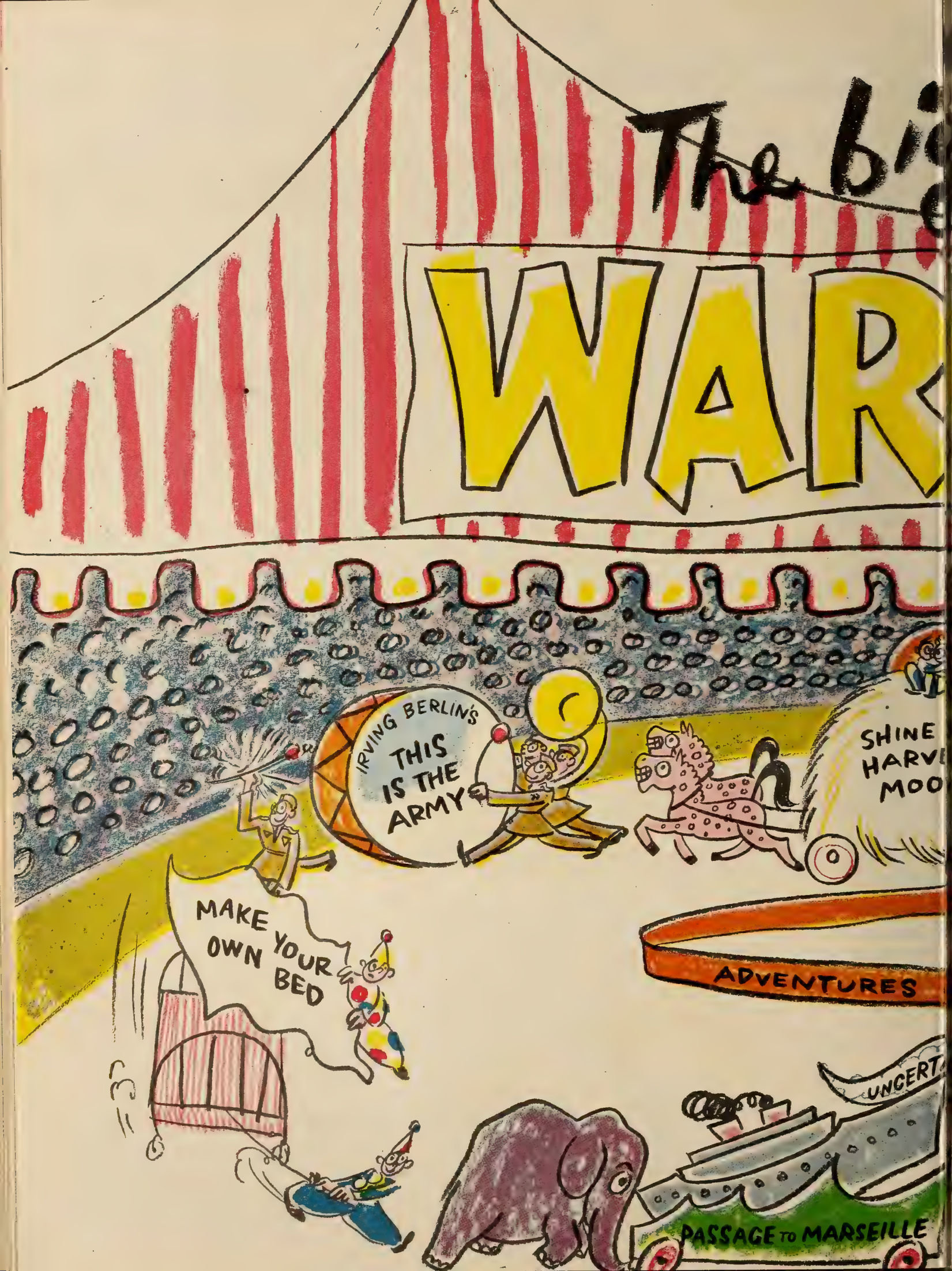
## IATSE Board to Meet Monday in St. Louis

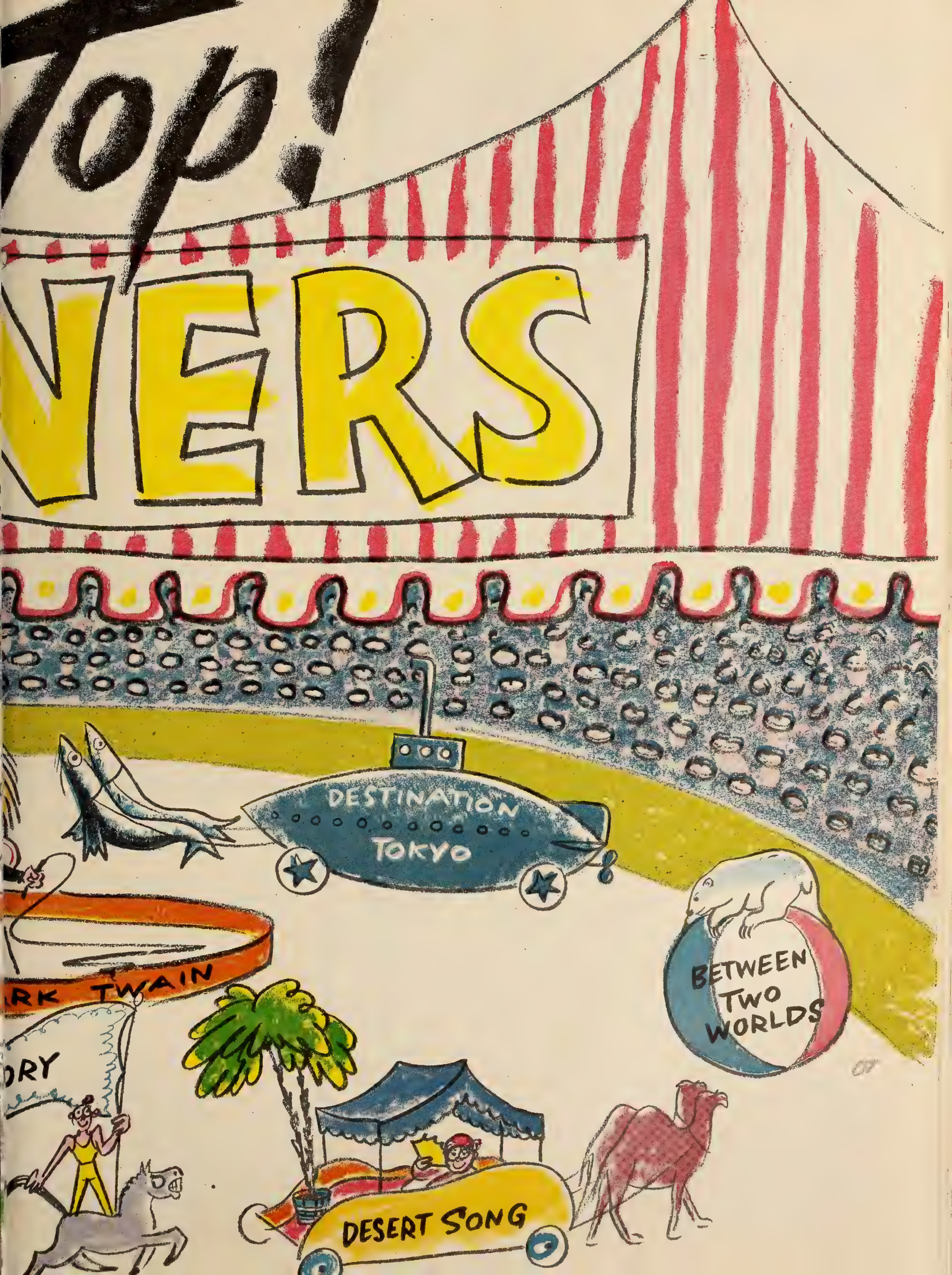
The executive board of the IATSE will convene at the Jefferson Hotel in St. Louis on Monday to hear complaints and study problems of individual locals in advance of the opening of the IATSE convention on May 29.

Among those who are scheduled to leave for St. Louis from New York tomorrow are Richard F. Walsh, international president; Louis Krouse, general secretary-treasurer; James F. Brennan, fourth vice-president, and other executive board members here.

## $1-a-Year for Welles

The Treasury Department has put Orson Welles on its payroll as a $1-a-year consulting expert, according to dispatches from Washington. He is now working in Hollywood on the script for a one-hour radio network show to touch off the $16,000,000,000 Fifth War Loan drive.


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IRVING BERLIN'S
THIS IS THE ARMY
SHINE
HARVE
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MAKE YOUR OWN BED
ADVENTURES
UNCERT
PASSAGE TO MARSEILLE


Top!
VERS
DESTINATION
TOKYO
BETWEEN
TWO
WORLDS
DESERT SONG

# Coast Filming On Increase; Shooting 49

HOLLYWOOD, May 17. — Production took another step upward last week with nine new pictures starting work and six finishing to bring the total on stages to 49. Chief among the starters were Columbia's "Tonight and Every Night," starring Rita Hayworth and Janet Blair; Paramount's "Here Come the Waves," starring Bing Crosby, Betty Hutton and Sonny Tufts; M-G-M's "Thin Man Goes Home," with William Powell and Myrna Loy. The previous week saw 46 pictures in work, 11 finished and only seven started. The production scene follows:

**Columbia**

*Started*: "Tonight and Every Night," with Rita Hayworth, Janet Blair, Lee Bowman, Marc Platt, Leslie Brooks. "Bride of the Vampire," with Stephen Crane, Osa Massen, Nina Foch. "Under Western Skies," with "Red River" Dave, Jane Frazee, "Slim" Summerville.

*Shooting*: "Kansas City Kitty," "Battleship Blues."

*Finished*: "Crime Doctor's Rendezvous."

**M-G-M**

*Started*: "Thin Man Goes Home," with William Powell, Myrna Loy, Gloria DeHaven, Lucile Watson, Harry Davenport, Eddie Brophy, Anita Bolster.

*Shooting*: "Ziegfeld Follies," "Lost in a Harem," "Maisie Goes to Reno," "Mrs. Parkington," "Picture of Dorian Gray," "Thirty Seconds Over Toyko," "Secrets in the Dark," "National Velvet."

**Monogram**

*Shooting*: "Murder Chamber," "Alaska."

*Finished*: "A Wave, a Wac and a Marine."

**Paramount**

*Started*: "Here Come the Waves," with Bing Crosby, Betty Hutton, Sonny Tufts, Mae Clarke, Ann Doran, Carol Hughes. "Fear," with Joel McCrea, Gail Russell, Herbert Marshall, Phyllis Brooks, Isabel Islom.

*Finished*: "Dark Mountain" (Pine-Thomas).

**RKO-Radio**

*Started*: "Farewell My Lovely," with Dick Powell, Anne Shirley, Claire Trevor, Mike Mazurki, Douglas Walton.

*Shooting*: "Having Wonderful Crime," "Tall in the Saddle," "That Hunter Girl," "None but the Lonely Heart," "Heavenly Days," "Belle of the Yukon" (International), "Woman in the Window" (International), "Princess and the Pirate" (Goldwyn).

**Republic**

*Started*: "San Antonio Kid," with "Wild Bill" Elliott, Bobby Blake, Alice Fleming, Linda Stirling, Earl Hodgins.

*Shooting*: "Atlantic City," "Three Little Sisters."

**United Artists**

*Shooting*: "Story of G. I. Joe" (Cowan), "Guest in the House" (Stromberg); "With All My Heart" (Vanguard).

**Universal**

*Started*: "The House of Fear," with Basil Rathbone, Nigel Bruce, Sally Shepherd, Paul Cavanagh, Dennis Hoey, Aubrey Mather, Gavin Muir.

*Shooting*: "Bowery to Broadway," "San Diego, I Love You," "See My Lawyer," "Babes on Swing Street."

*Finished*: "Trigger Trail," "The Devil's Brood."

**Warners**

*Shooting*: "Strangers in Our Midst," "Roughly Speaking," "Objective Burma," "The Doughgirls," "The Conspirators."

*Finished*: "To Have and Have Not."

# Reviews

## "Make Your Own Bed"

*(Warner Bros.)*

WARNERS further contributes to a theatrical discussion of the servant shortage in "Make Your Own Bed," with a farce comedy which, although hitting peaks in comedy and containing many mirth-provoking situations, never quite succeeds in sustained and continuous movement. Although there is a profusion of comedy talents in the persons of Jack Carson, Jane Wyman, Irene Manning, Alan Hale and George Tobias, a faulty screenplay handicaps Peter Godfrey's direction from completely realizing that crisp and crackling action and laughter that are the hallmarks of top comedy.

Carson, as a private detective out of work, is tricked into the employ of Hale, rich cosmetic manufacturer in need of servants, by the promise that his job as butler is merely a ruse to mask his detecting proclivities, for which Hale invents an alleged affair between his wife, Irene Manning, and George Tobias, a neighbor, and an imagined plot by some Teutonic-looking radio actors, whom he has hired to masquerade as his house guests. Jane Wyman, Carson's girl friend, goes along, too, as the cook, in the hope that successful conclusion of the "case" will permit them to proceed with their oft-postponed marriage. The actors turn out to be genuine Nazi spies, who are trapped by Ricardo Cortez, an FBI man. Robert Shayne and Tala Birell are also in the cast.

Production was handled by Alex Gottlieb and Francis Swann. Edmund Joseph did the screen play from the adaptation by Richard Weil of a play by Harvey J. O'Higgins and Harriet Ford.

Running time, 82 mins. "G."* Release date, June 10.

CHARLES RYWECK

**"G" denotes general classification.*

## "Ladies of Washington"

*(20th Century-Fox)*

*Hollywood, May 17*

LACKING namepower for better than utility purposes, this melodrama of contemporary Washington suffers by a story that predicates a revenge plot on a tawdry episode at the expense of plausibility. Trudy Marshall, Anthony Quinn, Sheila Ryan, Ronald Graham and Robin Raymond have little chance to overcome a script which ends weakly in an evident attempt to circumvent the Production Code rule against revenge themes.

Miss Ryan is the main character, a young woman discarded by an executive important in the war effort. She fakes a suicide note intended to discredit him. Failing, she collaborates with an enemy agent who commits murder, then involves a doctor friend in the murderer's subsequent death. When the FBI solves the case the doctor says she is mentally ill. She is then sent to a sanitarium.

William Girard produced from a screenplay by Wanda Tuchock, with Louis King directing.

Running time, 62 mins. "A."* Release date, not set.

WILLIAM R. WEAVER

**"A" denotes adult classification.*

## Hoffberg Acquires 21 Pizor Films

J. H. Hoffberg of Hoffberg Productions has acquired 21 features for reissue from William Pizor.

Among the films, to be re-released, two a month, beginning June 1, are: "Sing, Sinner, Sing," with Paul Lukas, "Unknown Blond," with Edward Arnold, and "World Gone Mad," with Pat O'Brien.

## Only 14 of 75 Summer Theatres Reopening

HARTFORD, May 17. — Of the 75 Summer theatres usually operating in New England, only 14 have filed applications for this season, due to gasoline restrictions.

Among those scheduled to reopen are Valley Players, Holyoke, Mass.; Cambridge Summer Theatre, Cambridge; Guy Palmerton Theatres in Fitchburg and Worcester, Mass.; Repertory Players, Straight Wharf, Nantucket; Greenwood, Peak's Island, Me.; and the Palmer in New London.

## Kelly to Aid 'Boys'

PITTSBURGH, May 17.—Sgt. "Commando" Kelly will participate in a radio show in connection with Universal's "Follow the Boys" this evening here over station WCAE, from 10:30 to 11 P.M. Kelly will speak on the contribution of entertainers to the morale of the fighting men on the Anzio beachhead.

# Hollywood

By JACK CARTWRIGHT

*Hollywood, May 17*

THE producer's place in the overall entertainment picture today is not to try to formulate the public's appetite as to film menu but rather to try and estimate what type of entertainment the audiences will savor. That is what William Goetz, president of International Pictures maintains in speaking of his production program which he said "will offer solid entertainment pictures diversified as to plot and type, to provide a balanced screen fare." He scotched pictures with a mission in pointing out that documentaries, newsreels and Government sponsored films of various sorts provide such pictures, saying, "The producer of commercial films, at least this company feels, should provide the balance to such screen offerings to provide the audiences with a well-rounded program."

•

*Sol Lesser has signed Charles Ruggles for the role of "Grandpa" in his "Three's a Family," scheduled for UA release. Ruggles and Charlotte Greenwood will toss the better comedy lines and situations around between themselves and others to be cast later, Lesser said. . . . Tito Guizar will play the male lead in "Brazil," labeled an international musical. Director Al Rogell will put it before the cameras June 1 for producer Robert North at Republic.*

•

**Val Lewton, RKO's producer of horror pictures, now has a top-flight horror actor to star in his next two with the signing of Boris Karloff. First will be "Carmilla," which Josef Mischel is scripting. Jack Gross will supervise. . . . Joan (I Love thaaat Boy) Davis, and Jack Haley are preparing to frolick and rollick through "Albany Night Boat," an original musical comedy which Bert Granet will produce at RKO-Radio.**

•

Alexander-Stern Prod. has signed Chick Chandler and June Clyde for romantic comedy leads in PRC's "Seven Doors to Death." Elmer Clifton will direct from his own screenplay, based on an original by his wife, Helen. . . . Anthony Mann is directing "House of Terror," Republic mystery-drama for associate producer Rudy Abel.

•

*Twentieth Century-Fox states that the final title for "Queen of the Flat-Tops," which started as "Wing and a Prayer," is now "Wing and a Prayer." . . . George Sidney has completed his direction stint on scenes of M-G-M's "Ziegfeld Follies," and now Vincente Minnelli takes over direction of the "super-musical." Sidney has started on his original assignment, "Anchors Aweigh," starring Kathryn Grayson, Frank Sinatra and Gene Kelly.*

•

**John Grant and Edmund Hartmann have been assigned as co-producers of Universal's next Abbott and Costello picture, "In Society." Grant is currently producing "Bowery to Broadway," a musical, and Hartmann is handling the Olsen and Johnson picture, 'See My Lawyer."**

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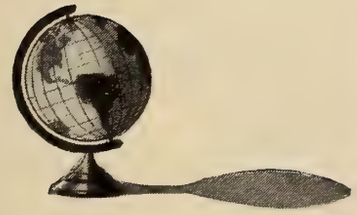
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# 'Jam Session' Only Holds Against Heat

CINCINNATI, May 17.—With near-Summer weather prevailing, the week-end box office curve sagged appreciably, indicating below average returns on practically all fronts, except "Jam Session," which, with a stage show, should give RKO's Albee approximately $22,000, which is average.

Estimated receipts for the week ending May 17-20:

**"Jam Session" (Col.)**
RKO ALBEE—(3,300) (50c-60c-70c-85c-95c) 7 days, plus Saturday midnight show. Stage: "Gay Nighties." Gross: $22,600. (Average: $22,000).

**"Gaslight" (M-G-M)**
RKO CAPITOL—(2,000) (44c-50c-60c-70c) 7 days, plus Saturday midnight show. Gross: $9,500. (Average: $10,000).

**"White Zombie" (UA)**
**"Crime and Punishment" (Col.)**
RKO FAMILY—(1,000) (30c-40c) 4 days. Gross: $1,400. (Average: $1,600).

**"Calaboose" (UA)**
**"Hat Check Honey" (Univ.)**
RKO FAMILY—(1,000) (30c-40c) 3 days. Gross: $700. (Average: $800).

**"Shine On, Harvest Moon" (WB)**
RKO GRAND—(1,500) (44c-50c-60c-70c) 7 days, plus Saturday midnight show; 3rd week. Gross: $6,500. (Average: $9,500).

**"Cover Girl" (Col.)**
KEITH'S—(1,500) (44c-50c-60c-70c) 7 days, 5th week, following three weeks at the Shubert and one week at the Palace. Gross: $3,500. (Average: $5,000).

**"Up in Mabel's Room" (UA)**
**"Chinese Cat" (Mono.)**
RKO LYRIC—(1,400) (44c-50c-60c-70c) 7 days, plus Saturday midnight show. Gross: $5,000. (Average: $5,500).

**"Uncertain Glory" (WB)**
RKO PALACE—(2,700) (44c-50c-60c-70c) 7 days, plus Saturday midnight show. Gross: $14,000. (Average: $15,000).

**"Buffalo Bill" (20th-Fox)**
RKO SHUBERT—(2,150) (44c-50c-60c-70c) 7 days, 2nd week on a moveover from the Palace. Gross: $4,500. (Average: $5,000).

# *50,000 Projectionists Will Aid Fifth Loan Drive*

Some 50,000 projectionists, stage hands and other members of the 800 IATSE locals will "intensify efforts to help the industry's Fifth War Loan drive, June 12 to July 8, by purchasing more bonds than ever before, by helping to sell more than they have sold before and by cooperating with exhibitors throughout the country," William P. Raoul, assistant international president of the organization, declared yesterday following a meeting with R. H. Kennedy, national industry vice-chairman for the campaign. The cooperation, he said, will extend to the Hollywood studios.

### On Convention Agenda

IATSE will place its resources and manpower solidly behind the drive, and it is expected that Richard Walsh, "IA" president, will devote a part of the agenda of the forthcoming biennial convention in St. Louis, starting May 29, to preparations for members' participation.

Meanwhile, WAC headquarters here reported that at yesterday's all-industry rally at the Athletic Club in Indianapolis, with more than 200 present, Marc J. Wolff, Indiana state chairman, pledged that the state would be an important spearhead in the campaign.

Don R. Rossiter, state Fifth War Loan coordinator, reported on the Red Cross drive and the Indiana industry's Fourth War Loan record, and expressed confidence that the state would do still better in the Fifth War Loan.

L. T. Dorsey, of the state War Finance Committee, in paying tribute to the industry, said that the glamour and ballyhoo it has provided have imparted a "real wallop" to all drives.

Among other guests were Louis Young, publisher of the *Indianapolis Times;* Corbin Patrick, *Indianapolis Star;* Louis Crowe of the state War Finance Committee, and D. E. Deaton, Fayette County War Finance committeeman. Also present were the state's three "Honored Hundred" winners: Leonard S. Sowar, Muncie; Harlan Croy, Frankfort, and Harry Rubin, Michigan City, as well as William Marriott, distributor chairman for the Indiana-Kentucky district, and Ken Collins, state publicity chairman.

National committee representatives at the meeting, in addition to O'Donnell, were vice-chairman R. M. Kennedy, campaign director John J. Friedl, publicity director Ray Beall, H. M. Richey, representing the distributors' committee, and Claude Lee, consultant to the Treasury. Major Allen V. Martini received an ovation.

### Plan for Times Square Kick-Off on June 9

Plans were discussed for a "kick-off" stunt on June 9 to open the industry's Fifth War Loan drive in New York—an "invasion" of Times Square by armed troops and equipment—at a meeting held yesterday in the Loew Building by Charles C. Moskowitz, general chairman of the Metropolitan New York area, and Oscar A. Doob, campaign director.

Deputy administrators of the Treasury's War Finance Committee from all boroughs and counties joined the committee at the meeting. Among other plans discussed for the drive is the erection on Times Square of a large cash register which will record daily bond sales for this area.

Joseph Kinsky, War Activities Committee coordinator for the campaign, outlined the accessories which will be available, and other plans, and Prof. John Madden, accounting chairman, explained the accounting method to be used by theatres, district captains and borough chairmen.

It was announced also that borough chairmen throughout this territory have completed appointments of district captains. A similar organization has been set up by distributors through Ralph Pielow, distributor chairman.

### Capital Showmen Cited For Fourth War Loan

WASHINGTON, May 17.—Citations for outstanding performances in the Fourth War Loan drive were presented to Washington showmen this week by John Reilly, chairman of the War Finance Committee, during a meeting at which plans for local participation in the Fifth War Loan drive were set.

Citations were presented to Jack Foxe, Fred Thomas, Charles Demma, Gene Forde, Angelo Ratto, Hardie Meakin, Abe Tolkins. Citations to zone area chairmen went to Frank Storty, Harry Bachman, Graham Barbee, Walter Cersley, Sidney Hoffman, Fred Kogod, Sidney Lust, A. Julian Brylawski and Lloyd Wineland. Fourth War Loan heads who also received citations were Carter T. Barron, John J. Payette, Frank La Falce, Robert Smeltzer and Nat Browne.

Lust, chosen as chairman for the Fifth War Loan drive here, will be assisted by Barron and Payette as co-chairman; LaFalce, as publicity chairman; and Joseph B. Brecheen, as film exchange chairman. He appointed a planning committee comprised of Brylawski, Bachman, Barbee, Cersley, Meakin, Lawrence Snoots, with John Allen, M-G-M branch manager and Variety Club chief barker as distributor chairman.

### Stetson Named F. & M. War Activities Head

ST. LOUIS, May 17.—Albert Stetson has been named war activities director for Fanchon & Marco theatres and St. Louis Amusement Co., it has been announced by Harry C. Arthur, Jr., general manager and chairman of the Missouri War Activities Committee.

Stetson, formerly district manager for the St. Louis Amusement Co. neighborhood theatres, will co-ordinate the company's theatre war activities beginning with the launching of the Fifth War Loan, June 12-July 8, said Arthur.

The theatres' activity for the Fifth War Loan campaign will get under way tomorrow, when a special regional luncheon meeting will be held on the Hotel Chase Roof.

# 'Private Hargrove' Leads the Parade On $27,500 Gross

SAN FRANCISCO, May 17. — "See Here, Private Hargrove" headed for $27,500 at the Fox Theatre to lead local grosses. "Address Unknown" and "Black Parachute," playing two small houses, the Esquire and Tivoli, appear good for a dual take of $23,000. Also off to an excellent start was "The Lodger" and "Charlie Chan and the Chinese Cat," aiming at $22,700 at the Paramount. Weather and business were generally good.

Estimated receipts for the week ending May 15-18:

**"Up in Mabel's Room" (UA)**
**"Hat Check Honey" (Univ.)**
UNITED ARTISTS—(1,200) (45c-65c-85c) 7 days, 3rd week. Gross: $10,300. (Average: $11,000).

**"Bermuda Mystery" (20th-Fox)**
WARFIELD—(2,680) (45c-65c-85c) 7 days. Stage: vaudeville. Gross: $22,600. (Average: $21,800).

**"Scarlet Claw" (Univ.)**
GOLDEN GATE—(2,850) (45c-65c-85c) 7 days. Stage: vaudeville. Gross: $25,400. (Average: $25,000).

**"See Here, Private Hargrove" (M-G-M)**
FOX—(5,000) (45c-65c-85c) 7 days. Gross: $27,500. (Average: $24,000).

**"The Lodger" (20th-Fox)**
**"Charlie Chan and the Chinese Cat" (Mono.)**
PARAMOUNT—(2,740) (45c-65c-85c) 7 days. Gross: $22,700. (Average: $19,600).

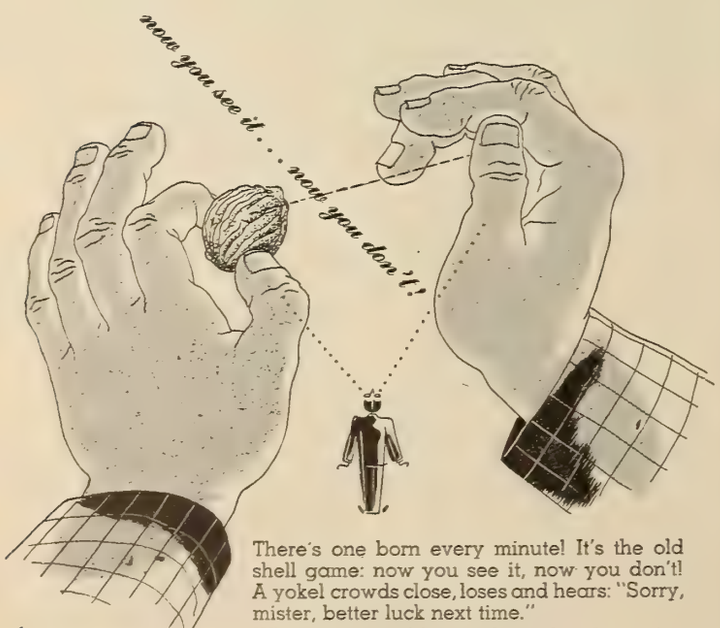
**"Follow the Boys" (Univ.)**
ORPHEUM—(2,440) (45c-65c-85c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $16,000. (Average: $14,800).

**"Uncertain Glory" (WB)**
**"Jamboree" (Rep.)**
STATE—(2,366) (45c-65c-85c) 7 days, 2nd week, moveover from the Fox. Gross: $14,000. (Average: $12,100).

**"Buffalo Bill" (20th-Fox)**
ST. FRANCIS—(1,400) (45c-65c-85c) 7 days, 3rd week. Gross: $11,900. (Average: $11,600).

**"Address Unknown" (Col.)**
**"Black Parachute" (Col.)**
ESQUIRE—(1,008) (45c-55c-75c) 7 days. Gross: $12,100. (Average: $9,000).

**"Address Unknown" (Col.)**
**"Black Parachute" (Col.)**
TIVOLI—(1,488) (45c-55c-75c) 7 days. Gross: $10,900. (Average: $9,000).


There's one born every minute! It's the old shell game: now you see it, now you don't! A yokel crowds close, loses and hears: "Sorry, mister, better luck next time."

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# Films in Australia Get Double Time

Australian cities are enjoying such an unprecedented boom that first-run theatres are according product an average playing time of two-and-a-half times longer than in pre-war days, Ralph Doyle, RKO managing director for Australasia, told MOTION PICTURE DAILY this week in an interview at the home office. Business in the more sparsely-settled country areas "has suffered," he said, "because they have been denuded of manpower."

"Musicals and romantic comedies are proving the best draw" both with the Australian public and the troops, Doyle asserted. "No war pictures are being sent into combat areas. The troops want bright, escapist entertainment." Theatre business is expected to remain good for two years after the war.

Film rentals have remained fairly static because of a ceiling, Doyle declared. In order to raise them permission from authorities must be obtained. "Admissions have been absolutely fixed," he said.

Consequently, roadshows as such have ceased to exist as the government will not permit an advance in prices.

### New Film Each Week

Distributing companies in Australia are servicing troops in combat areas with a new film a week which travels a circuit for 20 weeks, the RKO managing director for Australasia revealed. Five mobile units, outfitted by industry funds, tour combat areas. Other camps are serviced by the Australian Army which has its own exchange system for the exhibition of 35 mm. prints.

Doyle disclosed that the first Australian film in four years, a cooperative venture, was being produced by Hoyt's Theatres, circuit, RKO, Commonwealth Laboratories and Charles E. Munro, former managing director for Hoyt's. Titled "Rats of Tobruk," it is being produced by Charles Chauvel, who made "40,000 Horsemen." It concerns the exploits of the 9th Australian Division. RKO will distribute in Australia and New Zealand.

Doyle, who is making his first visit in five years, plans to stay for two months.

# *'Cover Girl' Grosses $15,300 in Toronto*

TORONTO, May 17.—"Cover Girl" was high at Shea's Theatre with $15,300, and "Up in Arms" was heading for $14,300 at the Imperial. Loew's presented a dual with "The Heavenly Body" and "Swing Fever," which looked like $12,700.

Estimated receipts for the week ending May 18:

**"The Man in Grey" (British)**
EGLINTON—(1,086) (18c-30c-48c-60c) 6 days. Gross: $4,000. (Average: $4,000).
**"Up in Arms" (RKO)**
IMPERIAL—(3,373) (18c-30c-42c-60c-90c) 6 days. Gross: $14,300. (Averag: $12,800).
**"The Heavenly Body" (M-G-M)**
**"Swing Fever" (M-G-M)**
LOEW'S—(2,074) (18c-30c-42c-60c-78c) 6 lays. Gross: $12,700. (Average: $11,200).
**"Cover Girl" (Col.)**
SHEA'S—(2,480) (18c-30c-42c-60c-90c) 6 days. Gross: $15,300. (Average: $12,800).
**"Tender Comrade" (RKO) (moveover)**
**"Ghost Ship" (RKO)**
TIVOLI—(1,434) (18c-30c-48c) 6 days. Gross: $3,900. (Average: $4,400).
**"The Bridge of San Luis Rey" (UA)**
**"The Woman of the Town" (UA)**
UPTOWN—(2,761) (18c-30c-42c-60c-90c) 6 days. Gross: $9,800. (Average: $9,800).


Paramount NEWS

AND NOTHING BUT THE NEWS



CURRENTLY CLICKING IN SOMERSET MAUGHAM'S **"THE HOUR BEFORE THE DAWN"** VERONICA WILL PLAY A CIGARETTE GIRL IN "BRING ON THE GIRLS" WITH BRACKEN AND TUFTS. FIRST STILLS OF THIS SMART OUTFIT SHOW RICH CHANCES FOR TIE-UPS, EXPLOITATION DISPLAYS ON THIS TECHNICOLOR MUSICAL.


# 'Buffalo Bill' Rides High, Gets $24,700

PHILADELPHIA, May 17.—Business was well distributed among the downtown theatres this week due to the large number of new openings. Among the major openings, "Buffalo Bill" at the Fox expects to gross $24,700 for the week, and "Standing Room Only" at the Boyd points to $22,300, with $3,400 for a dual Sunday showing.

Estimated receipts for the week ended May 17-19:

**"The Bridge of San Luis Rey" (UA)**
ALDINE—(900) (40c-45c-50c-65c-75c-85c) 7 days. Gross: $11,700. (Average: $14,600).
**"Shine On, Harvest Moon" (WB)**
ARCADIA—(600) (40c-45c-50c-65c-75c) 7 days, 2nd run, 2nd week. Gross: $4,300. (Average: $4,000).
**"Standing Room Only" (Para.)**
BOYD—(3,000) (40c-45c-50c-65c-75c-85c) 7 days. Gross: $22,300. (Average: $18,000).
**"You Can't Ration Love" (Para.) (6 days) $16,500**
**"Standing Room Only" (Para.) (1 day) $3,400**
EARLE—(3,000) (50c-65c-85c-95c) 6 days of vaudeville, including Jerry Wald's orchestra, Beatrice Kay, Ginnie Powell, Dick Merrick and Ben Beri. Gross: $16,500. (Average: $27,600).
**"Buffalo Bill" (20th-Fox)**
FOX—(3,000) (40c-45c-50c-65c-75c-85c) 7 days. Gross: $24,700. (Average: $20,500).
**"The Miracle of Morgan's Creek" (Para.)**
KARLTON—(1,000) (40c-45c-50c-65c-75c-85c) 6 days, 2nd run, 2nd week. Gross: $5,500. (Average: $6,600).
**"It Happened Tomorrow" (UA)**
KEITH'S—(2,200) (40c-45c-50c-65c-75c-85c) 7 days, 2nd run. Gross: $4,300. (Average: $5,800).
**"Follow the Boys" (Univ.)**
MASTBAUM—(4,700) (40c-45c-50c-65c-75c-85c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $15,600. (Average: $22,500).
**"See Here, Private Hargrove" (M-G-M)**
STANLEY—(3,000) (40c-45c-50c-65c-75c-85c) 7 days, 3rd week. Gross: $17,800. (Average: $20,000).
**"Women in Bondage" (Mono.)**
STANTON—(1,700) (40c-45c- 50c-65c-75c-85c) 7 days. Gross: $12,600. (Average: $9,400).

# *Top Balto. Honors To 'Snow White'*

BALTIMORE, May 17.—The new week's features gained fairly substantial openings but weekend business failed to hold. Managers attributed the let-down to the Preakness races on Saturday and to the warm weather, keeping pleasure-seekers out-of-doors on Sunday. Top honors go to "Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs," plus a stage show, taking $19,000 at the Hippodrome. "Andy Harry's Blonde Trouble" is scoring $16,000 at the Century. Most of the week's figures are below average.

Estimated receipts for the week ending May 18:

**"Andy Hardy's Blonde Trouble" (M-G-M)**
CENTURY—(3,000) (35c-45c-55c and 60c weekends) 7 days. Gross: $16,000. Average: $17,500).
**"Standing Room Only" (Para.)**
KEITH'S—(2,405) (35c-40c-50c-60c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $13,000. (Average: $15,000).
**"Buffalo Bill" (20th-Fox)**
NEW—(1,581) (30c-40c-60c) 7 days, 3rd week. Gross: $9,000. (Average: $13,000).
**"Uncertain Glory" (WB)**
STANLEY — (3,280) (35c-44c-55c-66c) 7 days. Gross: $16,000. (Average: $18,000).
**"Snow White and Seven Dwarfs" (RKO)**
HIPPODROME—(2,205) (35c-44c-55c-65c) 7 days. Stage show: Flying Berrys, Renald & Rudy, The Albins, Arnaut Bros. Gross: $19,000. (Average: $18,000).
**"The Navy Way" (Para.)**
MAYFAIR—(1,000) (35c-54c) 7 days. Gross: $6,500. (Average: $7,000).

# Petrillo, Producers In 2-Year Pact

(Continued from page 1)

of permanent orchestras which the studios agreed to employ. Petrillo originally insisted on a basic group of 35 men for Paramount, M-G-M, 20th Century-Fox and Warners, but conceded on Paramount's reducing to 30. The other three studios remain at 35. Petrillo originally insisted on 30 for RKO, but this was cut to 25, while Columbia, Universal and Republic agreed to 25, which was the original demand.

M-G-M, 20th-Fox and Warners, therefore, face minimum musical costs of $182,000 apiece for each year of the agreement, barring overtime. Paramount's cost will be $156,000 and the other four studios $130,000 apiece.

The basic deal also provides that whatever sound track is employed in prints and trailers would be used only for the specific picture for which it is recorded. Thus, for example, 20th-Fox could not use any of its "The Purple Heart" music in connection with any portions of "Wilson," and musical resources and investment of sizeable portions now represented by musical libraries in all studios are doomed.

### To See Independents Later

The deal thus far does not embrace independents like David Selznick, Samuel Goldwyn, United Artists producers and smaller companies like Monogram and PRC. Petrillo will leave for the East Friday but expects to close a deal along similar lines with those not now covered before his departure.

The much-debated issue of freshly recorded music for newsreels was set back for future discussions in New York with newsreel organizations.

AFM was represented additionally by J. W. Gillette, Petrillo's local representative; J. K. ("Spike") Wallace, president of Local 47, and C. L. Bagley, attorney. Present at today's session, the last of five, were Nicholas Schenck, Nate Blumberg, N. Peter Rathvon and Pat Casey, producers' labor contact.

A formal statement by both groups stressed that "negotiations were the most friendly and constructive of any throughout their experience." However, it was also characterized by unrelenting firmness on the part of Petrillo. One negotiator summed up by observing, "I don't know why we had to resume in California. Petrillo got what he asked for in New York, anyway."

Schenck and Rathvon expect to depart for New York at the weekend.

## $699,831 To Hart

William S. Hart, silent film star, is the sole beneficiary of the estate of his sister, Mary Ellen Hart, who died in California, Oct. 1, 1943, leaving an estate of $728,778 and $699,831 net, according to a tax appraisal filed here this week.

**MANAGER AT LIBERTY**
Competent—Experienced in all types of exhibition—A1 record in Metropolitan, deluxe or neighborhood theatres. Will go anywhere for top offer. Box 229, MOTION PICTURE DAILY.

# 5 Majors Will Not Yield Any Further on Decree

(Continued from page 1)

officials have been occupied fully recently with the Montgomery Ward case, the Pullman divestment case, and other matters.

The most recent contact between the companies and Clark was on May 7, when Joseph Hazen, liaison for the distributors, met Clark in Washington. At that time, it was reported that Clark expressed a desire to bring the matter to a head, pointing out that the companies have had a long time in which to study exhibitor recommendations for improvement of the distributor proposals of Jan. 25, and indicated a growing impatience over the numerous delays which have slowed down, if not stalemated, negotiations.

**When representatives of the companies meet with Clark it is planned to go over the whole decree in one last audit of what the distributors offer or reject. Clark then will make a decision as to the acceptability of their proposals, subject to Attorney General Biddle's approval. Should he demand any further concessions from the distributors, especially on cancellation and theatre expansion, it is believed the distributors will face a showdown.**

Proposals by the distributors on cancellations, reported in MOTION PICTURE DAILY on Feb. 2, provide that theatres paying $100 or less per picture are to be given a 20 per cent cancellation, those paying from $101 to $200, 10 per cent; and those over $200, five per cent. In the case of the 20 per cent classification, estimated to include 80 per cent of all theatres, one of the first three pictures could be cancelled, thereafter one of five.

On the question of theatre expansion, the five companies agreed to secure Federal Court approval prior to consummating any acquisition except for purpose of replacement, to secure a "show case" or where a local product lock-out prevents the showing of pictures for one year or longer.

### MPTOA Proposals

Exhibitor organizations made other proposals to Clark, not having been satisfied with the distributor concessions. As reported in MOTION PICTURE DAILY on March 22, the Motion Picture Theatre Owners of America urged a provision requiring the distributors to license at one time all features to be released in each six months, but permitting an exhibitor to license any lesser number, with exhibitors having the unrestricted privilege of 20 per cent cancellation. On the question of theatre expansion by distributors, MPTOA asked that all such expansion be completely prohibited or, if that is not possible, then the "show case" and "lockout" provisions should be eliminated.

Proposals made by Allied States and collaborating independents, as reported in MOTION PICTURE DAILY on Feb. 11, also asked for 20 per cent unrestricted cancellation, with distributors required to submit one-quarter of their yearly output at one time. On the question of circuit expansion, the Allied brief submitted to Clark declared that "this provision is wholly emasculated and will have no effect under the exceptions set forth." Allied recommended that provision for any circuit expansion be eliminated entirely and that where the distributor may make application for theatre acquisition and an independent exhibitor is affected, the application should be made in the district court where the theatre or theatres are located, and the interested exhibitor notified.

**The distributors are said to feel that the cancellation concessions to which they have agreed are more liberal under the decree method whereby the exhibitor can see films before buying than they were under "blind" and full season selling methods.**

Regarding circuit expansion, the distributors are understood to feel that the post-war period might bring the need for adjustments in their methods of operation and they must have a free hand to make changes in much the same manner as any other business, in their case the changes to be made with Department of Justice approval.

Among other items, the distributor spokesman pointed out that in liberalizing the "show case" provisions of section ten, "the distributors have made it possible for any person to go into business in competition with them." The distributors also feel that arbitration provisions made it possible for any exhibitor to secure adequate relief in view of past experiences, it was said.

Officials of the consent decree companies met here yesterday.

### U. S. Seeks to Push Schine Trust Suit

BUFFALO, May 17.—A pre-trial conference has been scheduled for Friday on the Government's anti-trust suit against Schine Theatres. It will be held in Judge John C. Knight's chambers. Counsel for Schine and the Government will be present to endeavor to simplify procedure with a view to shortening the trial as much as possible.

John F. Clagett, special assistant to the U. S. Attorney-General, indicated that Schine will seek a postponement. Clagett is here with several other Government attorneys preparing for trial and issuing about 100 subpoenas. The conference, Clagett says, may last a few days. The Government, however, is ready to proceed with the trial on Friday and has arranged for the presence of numerous Government witnesses.

## Carroll to South Pacific

HOLLYWOOD, May 17.—Sidney Carroll, Hollywood studio Coronet and Esquire editor, stationed here for the past five years, has been assigned as a war correspondent by those publications to the South Pacific area.

## Wirth Joins Warners

PHILADELPHIA, May 17. — Ben Wirth, formerly of New York City, has been named head of the real estate department of the Warner circuit here, succeeding Samuel D. Schwartz, resigned.

# US Films Get 75% Of Spanish Time

American films are now getting 75 percent of the playing time in Spain's theatres, according to Robert L. Graham, Paramount's manager in Mexico, who returned to New York last week from a two-month trip to Spain on a special assignment for that company.

"American films today are more popular in Spain than those of any other country," Graham said. "All American films being shown in Spain have been dubbed into Spanish and not sub-titled," he revealed.

"Hollywood product now playing in Spain is from two to three years old. Import permits are needed to bring American films into the Spanish market. This makes it difficult for American companies to distribute directly," Graham revealed.

"About 100 American films have been prepared for Spanish distribution in the past year but they have not all been released, according to Graham.

"Spain has been an open market for films of all countries since 1941," Graham said in disclosing that the 2,600 motion picture exhibition outlets which includes theatres and tents, played ten German pictures, five Mexican-made pictures and other foreign films during the past 12 months.

### Equipment Run Down

Graham revealed that theatre projection equipment is considerably run down in Spain since there is no way of replacing equipment. He disclosed that any picture whether made by Hollywood or Germany that is contrary to Spain's policy of neutrality cannot be shown. "Large theatres in Madrid are playing 100 percent American product and business is good," Graham reported. He added that there is only one newsreel in Spain and that is the government's. It contains 25 percent American footage, 25 percent German footage, and 50 percent Spanish footage.

Questioned about the Spanish government's blacklist of some American film actors and other personalities, Graham disclosed the list had been rescinded three months ago.

Paramount has released about 25 films in Spain in the past two years but the company has no plans of entering into distribution on any larger scale in the immediate future. Robert Alexander of the Paramount sales organization in London is acting as special representative for the company in Spain and Portugal.

## Rhoden Mobilizing 30,000 Workers

**Kansas City, May 17.—A "Citizens' War Manpower Committee" has been set up for Greater Kansas City for recruiting 30,000 workers to assure war plant production in this community, and headed by Elmer C. Rhoden, Fox Midwest executive.**

**Rhoden and Senn Lawler, also of Fox Midwest, have formulated a program for the committee, with which civic agencies are cooperating. Among initial steps is a "Mobilization for Victory Campaign" calling for workers for war jobs.**

# RKO Theatre Units Elect Directors

Stockholders of B. F. Keith Corp., RKO-Proctors Corp. and RKO Midwest Theatres, held annual meetings here yesterday and reelected directors of all three companies.

The board reelected by B. F. Keith is the same as that re-elected Tuesday by Keith-Albee-Orpheum stockholders, as reported in MOTION PICTURE DAILY yesterday. It includes N. Peter Rathvon, Ned E. Depinet, Malcolm Kingsberg, Monroe Goldwater, Gordon E. Youngman and J. Miller Walker. A. W. Dawson was elected by both B. F. Keith Corp., and KAO to succeed William E. Whitman.

Reelected to RKO-Proctors and Midwest directorates were: Rathvon, Depinet, Kingsberg, Youngman, Ben L. Heidingsfeld and Major L. E. Thompson. John E. Harris, previously a board member of both corporations, was not reelected.

The boards of all four corporations will meet in about a week to reelect officers with no changes expected in the present set-ups of Rathvon as president and Kingsberg as executive vice-president and vice-chairman of the board, among others.

## Odlum Selling 57,337 Shares of RKO

(*Continued from page* 1)

The stock will be underwritten by a syndicate headed by Lehman Brothers and Goldman, Sachs & Co. RKO announced yesterday that it has filed a registration statement with the Securities and Exchange Commission, adding that no proceeds from the sale of the stock are to go to RKO.

While it is understood that Atlas plans to reduce its holdings in RKO common stock, now estimated at 46 per cent of the total amount outstanding, sale of the common is reported not to be linked with that of the preferred. Odlum, it is said, intends to retain approximately 900,000 shares of the RKO common.

## 'Bernadette' Emerges With Good $11,900

OMAHA, May 17.—"Song of Bernadette" at the Omaha Theatre grossed $11,900, slightly higher than "Cover Girl's" $10,100 at the Brandeis for box office laurels. Warm weather prevailed.

Estimated receipts for the week ending May 17-18:

**"Cover Girl" (Col.)**
BRANDEIS—(1,200) (44c-60c) 7 days. Gross: $10,100. (Average: $6,500).
**"Song of Bernadette" (20th-Fox)**
OMAHA—(2,000) (80c-$1.10) 6 days. Gross: $11,900. (Average: $8,400).
**"Lifeboat" (20th-Fox)**
**"Knickerbocker Holiday" (UA)**
ORPHEUM—(3,000) (44c-60c) 7 days. Gross: $10,100. (Average: $9,800).
**"Broadway Rhythm" (M-G-M)**
PARAMOUNT—(2,900) (44c-60c) 7 days. Gross: $8,500. (Average: $11,700).

## Blumenfeld to Build

OAKLAND, Cal., May 17.—Joseph Blumenfeld, operator of six theatres in this area, including the Orpheum and United Artists in San Francisco, has purchased a corner at Broadway and Hobart St., this city, where he plans to build a theatre when plans are approved.

# Rank and Skouras Sign Collaborative Agreement

(*Continued from page* 1)

mont-British Theatres, which were controlled jointly by Rank, 20th-Fox and Loew's, Inc., but from which the latter has now been eliminated.

As previously reported in MOTION PICTURE DAILY from time to time, the agreement is understood, on reliable authority, to include: Showing of Rank's product in 20th-Fox's National Theatres in the U. S.; availability of Rank's production facilities for the making of 20th-Fox pictures here; production by Rank, in the near future, of two or three features for 20th-Fox in London, to meet the latter's quota requirements, with more joint productions to follow; loan of Hollywood stars, directors and scenarists to Rank's production interests here, with possible assignment also of British talent to Hollywood.

The deal also provides distribution by 20th-Fox in the United States and throughout the world of all productions made jointly by the two companies in England—with other joint productions distributed in America by Rank's Eagle Lion films. (In the early stages of the negotiations, it was indicated that 20th-Fox eventually would assist Eagle-Lion with distribution and in the matter of otherwise unobtainable manpower for exchanges here and in America; also that Arthur W. Kelly, Eagle-Lion U. S. agent, would be absorbed by the American company as Rank's agent in the United States. It was indicated, later, however, in New York by Larry Kent, executive assistant to Skouras, that nothing in the agreement provides for Eagle-Lion and 20th-Fox collaborative distribution).

**Purchase, partly by Rank and partly by 20th-Fox, of the 24½ per cent interest of Loew's, Inc., in the Metropolis and Bradford Trust Co., which controls Gaumont-British, is also in the new Rank-Skouras pact. Although the proportion of this stock going to each of the two purchasers has not been officially revealed, recent indications were that Rank would get two-thirds and 20th-Fox one-third. Up to now the former has owned 49 per cent of M. & B., the latter, 24½ per cent.**

The sale agreement, subject to certain amendments, has been sanctioned by the British Treasury. It is understood that Loew's will invest the proceeds in Sir Alexander Korda-M-G-M production unit, London, thereby complying with the British government's policy of keeping foreign monies in this country.

A subsidiary agreement is said to provide for the creation of a management committee for Gaumont-British Theatres, with 20th-Fox representation, looking to improved management, but with Rank retaining ultimate control. Kent is slated to be named managing director of the G-B circuit; and he and Dan Michalove of 20th-Fox may become members of this company's board of directors. G-B shares rose sharply on the London stock exchange following announcement of the agreement.

The 20th-Fox president arrived here on Feb. 21 and is scheduled to return to the U. S. sometime within the next week.

## Blind Girl Asks to 'See' 'Bernadette'

**A girl who identified herself as Josephine Lettiere, Manhattan, and said she was a blind college graduate, phoned the Rivoli on Broadway yesterday and inquired whether arrangements could be made for her to "see" "The Song of Bernadette" today. Assured that she would be accommodated, the caller explained that she was sufficiently familiar with the story to be able to enjoy the picture by listening to the dialogue. Accommodations also will be afforded for her Seeing-Eye dog, which she said would accompany her.**

## Felix Basch Dies at 55

HOLLYWOOD, May 17.—Felix Basch, 55, who appeared in "Chetniks," "Destination Unknown," "Cross of Lorraine" and many other war films during the past few years, died in Cedars of Lebanon Hospital here today. Basch formerly won distinction as a producer and director in Berlin. He leaves a widow, the former Grete Freund, Viennese actress, and a son, Peter, who is in the U. S. Army.

## 'Twain' Draws a Big $22,500 in Denver

DENVER, May 17.—"The Adventures of Mark Twain" led here this week with a gross of $22,500. Receipts elsewhere were somewhat light this week due to the opening of amusement parks for the season.

Estimated receipts for the week ending May 15-17:

**"Shine On, Harvest Moon" (WB)**
**"Girl in the Case" (Col.)**
ALADDIN—(1,400) (46c-75c) 7 days, moveover. Gross: $5,600. (Average: $5,600).
**"Cover Girl" (Col.)**
**"The Memphis Belle" (WAC-Para.)**
BROADWAY—(1,040) (46c-74c) 7 days, moveover. Gross: $5,850. (Average: $5,900).
**"Adventures of Mark Twain" (WB)**
DENVER—(2,600) (80c-$1.10) (advanced prices). Gross: $22,500. (Average: $15,000).
**"The Uninvited" (Para.)**
DENHAM—(1,750) (35c-45c-70c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $10,000. (Average: $9,000).
**"The Impostor" (Univ.)**
**"Her Primitive Man" (Univ.)**
ESQUIRE—(740) (46c-74c) 7 days. Gross: $6,750. (Average: $4,500).
**"The Impostor" (Univ.)**
**"Her Primitive Man" (Univ.)**
PARAMOUNT—(2,200) (46c-74c) 7 days. Gross: $11,625. (Average: $9,300).
**"Women in Bondage" (Mono.)**
**"Rosie the Riveter" (Rep.)**
RIALTO—(900) (46c-74c) 7 days, moveover. Gross: $8,750. (Average: $5,000).

## Burnette Ends Tour

Smiley Burnette, Republic star, arrived in New York yesterday following completion of a personal appearance tour which ended in Providence. He will leave for Hollywood tomorrow.



# MOTION PICTURE DAILY'S BOOKING CHART

| WEEK OF | COLUMBIA | M-G-M | MONO. | PARA. | PRC | REPUBLIC | RKO RADIO | 20TH-FOX | U. A. | UNIVERSAL | WARNERS |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| April 22 | GIRL IN THE CASE<br>Janice Carter<br>Edmund Lowe—D<br>64 mins.<br>WYOMING HURRICANE<br>Russell Hayden<br>58 mins. | (Sixth Block)<br>SEE HERE, PRIVATE HARGROVE<br>Robert Walker<br>Donna Reed<br>C—101 mins. (420) | HOT RHYTHM<br>M—79 mins.<br>Dona Drake<br>Robert Lowery<br>(314) | (Fourth Block)<br>THE HOUR BEFORE THE DAWN<br>Franchot Tone<br>Veronica Lake<br>D—75 mins. (4317) | SHAKE HANDS WITH MURDER<br>D—63 mins. (422)<br>PINTO BANDIT<br>O—(456) | OH SUSANNA<br>Gene Autry<br>(reissue)<br>O—(3303) | (Block Four)<br>TENDER COMRADE<br>Ginger Rogers<br>Robert Ryan<br>D—102 mins. (416) | (April Releases—no definite date set)<br>BUFFALO BILL<br>(Technicolor)<br>Maureen O'Hara<br>Joel McCrea<br>D—(424)<br>90 mins. | LUMBER JACK<br>(Harry Sherman Production)<br>William Boyd<br>O—64 mins. | HER PRIMITIVE MAN<br>Louise Albritton<br>Robert Paige<br>D—79 mins. (8016) | UNCERTAIN GLORY<br>Errol Flynn<br>Paul Lukas<br>D—102 mins. (314) |
| April 29 | THE BLACK PARACHUTE<br>Larry Parks<br>Jeanne Bates<br>John Carradine<br>Osa Massen<br>D | THE HEAVENLY BODY<br>Hedy Lamarr<br>William Powell<br>D—95 mins. (421) | OUTLAW TRAIL<br>(Trailblazer)<br>53 mins. (364)<br>O | YOU CAN'T RATION LOVE<br>Betty Rhodes<br>Johnnie Johnston<br>C—79 mins. (4318) | MEN OF THE SEA<br>D—50 mins. (420)<br>Wilfrid Lawson<br>VALLEY OF VENGEANCE<br>Buster Crabbe<br>Al St. John<br>O—(464) | TROCADERO<br>Rosemary Lane<br>Johnny Downs<br>Bob Chester's Orch.<br>M—74 mins. (314) | PASSPORT TO DESTINY<br>Elsa Lanchester<br>Gordon Oliver<br>D—64 mins. (417) | TAMPICO<br>Ed G. Robinson<br>D—75 mins. (425) | | MOON OVER LAS VEGAS<br>Ann Gwynne<br>David Bruce<br>D—69 mins. (8037) | |
| May 6 | ONCE UPON A TIME<br>Cary Grant<br>Janet Blair<br>James Gleason<br>89 mins. | SWING FEVER<br>Kay Kyser<br>Marilyn Maxwell<br>M—81 mins. (423) | LAW MAN<br>Johnny Mack Brown<br>O—55 mins. (354) | THE NAVY WAY<br>Robert Lowery<br>Jean Parker<br>D—75 mins. (4316) | THE CONTENDER<br>Buster Crabbe<br>Arline Judge<br>Julie Gibson<br>O—63 mins. (418) | JAMBOREE<br>Ruth Terry<br>George Byron<br>M—71 mins. (316)<br>TUCSON RAIDERS<br>(Red Rider Series)<br>"Wild Bill" Elliott<br>George "Gabby" Hayes<br>Bobby Blake<br>O—55 mins. (3311) | THE CURSE OF THE CAT PEOPLE<br>Simone Simon<br>Kent Smith<br>D—70 mins. (418) | SHRINE OF VICTORY<br>British Documentary<br>45 mins. | | SLIGHTLY TERRIFIC<br>Leon Errol<br>Anne Rooney<br>Evelyn Ankers<br>C—58 mins. (8036) | THE ADVENTURES OF MARK TWAIN<br>Fredric March<br>Alexis Smith<br>Donald Crisp<br>D—130 mins. (315) |
| May 13 | UNDERGROUND GUERILLAS<br>(British)<br>John Clements<br>Mary Morris—D<br>RIDIN' WEST<br>Charles Starrett<br>Shirley Patterson<br>O | RATIONING<br>Wallace Beery<br>Marjorie Main<br>C—93 mins. (418) | DETECTIVE KITTY O'DAY<br>Jean Parker<br>D—61 mins. (322) | | | | ESCAPE TO DANGER<br>Eric Portman<br>Ann Dvorak<br>D—84 mins. (419) | (May Releases. No definite date set) | | COBRA WOMAN<br>(Technicolor)<br>Maria Montez<br>Jon Hall<br>Sabu<br>(8006)—70 mins. | |
| May 20 | STARS ON PARADE<br>Lynn Merrick<br>Larry Parks<br>Judy Clark<br>M | BROADWAY RHYTHM<br>Ginny Simms<br>George Murphy<br>M—114 mins. (419)<br>(Color) | THE CHINESE CAT<br>Sidney Toler<br>D—64 mins. (320) | (Special)<br>LADY IN THE DARK<br>(Technicolor)<br>Ginger Rogers<br>Ray Milland<br>M—100 mins.<br>(4336) | WATERFRONT<br>John Carradine<br>J. Carroll Naish<br>D—(415)<br>65 mins. | COWBOY AND THE SENORITA<br>Roy Rogers<br>Mary Lee<br>Dale Evans<br>M—78 mins. | ACTION IN ARABIA<br>George Sanders<br>Virginia Bruce<br>D—75 mins. (420) | PIN-UP GIRL<br>Betty Grable<br>John Harvey<br>Martha Raye<br>Joe E. Brown<br>M—83 mins. (427)<br>(Color) | | PARDON MY RHYTHM<br>Gloria Jean<br>Patric Knowles<br>M<br>(8032)—62 mins. | BETWEEN TWO WORLDS<br>John Garfield<br>Paul Henreid<br>D—112 mins. (316) |
| May 27 | ADDRESS UNKNOWN<br>Paul Lukas<br>K. T. Stevens<br>D—72 mins. | TUNISIAN VICTORY<br>(Special Release)<br>(466)—80 mins.<br>(Documentary) | JOHNNY DOESN'T LIVE HERE ANYMORE<br>Simone Simon<br>James Ellison<br>D | (Fifth Block)<br>AND THE ANGELS SING<br>Dorothy Lamour<br>Fred MacMurray<br>Betty Hutton<br>M—96 mins. | MINSTREL MAN<br>Benny Fields<br>Gladys George<br>Roscoe Karns<br>O—(404) | MELODY TRAIL<br>(Reissue)<br>Gene Autry<br>O—(3304) | UP IN ARMS<br>(special release)<br>Danny Kaye<br>Dinah Shore<br>(Technicolor)<br>C—105 mins. (452)<br>(Color) | BERMUDA MYSTERY<br>Preston Foster<br>Ann Rutherford<br>D—65 mins. (428) | | THE SCARLET CLAW<br>Basil Rathbone<br>Nigel Bruce<br>D—74 mins. (8019) | |
| June 3 | | (Seventh Block)<br>ANDY HARDY'S BLONDE TROUBLE<br>Mickey Rooney<br>Lewis Stone<br>C—107 mins. (424) | FOLLOW THE LEADER<br>East Side Kids<br>D | DOUBLE INDEMNITY<br>Fred MacMurray<br>Barbara Stanwyck<br>Edward G. Robinson<br>D—106 mins. | SPOOK TOWN<br>(Texas Rangers)<br>O—(457)<br>James Newill<br>Tex O'Brien | SILENT PARTNER<br>Beverly Loyd<br>William Henry<br>Grant Withers<br>O—(317) | (Block Five)<br>THE FALCON OUT WEST<br>Tom Conway<br>Barbara Hale<br>D—64 mins. | | | THIS IS THE LIFE<br>Donald O'Connor<br>Susanna Foster<br>C—87 mins. (8012) | |
| June 10 | THEY LIVE IN FEAR<br>Otto Kruger<br>Pat Parrish<br>Clifford Severn<br>D | GASLIGHT<br>Ingrid Bergman<br>Charles Boyer<br>D—(425) | SONORA STAGE COACH<br>(Trailblazer)<br>O—(365) | THE HITLER GANG<br>Robert Watson<br>Victor Varconi<br>D—100 mins.<br>(4320) | | | DAYS OF GLORY<br>Tamara Touranova<br>Gregory Peck<br>D—86 mins | (June Releases—no definite date set) | | THE INVISIBLE MAN'S REVENGE<br>Jon Hall<br>Evelyn Ankers<br>Alan Curtis<br>D | MAKE YOUR OWN BED<br>Jack Carson<br>Jane Wyman<br>Irene Manning<br>C—82 mins. (317) |
| June 17 | SECRET COMMAND<br>Pat O'Brien<br>Chester Morris<br>Ruth Warrick<br>D<br>THE LAST HORSEMAN<br>Russell Hayden<br>Bob Wills<br>"Dub" Taylor<br>O | MEET THE PEOPLE<br>Dick Powell<br>Lucille Ball<br>M—100 mins. (426) | RETURN OF THE APE MAN<br>Bela Lugosi<br>John Carradine<br>D | HENRY ALDRICH PLAYS CUPID<br>Jimmy Lydon<br>Diana Lynn<br>Charles Smith<br>65 mins. | | | THE YELLOW CANARY<br>(British)<br>Anna Neagle<br>Richard Greene<br>D—84 mins. | EVE OF ST. MARK<br>Anne Baxter<br>William Eythe<br>Michael O'Shea<br>(429) D—96 mins. | | GHOST CATCHERS<br>Olsen and Johnson<br>C | |
| June 24 | SHE'S A SOLDIER, TOO<br>Beulah Bondi<br>Nina Foch<br>Jess Barber<br>D | THREE MEN IN WHITE<br>Lionel Barrymore<br>Van Johnson<br>D—(427) | RANGE LAW<br>Johnny Mack Brown<br>O—(355) | GAMBLER'S CHOICE<br>Chester Morris<br>Nancy Kelly<br>66 mins. | DELINQUENT DAUGHTERS<br>D—(416) | YELLOW ROSE OF TEXAS<br>Roy Rogers<br>Dale Evans<br>O—(343)<br>69 mins. | SEVEN DAYS ASHORE<br>Wally Brown<br>Gordon Oliver<br>C—74 mins. | LADIES IN WASHINGTON<br>Sheila Ryan<br>Trudy Marshall<br>Doris Merrick<br>(430)—D | | SOUTH OF DIXIE<br>Anne Gwynne<br>David Bruce<br>D | THIS IS THE ARMY<br>(Re-issue)<br>George Murphy<br>John Leslie<br>M—(224)<br>115 mins. |
| July 1 | MR. WINKLE GOES TO WAR<br>E. G. Robinson<br>Ruth Warrick<br>D | TWO GIRLS AND A SAILOR<br>Jimmy Durante<br>Van Johnson<br>C—(428) | CALL OF THE JUNGLE<br>Ann Corio<br>James Bush<br>D | (Special release)<br>MEMPHIS BELLE<br>(Color)<br>(Documentary)<br>41 mins. | SEVEN DOORS TO DEATH<br>D—(417) | | SHOW BUSINESS<br>Eddie Cantor<br>Joan Davis<br>George Murphy<br>Constance Moore<br>M—92 mins. | | | CHRISTMAS HOLIDAY<br>Deanna Durbin<br>Gene Kelly<br>M | THE MASK OF DIMITRIOS<br>Sidney Greenstreet<br>Zachary Scott<br>D |

First in Film and Radio News Brief, Accurate and Impartial

# MOTION PICTURE DAILY

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# 20th Will Handle All of Rank's Films in the U.S.

## *Selling Through Eagle-Lion; Joint British Production Under New Deal, Producing Later in U. S.; Skouras, Kent on GB Board*

By PETER BURNUP

LONDON, May 18.—The facilities of 20th Century-Fox will be made available for the physical distribution in the United States of all films produced by J. Arthur Rank and his associates, according to a joint statement issued here today by Rank and Spyros Skouras, 20th Century-Fox president, following the signing yesterday of their far-reaching collaborative agreement. South African and Australian distribution will likewise be handled by 20th-Fox.

Eagle-Lion Films, previously established by Rank, will be retained in America only as a selling organization, it was learned at the same time by MOTION PICTURE DAILY from a source close to the British executive.

The statement said also that Rank and 20th-Fox are arranging to produce jointly a number of important pictures in England and that these will be distributed alternately by 20th-Fox and Eagle-Lion. Moreover, Rank and Skouras hope to extend the making of cooperative films to Hollywood in the near future, it was learned.

The non-voting shares of the Metropolis and Bradford Trust Co., which controls Gaumont-British, will be held equally in the future by 20th-Fox and

(Continued on page 8)

## *Highlights of the GB-20th-Fox Deal*

*Following are the highlights of the agreement signed this week by J. Arthur Rank and Spyros Skouras, president of 20th Century-Fox, as made public in a joint statement issued by the two in London yesterday:*

**Distribution of Rank films in U. S., South Africa and Australia will be handled by 20th.**

**The two companies will soon produce jointly a number of pictures in England.**

**Skouras and Larry Kent of 20th-Fox will be on the board of Gaumont-British, with the non-voting shares of Metropolis & Bradford, G-B holding company, held equally by Rank and 20th.**

## Public Resists Roadshow Price Boosts

### *Admission Ceiling Seen In Exhibitor Survey*

Reports on grosses in 19 areas scattered throughout the country indicate that the public is concerned by advanced admission prices for special pictures, with exhibitors in at least 12 cities declaring that business is falling off because of roadshow prices, *Motion Picture Herald* will say today. In three other cities a downward trend at the box-office is blamed on the weather, while in only three others—war boom areas—the roaring business of the winter months is being maintained.

In the farm belt section surrounding Chicago's Loop, in cities and

(Continued on page 8)

## $3,814,000 Para. 1st Quarter Net

Paramount Pictures estimates its earnings for the first quarter ended April 1, at $3,814,000 after interest and all charges including estimated provision for all Federal taxes. This includes $843,000 representing Paramount's direct and indirect net interest as a stockholder in the combined undistributed earnings for the quarter of partially owned non-consolidated subsidiaries. Earnings for the quarter ended April 3, 1943 were estimated at $3,560,000 including a $701,000 share of undistributed earnings of partially owned non-consolidated subsidiaries.

The $3,814,000 of estimated combined consolidated and share of undistributed earnings for the first 1944 quarter represent $1.02 per share on the 3,752,136 shares of common stock outstanding on April 1, which compares with 95 cents per share for the quarter ended April 3, 1943.

## *Expect Postponement Of Schine Trial*

BUFFALO, May 18.—A postponement of the start of trial of the Government's anti-trust suit against the Schine Circuit, now scheduled for tomorrow, is anticipated in Federal court circles here.

A pre-trial conference will be held today in Judge John Knight's chambers and may be resumed next week.

(Continued on page 8)

## Theatres May Post State Tax Fractions Under New Rulings

WASHINGTON, May 18.—The Internal Revenue Bureau tonight instructed collectors throughout the country to permit exhibitors to show their established price of admission in fractions of a cent, where a fractional state tax is passed on to the public, but ruled that a fractional price could not be posted for purposes of the federal admission tax.

Officials explained that if, for instance, a state tax of one-half cent is levied, an exhibitor may post an admission price of 22½ cents, show the state tax separately, and collect Federal tax of four instead of five cents. On the other hand, if the state tax is in the form of a percentage, say 45/100 of one per cent, the exhibitor would gain no benefit by posting an admission of 22 55/100 cents, since the "major fraction" provision of the tax law would still call for a tax of five cents.

An exhibitor also is precluded from posting a price of 22½ cents for the purpose of cutting the Federal tax from five to four cents, since he could not collect the odd half-cent from the

(Continued on page 8)

## *Still a Chance to Obtain 'Locally Needed' Status*

Wednesday's new War Manpower Commission ruling on the types of industries and activities qualified for "locally needed" status, which did not include the film business, does not necessarily preclude the possibility of film exchanges in cities classified as "critical" or "imminently critical" labor shortage areas from securing the "locally needed" rating, according to Leon Bamberger, assistant to Ned E. Depinet, chairman of the distributors' division of the War Activities Committee. Bamberger has been directing the filing of applications for "locally needed" by key-city distribution heads of WAC.

It was pointed out that the new WMC regulations, which provide that only 15 trades or services are to be designated "locally needed" will actually have the effect of tightening up the procedure which the film industry will have to follow in the future, but will not close the door to eventual designation.

Under the new set-up, it was said, final approval of a "locally needed" designation for any exchange center will have to come from WMC headquarters in Washington rather than from the WMC regional director in the area where the designation is sought. Henceforth, if a local WMC head recommends a "locally needed" designa-

(Continued on page 8)

## *WPB Approves New House for FWC*

**Washington, May 18. — Fox West Coast Theatres has secured WPB approval for and is going ahead with construction of a new house at Point Loma, Cal., according to reports received here today.**

**The house is one of six for which Fox had filed applications, two of them being in the San Francisco area — and not eight as previously reported—and three in the Los Angeles district.**

**The only other new house approved for an affiliated circuit by WPB is a Paramount theatre at Phoenix, Ariz., also reported to have been started, and out of a total of 60 applications, including 22 for replacement of fire losses, only five have been for major company affiliates.**

## New WE Equipment For Theatres Set

Completion of designs for new theatre sound reproducing systems which embody technical advances evolved during the war, were announced yesterday by E. S. Gregg, vice-president of Western Electric Export Corp. The new equipment will become available to exhibitors in foreign countries when materials and labor are released by the Government, he said.

"Exhibitors will not have to depend on hastily manufactured pre-war models or reconditioned equipment after the war," he declared.

Gregg reported the discovery of a method eliminating flutter which "enables designers to simplify the equipment, to side step intricate anti-flutter gadgets formerly employed and to avoid many precision gears, shafts, bearings and difficult alignment operations required by pre-war systems," he added.

According to Gregg, the new systems will be adaptable to any new developments which may be introduced after the war, such as automatic volume control track, multi-track or stereophonic sound.

## Set 3 NSS Meets For September

National Screen Service will hold three regional meetings in the Fall, it was disclosed yesterday by George Dembow, vice-president in charge of sales, who returned recently from Los Angeles where he attended the last of the company's three regional Spring meetings. The three sessions will be held in New York, Sept. 10; Chicago, Sept. 15, and in Los Angeles, Sept. 21.

Dembow revealed that it will be necessary for the company to increase its prices because of increased costs resulting from wartime labor and materials. Dembow said 500 additional employes, mainly women, are required now to handle work formerly done by a lesser number of men. National Screen Service has maintained rates that were in force in 1938, Dembow said. The company is now installing new equipment, obtained under a priority, in its Hollywood studios, he added.

The "George Dembow Tribute" drive, which will be held June 5 through Dec. 31, will make a special effort to increase the accounts serviced by the company.

### *Joseph Returns Today*

John Joseph will return today to Universal Studios after two weeks of home office conferences. Yesterday, Joseph conducted a luncheon meeting at the Astor Hotel with the home office and field publicity staff, in connection with the new Deanna Durbin-Gene Kelly production, "Christmas Holiday," by Somerset Maugham.

### *RCA's Maag in Mexico*

MEXICO CITY, May 18.—Harold R. Maag has assumed duties as manager of the Mexican branch of RCA here.

# *Personal Mention*

JOHN JOSEPH, Universal advertising-publicity director, will leave for Washington today and will return to the Coast from there.

•

J. E. FLYNN, M-G-M Western sales manager, and W. G. BISHOP, Western publicity director, have returned to their Chicago headquarters after a tour of the Midwest and West exchanges.

•

JOHN A. SCHWALM, manager of the Northio Rialto, Hamilton, O., has been reelected chairman of the Butler County Democratic executive committee for the fourth time.

•

W. E. BANFORD, M-G-M Chicago branch manager, will return to that city from a vacation June 1.

•

NICK BICKOS, theatre operator in Gary, Ind, is recovering from an appendectomy.

•

LOUIS COCHOVETY, Mishawaka and South Bend, Ind., exhibitor, has returned from a vacation in Florida.

•

JOE FIELDMAN, M-G-M Chicago salesman, has returned from a vacation.

•

HARRY H. THOMAS, Monogram Eastern division manager, left yesterday for a 10-day trip to the Midwest.

CHARLES FRANCIS COE of the MPPDA returned yesterday from a speaking tour of the South and Midwest. ARTHUR DE BRA, who accompanied him, will return Monday.

•

ROBERT H. POOLE, executive secretary of the Pacific Coast Conference of Independent Theatre Owners, and W. HUGH BRUEN, treasurer, are due here Monday from Los Angeles.

•

MARK LARKIN, on loan to the War Activities Committee from MPPDA, has returned from a three-week trip in connection with WAC gift of industry films to the Armed Services.

•

THOMAS CRONIN of the Comerford Circuit, became the father of a baby daughter born to MRS. CRONIN at the Woman's Hospital, Scranton, Pa.

•

A. J. O'KEEFE, Universal Western sales manager, left yesterday on a tour of exchanges

•

MARTIN STARR, United Artists radio director, left yesterday for Chicago.

•

E. B. RADCLIFFE, theatre editor of the Cincinnati *Enquirer*, is in New York.

•

ABEL DAVIS, Denver exhibitor, is a New York visitor.

## *File For Exemption From 48-Hour Week*

Distributors have filed for exemption for their Cincinnati exchanges from the 48-hour work week ordered by the Regional War Manpower Commission for that area, which becomes effective on June 1.

Film companies have secured exemptions from WMC 48-hour work week rulings in 14 exchange centers and have applications for exemptions pending in Milwaukee and Seattle. Under WMC regulations, film exchanges in Cincinnati can continue to operate under their present work week schedule until a ruling is made on their applications.

## *MPA Marks 25 Years At Astor Tonight*

Motion Picture Associates, industry New York charity organization, will mark its 25th anniversary tonight at 8:30 at the Hotel Astor with a dinner-dance. Proceeds will go to aid the industry's needy.

The ticket committee is headed by Jack Ellis. Morris Sanders is MPA president.

### *Stars in 'American' Day*

CHICAGO, May 18.—Joan Fontaine and Danny Kaye, film stars, will participate in Chicago's observance of "I Am an American" day here Sunday. Bernard M. Kamber, director of special events for United Artists, is due here from New York on Saturday to arrange Miss Fontaine's schedule.

## *Complete Denial Filed In 20th-Jones Suit*

LOS ANGELES, May 18.—Frank B Belcher, counsel for Jennifer Jones, in Superior Court here today, filed a complete denial of the breach of contract charge brought against the actress by 20th Century-Fox, which seeks over $600,000 damages on the claim that Miss Jones failed to report for work in the company's production of "Laura."

The answer denies that she "ever had any contract with 20th-Fox" and alleges her "only contract was with David O. Selznick" and that she "had never been directed by him to report to 20th-Fox for 'Laura' or any other 20th-Fox picture with the exception of 'The Song of Bernadette' in which she appeared, winning the Academy acting award for 1943."

## *Wants Jackson Park Damages Paid Now*

CHICAGO, May 18.—Immediate payment of $360,000 damages awarded by the jury which found Balaban & Katz, Warner Brothers Theatres and leading distributors guilty in the Jackson Park Theater anti-trust suit, will be demanded in Federal Judge Michael Igoe's court here tomorrow afternoon by Thomas C. McConnell, plaintiff's counsel, in opposing defense lawyers' arguments for a new trial.

### *David Carter Resigns*

David Carter has resigned from the Universal home office radio department, effective today.

### *Tip from New Guinea On GI Film Taste*

**From the mud and jungles of New Guinea, where soldiers see pictures as well as fight, comes a tip on film preference from Corp. Berel Finestone, young nephew of Al Firestone of Paramount.**

**"Stop sending gooey love films overseas," he writes. "We don't want them. The most appreciated subjects are Mickey Mouse, Donald Duck (when we get them), Army Screen Magazine, good war films, and funny, not ludicrous, comedies.**


## NEW YORK THEATRES

RADIO CITY MUSIC HALL
Showplace of the Nation Rockefeller Center
A Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer's Picture
"THE WHITE CLIFFS OF DOVER"
Starring IRENE DUNNE
with ALAN MARSHAL
A Clarence Brown Production
SPECTACULAR STAGE PRESENTATION
First Mezzanine Seats Reserved. Circle 6-4600

LOEW'S STATE B'WAY & 45
ON SCREEN 'LADY IN THE DARK' In Technicolor! GINGER ROGERS RAY MILLAND
IN PERSON Jack PEPPER Peggy FEARS BLOCK & SULLY

RKO PALACE B'WAY & 47th St.
"SHOW BUSINESS"
Eddie Cantor — George Murphy
Joan Davis — Nancy Kelly

PARAMOUNT'S
"GOING MY WAY"
with BING CROSBY
In Person
CHARLIE SPIVAK and His Orch.
PARAMOUNT Times Square

The Inside Story of the World's Worst Gangsters
PARAMOUNT'S
"The Hitler Gang"
BRANDT'S B'way & 46 St. GLOBE

Betty GRABLE • Charlie SPIVAK & Orch.
'PIN-UP GIRL'
IN TECHNICOLOR
Plus on Stage—Connee Boswell
Raymond Scott & Orch. • Willie Howard
BUY MORE BONDS ROXY 7th Ave. & 50th St.


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Spring is your spell everywhere
Especially at M-G-M
Springtime from M-G-M
The new Group from that Gay Fellow

# It's a MERRY M-G-M SPRING

## M-G-M's ANDY HARDY'S BLONDE TROUBLE



## M-G-M's TWO GIRLS AND A SAILOR




Springtime 5 from M-G-M

"TWO GIRLS AND A SAILOR" with Van Johnson, June Allyson, Gloria DeHaven, Jose Iturbi, Jimmy Durante, Gracie Allen, Lena Horne • Harry James and His Music Makers with Helen Forrest • Xavier Cugat and His Orchestra with Lina Romay • Tom Drake, Henry Stephenson, Henry O'Neill, Ben Blue, Carlos Ramirez, Frank Sully, Albert Coates, Donald Meek, Amparo Novarro, Virginia O'Brien, Wilde Twins • Original Screen Play by Richard Connell and Gladys Lehman • Directed by Richard Thorpe Produced by Joe Pasternak

"ANDY HARDY'S BLONDE TROUBLE" with Lewis Stone, Mickey Rooney, Fay Holden, Sara Haden, Bonita Granville, Jean Porter, Keye Luke and Herbert Marshall • Screen Play by Harry Ruskin, William Ludwig and Agnes Christine Johnson Directed by George B. Seitz

Honestly! We've had
Great groups before,
But "Springtime Five"
Is the last word!
Fun with the Hardy Family—
Super-deluxe "Gaslight"—
The best Gillespie yet—
Musical topnotchers like
"Two Girls And A Sailor"
And "Meet The People"—
A merry package
Of money entertainment!















Charles Boyer, Ingrid Bergman, Joseph Cotten in "GASLIGHT" with Dame May Whitty, Angela Lansbury, Barbara Everest • Screen Play by John Van Druten, Walter Reisch and John L. Balderston • Based Upon the Play by Patrick Hamilton Directed by George Cukor • Produced by Arthur Hornblow, Jr.

"MEET THE PEOPLE" Starring Lucille Ball, Dick Powell with Virginia O'Brien, Bert Lahr, "Rags" Ragland, June Allyson and Vaughn Monroe and His Orchestra • Spike Jones and His City Slickers • Screen Play by S. M. Herzig and Fred Saidy • Directed by Charles Riesner • Produced by E. Y. Harburg

"THREE MEN IN WHITE" with Lionel Barrymore, Van Johnson, Marilyn Maxwell, Keye Luke, Ava Gardner, Alma Kruger, "Rags" Ragland • Original Screen Play by Martin Berkeley and Harry Ruskin Directed by Willis Goldbeck


M-G-M
MEET THE PEOPLE
2 GIRLS AND A SAILOR
GAS-LIGHT
3 MEN IN WHITE
ANDY HARDY'S BLONDE TROUBLE
FIGHTING SHOWME
JOIN THE FIGHTIN
5th WAR LOAN!
Watch the Grosses grow

# Missouri Governor At 3-State Meet

ST. LOUIS, May 18.—A tri-state regional meeting of the "Fighting Fifth" War Loan drive, comprising exhibitor and distributor representatives from Kansas, Missouri and Southern Illinois, heard Governor Forrest C. Donnell of Missouri commend the industry here today for "the miraculous job" it has done in War Loan drives and the entire war effort.

The meeting, held in the Chase Hotel and attended by more than 250, was presided over by Harry Arthur, Jr., exhibitor chairman for Eastern Missouri.

Governor Donnell said he remembered the outstanding service rendered the Government by the industry during World War I and that it was giving the same, if not a better account of itself in the present war.

R. J. O'Donnell, national industry chairman, stressed the importance of even greater exhibitor-distributor activity than in the Fourth War Loan drive. Arthur pledged to O'Donnell that the tri-state industry would comply with his request.

Ned E. Depinet, national distributor chairman, who rejoined the national committee in St. Louis, paid tribute to the gathering for patriotism.

National committee representatives who spoke, in addition to O'Donnell and Depinet, were vice-chairman R. M. Kennedy, campaign director John J. Friedl, publicity director Ray Beall, and Claude Lee, consultant to the Treasury. Major Allen V. Martini appealed to the audience to "back up the boys at the front."

## SLRB Hears '306' On Century Plea

The State Labor Relations Board heard further arguments here yesterday on the petition of IATSE New York projectionists' local No. 306 to be designated collective bargaining agent for 100 projectionists in the 35 theatres of Century Circuit in Brooklyn and Queens. A further hearing has been set for June 8.

Century Circuit contends that the SLRB has no right to certify Local 306 since the circuit has a contract with Empire State Projectionists Union. Empire has merged with Local 306 but Century was recently upheld in an action to prevent the dissolution of Empire for the duration of its contract, which has seven years to run.

## Salvage Drive Gets 25 Tons of Tickets

**Nearly 25 tons of unused theatre tickets made obsolete by the new Federal amusement tax will be contributed in the waste paper salvage drive by New York exhibitors, following the Treasury Department's waiving its rule for burning the pasteboards, F. J. Schwartz of the Century Circuit, co-chairman of the War Activities Committee, said yesterday. The tickets will be fed into a New Jersey pulp mill under the supervision of a Treasury agent.**

# Coast Flashes

*Hollywood, May 18*

HAL WALLIS is due here from New York next week, and an announcement of his new affiliation is expected then.

•

Studio office employes of 20th-Fox voted today on affiliation with the Screen Office Employes Guild in a National Labor Relations Board bargaining agency election. Some 500 employes are affected.

•

Harry Simeone, formerly chief arranger for Fred Waring's orchestra, has been signed by Paramount as vocal arranger, composer and orchestrator, starting June 1.

•

Pine and Thomas will produce "Hill Billy Symphony," starring Roy Acuff and the Smoky Mountain Boys, according to a Paramount announcement.

•

Lou Schreiber, executive aide to Darryl F. Zanuck, left here today for New York to examine possible properties. He will remain two weeks.

•

Nicholas M. Schenck, accompanied by Mrs. Schenck, will leave for New York on the Superchief tomorrow.

## Indianapolis Grosses Wilting in Heat

INDIANAPOLIS, May 18. — Business here this week is in a slump, due to warm weather. Top gross is being taken at Loew's where "Voice in the Wind" and "Up in Mabel's Room" will do $11,000 against an $11,500 average.

Estimated receipts for the week ending May 16-18:

**"Action in Arabia" (RKO)**
**"Around the World" (RKO)**
CIRCLE—(2,800) (32c-55c) 7 days. Gross: $9,000. (Average: $11,800).
**"Four Jills in a Jeep" (20th-Fox)**
**"Tampico" (20th-Fox)**
INDIANA—(3,200) (32c-55c) 7 days. Gross: $10,500. (Average: $11,600).
**"Voice in the Wind" (UA)**
**"Up in Mabel's Room" (UA)**
LOEW'S—(2,800) (32c-55c) 7 days. Gross: $11,000. (Average: $11,500).
**"Spider Woman" (Univ.)**
**"Calling Dr. Death" (Univ.)**
LYRIC—(2,000) (32c-55c) 7 days. Gross: $7,000. (Average: $4,900).

## 'Man From Frisco' in Tri-City Premiere

Republic's "Man from Frisco" had its world premiere last night simultaneously at the Paramount, San Francisco; the Fox and Costa, Richmond, and the Paramount, Oakland, Cal., and will open today at the Paramount Hollywood and Downtown Theatres in Hollywood and Los Angeles, respectively, the home office reported here yesterday.

Cooperation of the shipbuilding industry and the Maritime Commission was a highlight of the promotion in connection with the openings last night.

## Todd Signs Hargrave

Roy Hargrave, director of the plays "Pick Up Girl" and Mae West's "Catherine Was Great," has been signed to a three-picture deal by the new Michael Todd Productions, Inc.

# Big Gross Increase For Mexican Films, Says Phil Reisman

"Mexican pictures are rolling up unbelievable grosses," Phil Reisman, RKO-Radio vice-president in charge of foreign distribution, who recently returned from Mexico and Cuba, declared in an interview yesterday at RKO's home office. But, although Mexican films have enlarged their audiences, he said, it has not been at the expense of American product. Playdates for Mexican films are up several hundred per cent, while those of American films have remained almost stationary.

Reisman observed that this expansion would eventually help American distributors, as some part of this new audience would in turn eventually become fans of American films, too. Last year Mexican production consisted of from 50 to 56 features, which all did good business. Producers employed all-native talent except for some who previously worked in England and France. Mexican films have also found a market throughout Latin-America, he said, and a few have been sent to Spain.

### Construction Boom

There is considerable theatre construction going on in Mexico, the RKO foreign head revealed. Warners has started a first-run in Mexico City. RKO, in affiliation with Mexican interests, is constructing a service and rental studio in that city for the native industry. RKO will not produce there, however.

"Stiff competition from other countries after the war," he said, "will compel American companies to pay more attention to foreign markets." Regarding plans for exhibition to liberated countries, Reisman revealed that RKO has pictures already dubbed in French for that country. Others have been prepared with super-imposed titles for Germany and other countries like Switzerland, where German is spoken. "The pictures preparing now will be shown by the Office of War Information as morale-builders. Other films which RKO is preparing in Danish, Flemish and Dutch will move in right behind the Army.

## $465,303 to Red Cross

Fred Schwartz, Century Circuit executive, on Tuesday will turn over a check for $465,303 to the American Red Cross, in ceremonies at the latter's New York headquarters. The sum represents theatre collections in the New York area during the last Red Cross drive.

# 'Business' Hits Fine $63,200 At 4 in L. A.

LOS ANGELES, May 18. — "Show Business" took command of show business here to get $63,200 in four Fox West Coast first-runs that average $59,300 collectively. "It Happened Tomorrow" was similarly strong in three FWC first-runs, getting an aggregate $39,700 where $33,100 is par. "Uncertain Glory," reviewed to its disadvantage by newspapers, dipped below average in the three Warner first-runs, getting $49,256 against a $50,900 average.

Estimated receipts for the week ending May 17:

**"Show Business" (RKO)**
**"The Falcon Out West" (RKO)**
CARTHAY CIRCLE—(1,516) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 7 days. Gross: $9,400. (Average: $11,200).
**"Show Business" (RKO)**
**"The Falcon Out West" (RKO)**
CHINESE — (2,500) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 7 days. Gross: $14,000. (Average: $13,500).
**"It Happened Tomorrow" (UA)**
**"Weird Woman" (Univ.)**
EGYPTIAN—(1,500) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 7 days. Gross: $10,000. (Average: $9,500).
**"Action in Arabia" (RKO)**
**"The Curse of the Cat People" (RKO)**
HAWAII—(1,000) (50c-60c-75c-80c) 7 days, 3rd week. Gross: $4,000. (Average: $6,200).
**"Follow the Boys" (Univ.)**
**"The Scarlet Claw" (Univ.)**
HILLSTREET — (2,700) (50c-60c-80c) 7 days. Gross: $20,000. (Average: $19,700).
**"Show Business" (RKO)**
**"The Falcon Out West" (RKO)**
LOEW'S STATE — (2,500) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 7 days. Gross: $29,800. (Average: $24,100).
**"It Happened Tomorrow" (UA)**
**"Weird Woman" (Univ.)**
LOS ANGELES—(2,096) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 7 days. Gross: $20,000. (Average: $14,900).
**"Follow the Boys" (Univ.)**
**"The Scarlet Claw" (Univ.)**
PANTAGES—(2,000) (50c-60c-80c-$1.00) 7 days. Gross: $19,000. (Average: $17,700).
**"Standing Room Only" (Para.)**
PARAMOUNT HOLLYWOOD—(50c-60c-80c-$1.00) 7 days, 3rd week. Gross: $8,500. Average: $11,000).
**"Standing Room Only" (Para.)**
**"You Can't Ration Love" (Para.)**
PARAMOUNT DOWNTOWN (50c-60c-80c $1.00) 8 days, 3rd week. Gross: $16,000. (Average: $20,300).
**"It Happened Tomorrow" (UA)**
**"Weird Woman" (Univ.)**
RITZ—(1,376) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 7 days. Gross: $9,600. (Average: $8,700).
**"Show Business" (RKO)**
**"The Falcon Out West" (RKO)**
UPTOWN—(1,716) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 7 Gross: $10,000. (Average: $10,500).
**"Uncertain Glory" (WB)**
WARNERS' HOLLYWOOD—(3,000) (50c-60c-80c-$1.00) 7 days. Gross: $16,246. Average: $17,000).
**"Uncertain Glory" (WB)**
WARNERS' DOWNTOWN — (3,400) (50c-60c-80c-$1.00) Gross: $17,797. (Average: $18,700) 7 days.
**"Uncertain Glory" (WB)**
WARNERS' WILTERN—(2,200) (50c-60c-80c-$1.00) 7 days. Gross: $15,213. (Average: $15,200).

RKO RADIO PICTURES, INC.
SAN FRANCISCO TRADE SHOWING
OF
"GILDERSLEEVE'S GHOST"
TUESDAY, MAY 23 . . . . 10.30 A.M.
RKO Projection Room, 251 Hyde St. San Francisco

# Public Resists Roadshow Price Boosts

(Continued from page 1)

towns of the Midwest and throughout Michigan, Wisconsin, Iowa, Nebraska, Kansas, Missouri, Indiana and Ohio, receipts for the first quarter of this year are about 15 per cent below last year. A director of one of the large circuits of that section said the public "is not as susceptible to the drums of publicity as on Broadway and Chicago's Loop."

A depressive movement is not indicated, generally, but observant showmen see once again a process of adjustment. In industrial cities of New England, in the farming and manufacturing centers of the Midwest and even on the booming Pacific Coast, exhibitors report the opinion that the customers have declared a price ceiling.

**N. Y., Chicago Hold Up**

The areas holding up to par are the Metropolitan New York area, Chicago and Milwaukee. In the latter city, grosses sagged during the last three weeks for the first time this year, but the blame is not placed on higher admissions. In Chicago the neighborhood patrons are again protesting a current double feature policy of combining a "B" picture with a reissue, saying they want their entertainment to be of the best and to consume only two hours, many of them being war workers—long on cash and short on time.

One Eastern official, commenting on the roadshow policy, said, "Advanced prices cut your number of patrons pretty close to half of average, and even if you equal your average gross, your net may still be lower, and, worse yet, you lose friends," the *Herald* will say.

## *Expect Postponement Of Schine Trial*

(Continued from page 1)

The Department of Justice will move to have Columbia, United Artists and Universal dismissed from the suit in line with stipulations entered into in New York recently with the three. It was reported that Schine counsel will oppose the motion for dismissal of the three companies. In this connection, Louis D. Frohlich, New York counsel for Columbia, is expected here tomorrow to attend the hearing. In addition, the conference will endeavor to canvass numerous possibilities of shortening the trial of the suit.

While a postponement of the trial for at least several weeks is expected here, Federal attorneys insist that they are ready for trial and will oppose any move for delay. Some court observers believe the case may go over for several months.

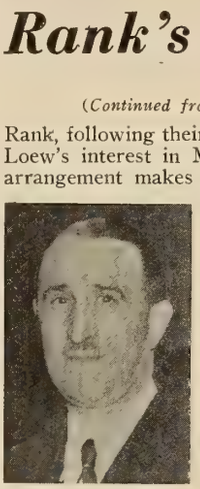
## *'Snow White' in Canada*

Antoinette Spitzer, Eastern publicity director for Walt Disney, left New York recently for a two-week trip to Canada in connection with RKO's re-release of "Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs" in 16 cities of the Dominion.

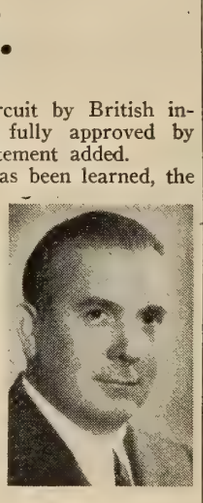
# *20th Will Handle All of Rank's Films in U.S.*

(Continued from page 1)

Rank, following their joint purchase of Loew's interest in M. & B. The rearrangement makes no change in the Gaumont-British control but enables Rank's General Cinema Finance Corp. to exercise the voting rights directly instead of through nominees. Skouras and his executive assistant, Larry Kent, will join the G-B board of directors, with Kent serving full time in this country as a member of the Gaumont-British Theatre Operations and Postwar Planning Committee. Rank will soon ask the G-B shareholders to remove from their articles of association the provision restricting the voting on ordinary shares to British holders, which would give 20th-Fox voting rights it has not had heretofore, but would not disturb British control of the company. Continued control of the circuit by British interests has been fully approved by 20th-Fox, the statement added.



J. Arthur Rank



Spyros Skouras

Meanwhile, it has been learned, the proposed merger of the Gaumont-British and Odeon Theatres has been abandoned because of physical difficulties that would be encountered in attempting to operate them jointly.

The statement announced that the purpose of the agreement was closer cooperation between the American and British interests and ended by declaring that Rank and Skouras are "fully satisfied that such mutual confidence has been created that our organizations can work together for the growth and increasing prosperity of the enterprises in which both are interested—and thus provide practical evidence of what can be achieved by Anglo-American cooperation."

## *'Standing Room Only' $12,500 in 2nd Week*

KANSAS CITY, May 18.—The Tower, with "The Lady and the Monster," plus "The Monster Maker," got $9,500 here, while "Standing Room Only" continued to jam the Newman with a fine second week's score of $12,500.

Estimated receipts for the week ending May 17-20:

**"Cobra Woman" (Univ.)**
ESQUIRE—(800) (45c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $6,500. (Average: $6,000).
**"Andy Hardy's Blonde Trouble" (M-G-M)**
**"Knickerbocker Holiday" (UA)**
MIDLAND—(3,500) (40c-60c) 7 days. Gross: $15,000. (Average: $14,000).
**"Standing Room Only" (Para.)**
NEWMAN—(1,900) (46c-65c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $12,500. (Average: $10,000).
**"Tarzan's Desert Mystery" (RKO)**
**"You Can't Ration Love" (Para.)**
ORPHEUM—(1,900) (45c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $12,500. (Average: $10,000).
**"The Lady and the Monster" (Rep.)**
**"The Monster Maker" (PRC)**
TOWER—(1,200) (45c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $9,500. (Average: $9,400).
**"Cobra Woman" (Univ.)**
UPTOWN—(2,000) (45c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $4,500. (Average: $5,600).
**"Cobra Woman" (Univ.)**
FAIRWAY—(700) (45c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $1,000. (Average: $1,600).

## *Stars At AGVA Benefit*

Screen, radio and stage stars will participate in the American Guild of Variety Artists' benefit show to be held Sunday evening at Shubert's 46th St. Theatre here. Milton Berle will be master of ceremonies. Proceeds will go to AGVA's fund for members in service.

## *Prinzmetal Resigns*

HOLLYWOOD, May 18.—I. H. Prinzmetal has resigned from the M-G-M legal department, with which he has been associated for the past 10 years, and will enter private practice June 1.

## *'Cover Girl', 'Arms' Both Take $19,000*

ST. LOUIS, May 18.—St. Louis is enjoying its first warm weather after a cool, rainy Spring. "Cover Girl" at the Ambassador, and "Up in Arms" at the Fox are this week's leaders, both with an estimated $19,000.

Estimated receipts for the week ending May 17:

**"Andy Hardy's Blonde Trouble" (M-G-M)**
**"Knickerbocker Holiday" (UA)**
LOEW'S STATE—(3,162) (40c-50c-60c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $14,500. (Average: $18,900).
**"Cover Girl" (Col.)**
**"Pardon My Rhythm" (Univ.)**
AMBASSADOR—(3,154) (40c-50c-60c) 7 days. Gross: $19,000. (Average: $15,700).
**"Up in Arms" (RKO-Goldwyn)**
**"Moon Over Las Vegas" (Univ.)**
FOX—(5,038) (40c-50c-60c) 7 days. Gross: $19,000. (Average: $18,700).
**"Tampico" (20th-Fox)**
**"The Racket Man" (Col.)**
MISSOURI—(3,514) (40c-50c-60c) 7 days. Gross: $11,000. (Average: $9,900).
**"See Here, Private Hargrove" (M-G-M)**
LOEW'S ORPHEUM—(1,900) (40c-50c-60c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $6,500. (Average: $7,100).
**"Shine On, Harvest Moon" (WB)**
**"The Whistler" (Col.)**
SHUBERT—(1,900) (40c-50c-60c) 7 days. Gross: $5,000. (Average: $6,100).
**"The Desert Song" (WB)**
ST. LOUIS—(4,000) (45c-60c) 7 days. Gross: $5,000. (Average: $5,200).

## *See Chance Still for 'Locally Needed'*

(Continued from page 1)

tion it will be forwarded to the Regional director for approval as heretofore but under the new rulings, it will also have to be approved by Washington headquarters before it will be granted.

It is expected that the "locally needed" designations already granted to film distribution in Philadelphia and Pittsburgh will be reviewed shortly. Applications for "locally needed" are pending in 20 other distribution centers.

# 'Cover Girl' Is Chi. Leader With $32,000

CHICAGO, May 18.—"Cover Girl" led the single-feature parade here this week, grossing top Loop receipts of $32,000 at the State-Lake Theatre. Business dipped at a majority of houses as the mercury ascended.

Estimated receipts for the week ending May 19:

**"Lady in the Dark" (Para.)**
APOLLO—(1,200) (55c-65c-95c) 7 days, 6th week. Gross: $12,000. (Average: $11,400).
**"It Happened Tomorrow" (UA)**
CHICAGO—(3,850) (55c-65c-95c) 7 days. Stage: Vaughn Monroe and Orchestra. Gross: $40,000. (Average: $51,500).
**"Women in Bondage" (Mono.)**
**"The Chinese Cat" (Mono.)**
GARRICK—(1,000) (55c-65c-95c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $8,000. (Average: $9,100).
**"Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs" (RKO)**
**"The Falcon Out West" (RKO)**
GRAND—(1,250) (50c-60c-85c-95c) 7 days, 4th loop week. Gross: $10,000. (Average: $9,100).
**"Hey, Rookie" (Col.)**
ORIENTAL — (3,200) (44c-55c-60c-80c-95c) 7 days. Stage: Woody Herman and orchestra. Gross: $25,00. (Average: $24,000).
**"Ladies Courageous" (Univ.)**
**"Pardon My Rhythm" (Univ.)**
PALACE—(2,500) (50c-60c-85c-95c) 7 days. Gross: $18,000. (Average: $24,000).
**"In Our Time" (WB) 4 days, 2nd week.**
**"Buffalo Bill" (20th-Fox) 3 days.**
ROOSEVELT—(1,500) (55c-65c-95c) 7 days. Gross: $24,500. (Average: $24,000).
**"Cover Girl" (Col.)**
STATE-LAKE — (2,700) (55c-65c-95c) 7 days. Gross: $32,000. (Average: $29,000).
**"Broadway Rhythm" (M-G-M)**
UNITED ARTISTS—(1,700) (50c-65c-95c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $25,500. (Average: $20,200).
**"Up In Arms" (RKO)**
WOODS—(1,200) (55c-65c-95c) 7 days, 4th week. Gross: $14,000. (Average: $10,000).

## *Theatres May Post State Tax Fractions*

(Continued from page 1)

patron, who would have to pay 23 cents. The order also bars the use of fractional cent prices for two or more tickets by providing that the tax shall apply to the price of a single ticket.

The question of relief for exhibitors paying state taxes has been before the bureau ever since the last tax bill went into effect.

## *Censors Object to Nine*

COLUMBUS, O., May 18.—Eliminations were ordered in nine out of 123 films reviewed by Ohio censors in April, with one picture rejected.

## *20th-Fox Declares Three Dividends*

**The board of 20th Century-Fox yesterday declared a quarterly dividend of $1.12½ per share on prior-preferred stock, payable June 15 to stockholders of record on June 1. A dividend of 37½ cents per share for the second quarter on the convertible preferred stock was also declared, payable June 30 to stockholders of record on June 15.**

**Also, a quarterly dividend of 50 cents per share on common stock was declared, payable June 30 to stockholders of record on June 15.**

First in Film and Radio News Brief, Accurate and Impartial

# MOTION PICTURE DAILY

Alert, Intelligent and Indispensable to the Motion Picture Industry

VOL. 55. NO. 100 NEW YORK, U. S. A., MONDAY, MAY 22, 1944 TEN CENTS

## FP-C to Use Television In Its Houses

### *Fitzgibbons Says Spot News Is Chief Asset*

TORONTO, May 21.—Theatres operated by Famous Players-Canadian Corp. will add television to their regular motion picture programs when it becomes available, president J. J. Fitzgibbons promises in a round-up report on the activities of the company.



J J. Fitzgibbons

"The speed television may have in delivering news events will be its greatest asset to theatres," he said, adding that films, however, "with their sound and color photog-

(*Continued on page 8*)

## Further Fuel Cuts Seen Necessary

WASHINGTON, May 21.—An intensified drive to secure voluntary reduction of electricity consumption by theatres and by other industries is planned for next Fall, it was disclosed here by Ed Falck, director of the War Production Board's Office of War Utilities.

Falck emphasized the need for conservation of Electricity in an appearance before the House Interstate Commerce subcommittee to oppose the Cannon bill to restore Standard Time. He told the subcommittee that the coal situation next year will be more critical than ever and that there will be

(*Continued on page 8*)

### *Vanguard Appeal in Chaplin Suit Won*

The Appellate Division on Friday granted Vanguard Films leave to appeal to the Court of Appeals at Albany from its recent decision finding the David O. Selznick company to be a New York enterprise and subject to service for trial in state courts on the action brought by Charles Chaplin for recovery of production assets sold to 20th Century-Fox.

The Vanguard appeal introduces a

(*Continued on page 8*)

## Defers Schine Trial To May 31 Over Counsel's Objection

BUFFALO, May 21.—Actual taking of testimony in the Schine trial has been delayed by Federal Judge John Knight until Wednesday, May 31, but pre-trial proceedings which began at the weekend will continue up until that time.

This was ordered by the court over the objection of Seth Richardson of Washington, new Schine counsel, who sought a postponement until Fall. Richardson, replacing Judge Goodwin, who is physically unable to continue as counsel, gained considerable prominence recently because of his work in the anti-trust actions involv-

(*Continued on page 8*)

## *Films Warned U.S. of War*

CHICAGO, May 21.—"The men and women of the motion picture industry are the Paul Reveres of America, arousing the public to the threat of aggression long before most of us realized what was happening," Mayor Edward J. Kelly of Chicago declared Friday, in an address at the all-industry regional Fifth War Loan meeting at the Blackstone Hotel here.

"I came to this meeting especially to thank the industry for what it has

(*Continued on page 8*)

### *Pension Plan Still Studied by 20th*

**Twentieth Century-Fox still is considering a pension plan for employes; it is being studied by company attorneys, working in association with insurance companies. No decision has been made as to whether the plan will apply to actors and production executives.**

**RKO has a pension plan awaiting approval by the Internal Revenue Bureau, a Loew-M-G-M plan will shortly be submitted to company stockholders; Warner Bros. also is contemplating a pension.**

## No Prosecution for OCR Construction

WASHINGTON, May 21.—While the Department of Justice will not give circuits advance formal clearance on houses deemed necessary in war areas under the Office of Civilian Requirements program, a consent decree distributor will not be prosecuted for such construction unless, to do so, he "froze out" an independent applicant for the same location, it was indicated here.

The OCR is transmitting reports on applications submitted by the WPB, explaining the necessity for the new theatre and telling whether the approved application was the only one received.

## *$10,000,000 Net Profit to Army Relief from 'Army'*

WASHINGTON, May 21.—In one of the speediest first-run play-offs, as well as one of the biggest grossers within a space of nine months, Irving Berlin's "This Is the Army" already has netted approximately $9,000,000 to Army Emergency Relief, and at least another $1,000,000 is expected to be realized for the organization from the forthcoming re-release of the Warner picture, it was learned here.

When the production made its bow last August, estimates of its possible profits, all to be turned over to Army Relief, started at $5,000,000. Jack L. Warner, executive producer, raised the estimate to $10,000,000. Principal factor behind the quick and large gross was the series of advanced price premieres, as well as the promotions stemming from these performances, of which there were more than 5,000.

### *Soviet Is Buying Hollywood Films*

**Forty feature Hollywood films from eight companies have been shipped to Moscow in the past few months to be screened with a view to purchasing those which the Soviet authorities deem suitable for home consumption.**

**Among the 40 purchased to date are: M-G-M's "Edison, the Man"; Warners' "Mission to Moscow"; 20th-Fox's "Sun Valley Serenade"; RKO-Goldwyn's "The Little Foxes" and "North Star"; RKO-Disney's "Bambi" and two shorts, and United Artists - Goldwyn's "Hurricane."**

## Washington Sees Decree Compromise

### *Distributor Meet With Clark Is Imminent*

By BERTRAM F. LINZ

WASHINGTON, May 21.—Possibility that a new consent decree still may be developed is seen by many observers here despite the stand against further concessions which the distributing companies have taken, as reported in MOTION PICTURE DAILY last Thursday. Although much local speculation surrounds rumors of a finish fight in the courts, there are those who believe this may be prevented by each side's yielding just a little more than it has been willing to do thus far.

**Some action is expected here in the next few days when Assistant Attorney General Tom C. Clark and Robert L. Wright, head of the Department of Justice film unit, meet with company representatives.**

Last week, as Clark prepared to leave for St. Louis, he declared that if

(*Continued on page 8*)

## 'U' Regionals Will Follow Coast Meet

Universal will hold a series of regional sales meetings upon completion of the meeting of key sales executives and some home office officials which will open at the Ambassador Hotel, Los Angeles, on June 5, W. A. Scully, vice-president and general sales manager, announced here at the weekend prior to his departure for Hollywood. He was accompanied by E. T. Gomersall, his assistant.

The Coast meeting is being substituted, because of wartime travel conditions, for the annual sales convention. The regional sessions will be conducted by divisional and district sales managers.

### *$3,500,000 to Loew's For M & B Shares*

Loew's will receive the equivalent of its original investment in Metropolis & Bradford Trust, Ltd., about $3,500,000, under the deal by which it disposes of its 24½ per cent interest in the Gaumont-British holding company to J. Arthur Rank and 20th Century-Fox, the *Wall Street Jour-*

(*Continued on page 8*)

# Personal Mention

SPYROS SKOURAS, 20th Century-Fox president, and FRANCIS HARLEY, British managing director, were scheduled to arrive in New York from London over the past weekend.

•

J. J. O'LEARY, president of the Comerford Circuit, has been appointed a captain in the Sustaining Fund Team of the Scranton Chamber of Commerce-Greater Scranton Foundation Fund Campaign.

•

ALFRED W. SCHWALBERG, International Pictures Eastern sales representative, and ROBERT GOLDSTEIN, New York manager, left over the weekend for the Coast.

•

L. G. BISSINGER, owner of the Queen Theatre, Dallas, recently celebrated his 31st year of operation of the theatre.

•

SOL SCHNAER of 20th-Fox's art department and MRS. SCHNAER have become the parents of a son, MITCHELL, born in the Jewish Hospital here.

•

LT. (jg) J. FRANK HEARD, formerly M-G-M Memphis exchange office manager, has been promoted to a senior lieutenant.

•

PAUL SOSKIN, British independent producer, has arrived in New York from Hollywood.

•

FRED MEYERS, Universal's Eastern sales manager, returned to New York from Boston at the weekend.

•

NICHOLAS M. SCHENCK, president of Loew's, will arrive in New York from Hollywood today.

•

BEN GOETZ, M-G-M's British studio managing director, is due in New York from the Coast today.

•

WILLIAM FADIMAN, M-G-M story editor, will arrive in New York today from Hollywood.

•

J. ROBERT RUBIN, Loew's vice-president and general counsel, will begin a two-month vacation starting June 10.

•

GREGOR RABINOVITCH, independent producer, has arrived in New York from the Coast.

•

FRANK ROSENBERG, Columbia director of advertising-publicity, left Friday for a brief vacation.

## *Rites for Mrs. Rivers*

Funeral services were held yesterday afternoon at Riverside Memorial Chapel here for Mrs. Jeannette E. Rivers, mother-in-law of Arthur Brilant of the RKO Radio's publicity staff. Interment will be in Springfield Gardens, L. I., N. Y.

## *'Dimitrios' Showing*

"The Mask of Dimitrios" will be nationally tradeshown by Warners on Monday, June 5.

# *Tradewise . . .*

**By SHERWIN KANE**

THERE is good reason to agree with the United Artists management that the recent adoption of amendments to the company's charter which have the effect of endowing management with essential operating authority, such as that commonly exercised by management in other companies but which, in United Artists has been reserved heretofore to owners, opens up to the company its greatest opportunity in years.

It would seem to be axiomatic that authority should go hand-in-hand with responsibility. United Artists management has been held responsible for the success or failure of the company's operations. Yet many operating powers shared by management everywhere else, have been withheld from United Artists management. This, by virtue of the company's by-laws, now amended, which provided for unanimous consent on even such routine matters as the appointment of department heads and the acquisition of product to sustain the distribution company. A single veto by an owner, whether for a cogent or for a frivolous reason, could, as Edward C. Raftery put it recently: "prevent us from appointing an advertising-publicity director for the next 40 years."

• •

In the past, United Artists owners in effect have constituted a super-management, much like the jokesters' single-staffed street car whose motorman simply turned his cap about to the side marked "Conductor" when it came time to collect the fares. Owners, exercising the functions of management, have sat on one side of the meeting table and presented management reports, then took seats on the other side of the table and received and acted upon their own reports. The process is reminiscent of that picture, passed about the industry 15 years ago, captioned: "The Universal board of directors convenes." The picture showed the late Carl Laemmle seated at a table, his image reflected eight times in conveniently placed mirrors.

United Artists in its 25 years' existence has attracted some of the best industry brains and talent. But it has not held them. To mention just a few, there were Joe Schenck, the late "Doc" Giannini, Hiram Abrams, Darryl Zanuck, George Schaefer, Samuel Goldwyn, Murray Silverstone, Al Lichtman.

The frustrations resulting from reservation by ownership of managements' authority explains the departure of many of them.

• •

There are brains and ability in United Artists management today. If it is accorded the necessary powers of management, without strings, perhaps they can be held, where others could not—and held to the advantage of the company.

The owners' way has had not one trial, but a dozen. Presumably, it has failed every time. It would seem wise, at long last, to try the alternative, which is to permit United Artists to be operated as all other successful enterprises are operated — by an authoritative as well as responsible management.

• •

Worrying the other day about what will happen to Radio City Music Hall, come television, we endeavored to find out whether Gus Eyssell, too, is sharing our concern and marking the calendar on its relentless march toward T-Day.

"Like everyone else, I suppose, we're watching television closely," Gus said. "We have a complete file of practically everything that's been printed about it. At the moment, the reports impress me as being considerably more theory than substance. Some fundamental questions remain unanswered. For example, who is going to bear the production cost of quality programs? Televising of spot news events should be important to some theatres, particularly newsreel theatres, but they will be seen by only the single audience in the house at the time. Two days later the newsreels will be in to service all performances."

"Will the Music Hall install television after the war?"

"Why, yes. We had it before the war. Didn't you see our set in the lounge?"

Eyssell, managing director of what has been described as the world's "largest and finest theatre," recently observed his 25th anniversary in the industry, and hasn't a gray hair or a forehead furrow yet in evidence. While still in high school, he started working for the Isis Theatre, Kansas City.

## Says Jackson Park Award Illegal

CHICAGO, May 21.—Interpreting the recent court award of $360,000 damages to the Jackson Park Theatre as having been computed on volume standards and values governed by the Chicago clearance system, itself adjudged by a jury as being in violation of the Sherman anti-trust act stipulation that any price fixing agreement is illegal, was the highlight on Friday of a plea by defense attorney Miles Seeley in opening arguments before Federal Judge Michael Igoe, seeking a new trial.

"Therefore, the verdict was prejudiced, wrong, unreasonable and unjust," contended Seeley, adding: "The clearance system is the heart of motion picture business, and the plaintiff has mistaken it for a conspiracy. There has been complete absence of proof of conspiracy," he stressed.

Further arguments for a new trial were made by attorneys Edmund Adcock and Vincent O'Brien on behalf of the defendants, Balaban and Katz, Warner Brothers theatres and leading distributors.

Thomas C. McConnell, counsel for the plaintiffs, asked that a new trial be denied and that judgment be paid immediately.

## *Wallis Here Another Week on Deals*

New considerations have entered Hal Wallis's negotiations for a new distribution affiliation, as a result of which the producer has again extended his New York stay and will remain here throughout the week, it was learned on Saturday. Previously, Wallis had planned to leave for the Coast yesterday or today with the expectation that his new distribution arrangements would have been completed.

Wallis declined to say whether he was entertaining a new offer from an as yet unnamed quarter, or whether complications had arisen in his negotiations with Paramount. He stated only that because of new considerations he would be unable to make a final decision before the end of this week.

## *Rubicam Will Retire From Agency July 1*

Raymond Rubicam, co-founder and chairman of the board of the Young & Rubicam advertising agency, will retire from business July 1 and will dispose of his holdings to the company which will make them available to members of the organization over a period of time, he announced at the weekend. For the time being Rubicam will continue as a director and consultant to the management.

No other changes in officers or directors will be made now, it was said, and S. S. Larmon, president, will continue as chief executive officer.

## *Graham Joins Para.*

Walter Hayden Graham, previously with Lord and Thomas and other advertising agencies, has joined the Paramount home office advertising department.

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# THE REAL STORY BEHIND HOLLYWOOD'S NIGHT LIFE!

THE PICTURE THAT LIFTS THE LID OFF MOVIELAND'S FABULOUS HOT SPOT...WHERE THE STARS "COME DOWN TO EARTH" TO THE RHYTHM OF THE WORLD'S GREATEST BANDS!....




# Trocadero

*with*

**ROSEMARY LANE and JOHNNY DOWNS**

**Ralph MORGAN · Dick PURCELL · Cliff NAZARRO**

*and featuring*

**BOB CHESTER and HIS ORCHESTRA**
**MATTY MALNECK and HIS ORCHESTRA**
**GUS ARNHEIM and HIS ORCHESTRA**
**EDDIE LeBARON and HIS ORCHESTRA**

**WILLIAM NIGH—*DIRECTOR***

Screenplay by Allen Gale
Original Story by Charles F. Chaplin and Garret Holmes
Produced by WALTER COLMES

**REPUBLIC PICTURE**

# Coast Flashes

*Hollywood, May 21*

ERNST LUBITSCH, now preparing "Dragonwyck," "Typhoon" and "Czarina" for production, has signed a new term producer-director contract with 20th-Fox.

•

William Pine and William Thomas have signed William Berke to direct "Double Exposure" for Paramount release. It is also announced that their "Hillbilly Symphony" will have the highest budget of any Pine-Thomas picture since their association with Paramount.

•

From David O. Selznick RKO has borrowed John Cromwell to direct "Enchanted Cottage," and Alan Marshal and Dorothy McGuire to co-star in the film. Harriet Parsons will handle the production, starting early in June.

•

William Wright, who entered the Army over a year ago, has received a medical discharge, and will soon return to the Columbia studio, where he is under contract, to resume his acting career.

•

Bryan Foy's schedule at 20th-Fox has been augmented by "Commando Kelly," the story of Sgt. Charles Kelly's one-man raid in Italy.

•

Don Ameche and 20th-Fox will end an eight-year association amicably next month, according to a spokesman for the actor.

•

Otto Preminger has taken over direction of 20th Century-Fox's "Laura" from Rouben Mamoulian. Gene Tierney plays the title role.

•

Constance Collier will be tested for a role in Paramount's "Kitty," based on the Rosamund Marshall novel. Mitchell Leisen will direct.

•

Col. Nathan Levinson, Warners sound engineer, arrived here at the weekend.

•

Producer Andrew Stone left on the Chief for New York at the weekend.

•

Paulette Goddard married Capt. Burgess Meredith today in a private ceremony in Beverly Hills.

•

Mona Maris, Latin-American actress, has been signed by Paramount for "A Medal for Benny."

## Monogram Sales Meet On Coast June 12

HOLLYWOOD, May 21. — Monogram franchise holders will open a four-day discussion of the company's 1944-45 sales program in the Ambassador Hotel here on June 12. President W. Ray Johnston will preside at the sessions, which will be attended by Trem Carr, executive producer; Steve Broidy, vice-president and general sales manager; George Burrows, treasurer, and Ed Morey, Harry Thomas, Arthur Greenblatt, Sol Francis and other home office and district executives.

# Reviews

## "South of Dixie"

*(Universal)*

*Hollywood, May 21*

UNDER Jean Yarbrough's capable direction, Anne Gwynne and David Bruce, ably supported by Jerome Cowan, Ella Mae Morse and several specialty groups clown and sing their way along a flimsy story thread for some 60 minutes of light musical entertainment. Yarbrough also produced.

While the story doesn't provide much in the way of material to work with, it does take Miss Gwynne, Bruce and Cowan into the deep South in an attempt to furnish Bruce with a false Southern background so Cowan's deal with a film company to make his life story will be closed. When Cowan's antics nearly get him married off to a Southern belle, Miss Gwynne, who was to coach Bruce on Southern accent, gives the game away because she's fallen in love with him. However, the film company buys the story and signs Bruce for the lead because of the nationwide publicity resulting.

Songs offered by Gwynne and Bruce, including "Cross My Heart" and numbers by Bobby Brooks and Quartette, Lester Cole and the Debutantes, The Charmers, and Ella Mae Morse uphold the musical side of the offering. Screenplay is by Clyde Bruckman based on Sam Coslow's original story.

Running time, 61 mins. "G."* Release date, June 23.

## "Waterfront"

*(PRC)*

TOP-NOTCH spy-thriller casting coupled with capable direction, obtaining the most from the players in tense situations, help "Waterfront" which, nevertheless, does not emerge as much more than a series of dramatic sequences, rather than the intended correlated plot woven around machinations of a Nazi spy ring on San Francisco's waterfront.

The story deals with the theft of a Nazi spy-ring code book containing names of agents. A crooked waterfront saloon operator attempts to sell it back to the Nazis rather than turn it over to one of their victims, who has been forced to act by threats of Gestapo action against his loved ones in Germany.

J. Carrol Naish, as the smooth Nazi spy chief, sets about recovering the book but his aide, John Carradine, a newly arrived Gestapo agent, resorts to murder to achieve the same ends. He finally murders Naish to assume control of the spy ring but his doodling traps him when Maris Wrixon links up one such careless drawing with others found by police, thereby saving her sweetheart from the murder charges. The support includes Edwin Maxwell, Marten Lamont, John Bleifer, Olga Fabian and others. Steve Sekely directed. Arthur Alexander produced. Original screenplay was by Martin Mooney and Irwin R. Franklyn.

Running time, 65 minutes. "G."* Release date May 24.

JACK CARTWRIGHT.

**"G" denotes general classification.*

## Carter Blake Heads UJA Radio Division

Carter Blake of Columbia Pictures will head the radio artists' division of the United Jewish Appeal drive here. Others who will serve on the executive committee are Allan Reed, Norman Winter, Philip Loeb, Richard Sanders, Milton Herman, George Touller, Marilyn Cantor, Jonathan Edwards, Juliette Lewis, Harold J. Stone, Leo Mishkin, Nedra Mahoney and Lawson Zerbe.

## WB Shorts Drive Starts June 1

Warners' annual short subject sales drive will start June 1 and continue through August 31, it was reported at the weekend by Norman H. Moray, short subject sales manager.

The release schedule for the final quarter of 1943-1944 has been set, running from June 3 to August 26, the end of the current season.

## SOEG Wins 20th-Fox NLRB Election

HOLLYWOOD, May 21.—The Screen Office Employes Guild won its NLRB election for representation as bargaining agent for 20th Century-Fox studio employes with 228 votes for SOEG and 182 for a company guild, NLRB examiner M. Zimering disclosed at the weekend.

Only 412 of the 525 eligible to vote cast ballots but a majority of ballots cast are sufficient for the NLRB to order 20th-Fox to recognize SOEG as bargaining agent. Zimering said the union is demanding an immediate seven per cent increase for all company studio office workers.

## H. G. Mayer Opens Office

HOLLYWOOD, May 21.—Howard G. Mayer, former studio publicity director at Columbia here, has opened a public relations office which will operate in conjunction with his publicity bureau in Chicago.

## CIAA Money Goes To Mexican Films

WASHINGTON, May 21.—The U. S Office of the Coordinator of Inter-American Affairs has made available to two Mexican companies loans out of $200,000 supplied for the purpose for technical and equipment needs, it was charged at the weekend by Senator Hugh Butler of Nebraska, who demanded a Congressional investigation of "Prencinradio," a corporation of the CIAA, terming it a "mysterious" organization incorporated in Delaware but tied to film, radio and press interests in Latin-America.

The Senator based his demand on a magazine article on the corporation in which it was said that Prencinradio has authority to buy and sell stocks, bonds, patents and real estate.

At the CIAA here it was explained that the corporation was chartered about two years ago to permit the agency to do things which a Government office like the CIAA could not do, such as enter into contracts. While the corporation appears to have broad authority it was explained that the charter merely covers the same ground as usual for incorporations, and no dealing in securities, patents, etc., has ever occurred.

## Wm. Finkel's Trial Off Until September

PITTSBURGH, May 21. — Trial of the distributors' rental-percentage suit against William Finkel and his Carson Amusement Co., filed March 15 in Federal District Court here, has been put off until September; the court has recessed.

Finkel, asking a jury trial, filed an answer to the suit denying indebtedness to the plaintiffs in any sum. He said the distributors are generally entitled to audit books and records relating to percentages on pictures exhibited by him but not on films for which the contracts set a time limit for such audits.

The suits, filed by Loew's, Paramount, Warners, 20th-Fox, RKO, Columbia and Universal, charge that reports for the Arcade and Colonial Theatres here contained "intentionally false and incorrect statements of gross receipts." Each of the distributors claim damages of many thousands of dollars.

## Weitman Handling Pythias Benefit

Robert Weitman, managing director of the New York Paramount, will handle the annual benefit show of the Knights of Pythias at Madison Square Garden Wednesday night. Stars of screen, radio and stage will appear for the purpose of raising funds to support a summer camp which takes care of underprivileged children.

Serving on the committee with chairman Weitman are the following: Ed Sullivan, Harry Levine, Bob Shapiro, Milton Berger, Nat Kalcheim, Phil Bloom, Harry Romm, Sam Rauch, Larry Puck, Arthur Knorr, Al Wilson, Bert Lytell, James Sauter, Vince Jacobi, Sol Pernick, Jesse Kaye, Harry Mayer, Alan Corelli, Ed Wiener, Johnny Dugan, Leonard Romm, Ben Boyar, Leon Leonidoff and Henry Frankel.

# 'Blonde Trouble' Hits A Brisk $20,000

CLEVELAND, May 21. — "Andy Hardy's Blonde Trouble" was tops here, hitting an approximate $20,000 at Loew's Theatre. The second week of "See Here, Private Hargrove" is on the way to a big $12,000 at Loew's Stillman. "Bernadette," growing stronger, looks like $11,000 in its third week at the Allen.

Estimated receipts for the week ending May 17:

**"The Song of Bernadette" (20th-Fox)**
ALLEN—(3,000) (76c-$1.10) 7 days, 3rd week. Gross: $11,000. (Average: $8,500).
**"Up in Arms" (RKO)**
WARNERS' HIPPODROME — (3,500) (44c-55c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $20,000. (Average: $22,100).
**"Cover Girl" (Col.)**
WARNERS' LAKE—(714) (44c-55c-65c) 7 days, 4th week. Gross: $3,000. (Average: $3,200).
**"The Uninvited" (Para.)**
LOEW'S OHIO—(1,268) (43c-65c) 7 days, 3rd week. Gross: $5,500. (Average: $5,000)
**"None Shall Escape" (Col.)**
RKO PALACE—(3,300) (50c-60c-85c-95c) 7 days. Stage: Shep Fields orchestra, Edgar Kennedy. Gross: $18,500. (Average: $25,400).
**"Andy Hardy's Blonde Trouble" (M-G-M)**
LOEW'S STATE—(3,300) (43c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $20,000. (Average: $19,000).
**"See Here, Private Hargrove" (M-G-M)**
LOEW'S STILLMAN—(1,900) (43c-65c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $12,000. (Average: $10,000).

## Milwaukee Receipts Drop Below Par

MILWAUKEE, May 21. — "Cover Girl," coupled with "The Whistler," in its second week at the Palace, took $8,625, about 25 per cent under par, while "Lady in the Dark," in its third at the Strand, tied up with "Miracle of Morgan's Creek" also dipped.

Estimated receipts for the week ending May 20:

**"The Uninvited" (Para.)**
**"Tampico" (20th-Fox)**
WISCONSIN — (3,200) (40c-60c-80c) 7 days. Gross: $14,000. (Average: $14,000).
**"Cover Girl" (Col.)**
**"The Whistler" (Col.)**
PALACE—(2,400) (40c-60c-80c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $8,625. (Average: $11,500).
**"Lady in the Dark" (Para.)**
**"Miracle of Morgan's Creek" (Para.)**
STRAND — (1,400) (40c-60c-80c) 7 days, 3rd week downtown. Gross: $3,850. (Average: $5,500).
**"Ladies Courageous" (Univ.)**
**"Sailors Holiday" (Col.)**
WARNER—(2,400) (50c-72c) 7 days. Gross: $12,000. (Average: $14,000).
**"Knickerbocker Holiday" (UA)**
**"Klondike Kate" (Col.)**
ALHAMBRA—(1,900) (50c-72c) 7 days. Gross: $9,000. (Average: $10,000).
**"Her Primitive Man" (Univ.)**
RIVERSIDE—(2,700) (65-85c) 7 days. George White's Scandals on the stage. Gross: $13,000. (Average: $15,000).

## Sylvania Purchase Of Colonial Near

BOSTON, May 21.—Stockholders of Sylvania Electric Products, Inc., were told at the weekend that the purchase of all shares of Colonial Radio Corp. of Buffalo is expected to be completed this week. The stockholders of Sylvania voted a 295,000-share increase in capital stock, raising the total authorized to 1,200,000 shares.

Sylvania operations for the first quarter of 1944 showed sales of $18,829,198, a rise of 49 percent over the first three months of 1943, and earnings of $441,184, equal to 52 cents on shares outstanding on March 31. This compares with $341,122 for the first quarter of 1943. Colonial's sales and net earnings for the first quarter of 1944 were $14,811,623 and $197,172, respectively.


Paramount NEWS

AND NOTHING *BUT* THE NEWS



PARAMOUNT SETS JUNE 6TH AND 7TH FOR DE LUXE NEW YORK AND LOS ANGELES PREMIERES OF CECIL B. DE MILLE'S **"THE STORY OF DR. WASSELL"** GARY COOPER TECHNICOLOR STARRER WILL BOW IN AT BROADWAY RIVOLI, SCENE OF GARY'S BELL TOLLS TRIUMPH, AND AT HOLLYWOOD AND LOS ANGELES PARAMOUNTS.


# Short Subject Reviews

## "Road to Victory"

(*Warners*)

*Hollywood, May 21*

Offering a glimpse into the future life we are fighting to assure our children, "Road to Victory" carries a punchy message throughout its eight minutes that should do much to stimulate the sale of war bonds in the Fifth War Loan drive.

Credited as having been personally produced by Jack L. Warner, the short, which is being distributed by the WAC, makes a stirring plea to Americans through the medium of songs by Bing Crosby and Frank Sinatra, the reading of a letter from a dying soldier to his son by Cary Grant, the singing of Dennis Morgan and Irene Manning, a skit of the future ten years with Olive Blakeney, Charles Ruggles and Jimmy Lydon and Jack Carson as masters-of-ceremonies. Screenplay is by James Bloodworth from an original story by E. Manheim. LeRoy Prinz directed. Running time, 8 minutes.

## "Viva Mexico"

(*RKO-Pathe*)

"Viva Mexico" is an over-all view of modern Mexico, working beside the Allies in World War II. Little known facts about our nearest Latin American neighbor's part in the war effort are graphically and interestingly presented, with shots of Mexican soldiers and sailors patrolling the South American coast and with pictures of Mexico's military and naval training schools, patterned after our West Point and Annapolis.

Picturesque scenes of the simple life of most Mexicans are featured, together with her progressive schools and new farming developments. Timely, because of Mexico's potentially important position in the post war world, "Viva Mexico" has been well handled under the supervision of Jay Bonafield. Music, composed by Miguel Sandoval and supervised by Herman Fuchs, adds much to the production. Frederic Ullman, Jr., produced as part of the "This Is America" series. Running time, 17 mins.

## "Popular Science"

(*Paramount*)

More interesting glimpses into the future are presented in Paramount's latest "Popular Science" release. Featured are the centralized traffic control device, designed to facilitate railroad track switches by remote control, the "dream bed" of tomorrow which is constructed to accommodate a built-in radio and reading lamp as well as control buttons which allow for proper reclining reading positions, etc. "Popular Science" subjects are interesting, educational and amusing. Running time, 10 mins.

## Harry Goldstein Returns

CLEVELAND, May 21.—Harry Goldstein has resumed the district sales managership for Paramount in this area, following a six-months' leave of absence while Duke Clark, who temporarily replaced Goldstein, has been transferred to a Western territorial office. John Himmelein, recently with Paramount in St. Louis, has returned as special district representative here under Goldstein.

## 'Gaslight' Is Week's Best, Gets $23,000

WASHINGTON, D. C., May 21.—"Gaslight" is the surprise top grosser of a week that is headed for generally disappointingly low grosses. The Boyer-Bergman-Cotton film should do an estimated $23,000, $4,000 above the average. "Up in Arms," in its fourth week at RKO-Keith's, should gross about $9,000.

Estimated receipts for the week ending May 18:

**"Up in Mabel's Room" (UA)**
LOEW'S CAPITOL—(3,434) (35c-43c-55c-72c) 7 days. On stage: Mitzi Mayfair. Gross: $21,000. (Average: $22,000).

**"See Here, Private Hargrove" (M-G-M)**
LOEW'S COLUMBIA—(1,234) (43c-55c-65c) 7 days, 3rd week. Gross: $8,000. (Average: $8,200).

**"Passage to Marseilles" (WB)**
WARNER'S EARLE—(2,210) (44c-55c-85c-$1.00) 7 days. On stage: D'Artega and orchestra. Gross: $22,500. (Average: $19,700).

**"Up in Arms" (Goldwyn-RKO)**
RKO-KEITH'S—(1,800) (35c-44c-65c-74c) 7 days, 4th week. Gross: $9,000. (Average: $13,600).

**"No Time for Love" (Para.)**
WARNER'S METROPOLITAN — (1,600) (35c-55c) 7 days, 3rd week. Gross: $5,000. (Average: $7,200).

**"Gaslight" (M-G-M)**
LOEW'S PALACE—(2,242) (43c-55c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $23,000. (Average: $19,000).

## 'Primitive Man', Show Head for $18,000

MINNEAPOLIS, May 21.—Return of the Andrews Sisters to their home town, along with Mitch Ayres' orchestra, aided "Her Primitive Man" to $18,000 at the Orpheum. Spring weather was responsible for all other situations dipping below average.

Estimated receipts for the week ending May 18:

**"Her Primitive Man" (Univ.)**
ORPHEUM—(2,000) (50c-65c) 7 days. On stage: Andrews Sisters and Mitch Ayres' orchestra, directed by "Stell" Slavin. Gross: $18,000. (Average: $15,000).

**"Andy Hardy's Blonde Trouble" (M-G-M)**
RADIO CITY—(4,000) (44c-60c) 7 days. Gross: $10,000. (Average: $15,000).

**"In Our Time" (WB)**
STATE—(2,300) (44c-60c) 7 days. Gross: $6,500. (Average: $12,400).

**"Cry Havoc" (M-G-M)**
GOPHER — (998) (40c) 7 days. Gross: $3,200. (Average: $3,700).

**"The Sullivans" (20th-Fox)**
CENTURY—(1,600) (44c-60c) 7 days, 2nd week downtown. Gross: $5,000. (Average: $7,400).

**"The Uninvited" (Para.)**
LYRIC—(1,250) (44c-60c) 7 days, 2nd week downtown. Gross: $4,500. (Average: $5,600).

**"Shine On, Harvest Moon" (WB)**
WORLD—(350) (44c-55c-60c-80c) 7 days, 3rd week downtown. Gross: $2,000. (Average: $2,400).

**"Hat Check Honey" (Univ.)**
**"Teen Age" (Continental)**
ASTER (900) (25c-35c) 6 days. Gross: $2,400. (Average: $2,600).

## Para. Promotes Larned

DALLAS, May 21.—Changes in Paramount's exchanges here include the promotion of Fred Larned, former film salesman, to the post of branch manager, effective June 12, and the appointment of Haywood Simmons to sales manager. Larned replaces Charles Dees, transferred to the South Texas area, succeeding Simmons.

## Hilgers to Exhibition

DALLAS, May 21.—Clair Hilgers, former branch manager of the 20th-Fox exchange here, has purchased a half interest, with H. S. Leon, in the Crawford Theatre at El Paso. Phil Langdon, district manager for 20th-Fox here, will handle Hilger's duties at the exchange until a successor is named.

# Reviews

## "Goyescas"

*(RKO)*

PRODUCED in Spain by Universal Ibero Americana de Cinematografia and starring Imperio Argentina, described as one of Spain's outstanding musical comediennes, "Goyescas" will undoubtedly find playing time in the comparatively few Spanish-speaking areas here. On the other hand, interested non-Spanish patrons will not find it difficult to grasp the main theme through English sub-titles, although in many instances the translation bears only slight resemblance to actual dialogue.

Miss Argentina handles a difficult dual role well in Fernando Periquet's story of a Countess and an entertainer who resemble one another and who compete for one man's love. The Countess, however, transfers her love for Armando Calvo to a handsome Captain of the Guard, Rafael Rivelles, but, to spite the street-singer, she also keeps Calvo in tow. Nearly two hours is devoted to the bitter fight between the ladies when it might well have been done in 60 minutes. However, in the end, after both women land in jail, they put aside their differences and part friends, each with her own lover.

The action takes place in the early 18th century, that period which inspired the late Enrique Granados' opera, "Goyescas," music of which is the only outstanding feature of the film. It contains some suggestive and intimate sequences, making it "adult" material. Benito Perojo directed.

Running time, 110 mins. "A."* Release date, May 22.

HELEN MCNAMARA

*"A" denotes adult classification.

## "Tucson Raiders"

*(Republic)*

*Hollywood, May* 21

"TUCSON RAIDERS" is the first of Republic's Red Ryder series based on the comic strip character, with Wild Bill Elliott, always the two-fisted Western hero, playing "Red," Bobby Blake as "Little Beaver," Alice Fleming as "The Duchess," two-fisted ranchwoman, and George (Gabby) Hayes as himself.

Efforts of Painted Valley citizens to vote the territory into the Union are frustrated by a crooked sheriff and his cut-throat deputies acting under orders of a crooked banker and a rascally governor. "The Duchess" sends for nephew Red Ryder and Federal Judge Wayne from Washington. The band mistakenly murders a preacher, pins the crime on Ryder, but Little Beaver helps him escape in time to save the real Judge Wayne from the murderous band and trap it along with its banker-leader.

Spencer Bennet directed from a screenplay by Anthony Coldewey based on Jack O'Donnell's original with due attention to Western formula resulting in an action-packed two-gunned drama.

Running time, 55 minutes. "G."* Release date May 24.

JACK CARTWRIGHT

*"G" denotes general classification.

## National Managers' Union Seen Soon

CHICAGO, May 21.—A national theatre managers' union will be a reality soon it was emphasized by Gene Atkinson, business manager of projectionists' Local 110 here, as he prepared to leave for St. Louis for the IATSE convention starting May 29. There he will be joined by delegates from other locals who will assist him in launching plans for the new unit.

Meanwhile, Balaban and Katz is endeavoring to get under way new schedules of reduced working hours for managers and assistants.

## Rogers' Body to Crypt

CLAREMORE, Okla., May 21.—The body of Will Rogers, removed on Friday from a vault in the Glendale, Cal., Cemetery, is to be interred today in a stone crypt at the Will Rogers Memorial here, it is understood. Arrangements for the burial were made by the humorist's widow following her recovery from six weeks of illness in Washington. Rogers, who was killed in an Alaskan plane crash in 1935, was a native of Claremore.

## Predicts 25 Million Radios for Post-War

PHILADELPHIA, May 21.—A demand for between 20,000,000 and 25,000,000 radio receiving sets will exist by the end of 1944 as compared with the industry's all-time high production of 13,000,000 units in 1941, it was estimated at the weekend by Larry E. Gubb, chairman of the board of Philco Corp., in an address on "Electronics and Television in the Post-War" before the Bond Club.

"The radio-electronics industry is turning out specialized types of war equipment at the rate of approximately $3,200,000,000 a year, a greater volume output than that of the entire automobile industry in 1939," Gubb said.

## Harry Goldberg to Speak

PHILADELPHIA, May 21. — Harry Goldberg, director of advertising-publicity for Warner Theatres, will address a luncheon-meeting of the local Motion Picture Forum here today at the Hotel Bellevue-Stratford. He will discuss "Motion Pictures and the War."

## RMA Conference in Chicago, June 6-7

The radio industry and Government officials will discuss the war radio-radar program and future industry problems at the third Radio Manufacturers Association war production conference to be held at the Stevens Hotel in Chicago on June 6-7. The 20th anniversary meeting of RMA membership and committees will be held in conjunction with the conference.

Wartime accomplishments of the industry will be told by RMA to the public within the limits of "national security" in a national publicity campaign to be initiated soon. Major objectives of the RMA promotion project include the following: presentation of wartime accomplishments of industry including its scientific contributions to the war; correction of erroneous impressions that new developments will be available on "V" day; attracting manpower to the industry and help retain essential workers by discouraging raiding of technical personnel; inform wholesale and retail radio distributing agencies for a better concept of current and postwar plans of the industry; make the public more conscious of benefits from radio and thereby stimulate development of possibilities in new fields; and encourage the use of radio as an educational necessity in schools.

## TBA Supports Fly's Television Stand

Allen B. Dumont, acting as head of Television Broadcasters Association, commended the remarks on post-war television made by James C. Fly, chairman of the Federal Communications Commission, before the opening session of the Radio Executives Club television seminar here last week, in a statement released at the weekend.

Fly had declared that there was no question of the FCC maintaining "a steady green light" for commercial television which was already authorized and at the same time indicated the need for more experimentation.

"Progressiveness and not stagnation is and will always be the aim of the nation's television broadcasters," DuMont said, adding that "when hostilities cease and the doors to a national television service are open, television images of quality will be ready "for a nation anxious to see and accept this new and wonderful medium."

## 'Castaway' for Navy

The United States Navy has received from Willard Pictures, here, a six-reel production entitled "The Castaway," which tells what happens to a Naval flier who "bails out" of the plane "somewhere in the Pacific." The assignment was basically intended for training purposes but there is under consideration a short film for theatre use. Edward Seward directed and Norman Dyhrenfurth was the cameraman. Production was on Miami beaches.

## 'Norway' in Four Reels

WASHINGTON, May 21.—Hoffberg Productions will distribute a four-reel version of "Norway Replies," compiled originally as a long feature by F. Herrick Harrick for the Royal Norwegian Information Service. Hoffberg is also handling the feature.

# Hollywood

By JACK CARTWRIGHT

*Hollywood, May 21*

A TREND toward production of higher bracket horror pictures than has been the general rule at most studios is seen in Paramount's plans for Kenneth Macgowan to produce a serious ghost mystery somewhat similar to that studio's "The Uninvited," which was an out-and-out ghost mystery dealing with the supernatural. Close on the heels of the reception accorded "The Uninvited," B. G. DeSylva cast Gail Russell, who played the young girl driven almost to self-destruction by two spirits battling to control her, was cast with Joel McCrea in "Fear." This mystery story, presently in production under the guidance of John Houseman, deals more with explainable, human-created mystery, however.

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*William Goetz has signed Bill Ihnen as production designer and art director for International Pictures. His first two will be "It's a Pleasure," starring Sonja Henie, and "Tomorrow Is Forever." . . . Len Simpson, formerly publicity director for Edward Small Productions, has taken over the publicity directorship for Producing Corp. of America. . . . Universal has signed Vera Zorina for another picture. . . . William Wellman has started direction of "Airship Squadron 4," at M-G-M. Sam Marx is producing.*

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**Marsha Hunt has finished work in RKO-Radio's "That Hunter Girl" and reported back to her home studio, M-G-M, for her lead in "Music for Millions," which Henry Koster is directing. . . . Columbia has signed Allyn Joslyn for the male lead opposite Evelyn Keyes in "Stalk the Hunter." . . . Monogram has borrowed Kim Hunter and Neil Hamilton from Vanguard for leads in "I Married a Stranger." . . . Ernest and Maria Matray, choreographers signed by RKO-Radio, plan a dance group of from 20 to 30 as a permanent nucleus for RKO production numbers.**

## 'Address' Dual Gets $5,800 Over Par

BUFFALO, May 21.—"Address Unknown" and "Footlight Glamour" were bidding for the lead here with $18,200 at the Lafayette. "Four Jills in a Jeep," dualed at the Buffalo, seemed headed for $18,000.

Estimated receipts for the week ending May 20:

**"Four Jills in a Jeep" (20th-Fox)**
**"Bermuda Mystery" (20th-Fox)**
BUFFALO — (3,489) (40c-50c-60c-70c) 7 days. Gross: $18,000. (Average: $17,400).
**"Jane Eyre" (20th-Fox)**
**"The Navy Way" (Para.)**
GREAT LAKES—(3,000) (40c-50c-60c-70c) 7 days. 2nd week. Gross: $11,300. (Average: $16,600).
**"Broadway Rhythm" (M-G-M)**
HIPPODROME — (2,100) (40c-50c-60c-70c) days, 2nd week moveover. Gross: $9,400. (Average: $9,700).
**"It Happened Tomorrow" (UA)**
**"Hands Across the Border" (Rep.)**
TWENTIETH CENTURY—(3,000) (40c-50c-60c-70c) 7 days. Gross: $15,600. (Average: $12,200).
**"Address Unknown" (Col.)**
**"Footlight Glamour" (Col.)**
LAFAYETTE—(3,000) (40c-50c-60c-70c) 7 days. Gross: $18,200. (Average: $12,400).

## 'Bernadette' Heavy At $32,500 Gross

BOSTON, May 21.—Business was still below normal this week mainly due to excellent weather which drove thousands again to the shores. Despite this, however, "Song of Bernadette" at the Majestic turned in $32,500.

Estimated receipts for the week ending May 17:

**"Lifeboat" (20th-Fox)**
KEITH BOSTON—(3,200) (44c-55c-65c-85c, $1.10). Plus stage show with Virginia Weidler. Gross: $25,600. (Average: $28,300).
**"Buffalo Bill" (20th-Fox)**
**"You Can't Ration Love" (Para.)**
FENWAY—(1,373) (44c-55c-65c). Gross: $7,000. (Average: $8,300).
**"The Song of Bernadette" (20th-Fox)**
MAJESTIC—(1,400) (65c-85c-$1.10) 7 days. Gross: $32,500. (Average: $14,000).
**"Up in Arms" (RKO)**
**"No Greater Love" (Artkino)**
KEITH MEMORIAL—(2,900) (44c-55c-65c-85c). Gross: $20,000. (Average: $22,300).
**"Passage to Marseille" (WB)**
**"Henry Aldrich as Cupid" (Para.)**
METROPOLITAN — (4,367) (44c-55c-65c-85c). Gross: $21,000. (Average: $27,300).
**"Broadway Rhythm" (M-G-M)**
LOEW'S ORPHEUM—(2,900) (44c-55c-65c-85c). Gross: $23,700. (Average: $23,800).
**"Broadway Rhythm" (M-G-M)**
LOEW'S STATE—(3,200) (44c-55c-65c-85c). Gross: $9,800. (Average: $11,000).
**"Address Unknown" (Col.)**
TRANSLUX — (990) (34c-44c-55c-74c). Gross: $8,000. (Average: $9,000).

## 'Gaslight' Glows in Providence Run

PROVIDENCE, May 21.—"Gaslight," at Loew's State, put that theatre back into the high-grossing class it was enjoying before the warm weather, with $20,000 for the week. Warm weather and horse-racing kept other grosses down.

Estimated receipts for the week ending May 18:

**"Ladies Courageous" (Univ.)**
**"Her Primitive Man" (Univ.)**
RKO ALBEE—(2,239) (35c-44c-55c-60c) 7 days. Gross: $10,000. (Average: $12,800).
**"Standing Room Only" (Para.)**
**"Tornado" (Para.)**
STRAND—(2,200) (44c-55c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $8,100. (Average: $10,500).
**"Gaslight" (M-G-M)**
LOEW'S STATE—(3,232) (35c-44c-55c) 7 days. Gross: $20,000. (Average: $17,700).
**"Buffalo Bill" (20th-Fox)**
**"Bermuda Mystery" (20th-Fox)**
MAJESTIC—(2,250) (35c-44c-55c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $9,500. (Average: $12,100).
**"Woman of the Town" (UA)**
**"Dudes Are Pretty People" (Roach-UA)**
CARLTON—(1,526) (35c-44c-55c) 7 days. Gross: $3,900. (Average: $4,000).
**"Detective Kitty O'Day" (Mono.)**
METROPOLITAN—(3,050) (50c-60c-70c) 3 days. On stage: Lou Brown & Co., Three Hearts, Sasha Leonoff, Ben McAtee, Three Little Sisters, Son & Sonny, McFarland & Brown, Judy Talbot, Ed Drew's Orchestra. Gross: $4,000. (Average: $7,900).
**"The Purple Heart" (20th-Fox)**
**"Pardon My Rhythm" (Univ.)**
FAY'S—(1,800) (35c-44c-55c) 7 days. Gross: $7,000. (Average: $6,500).

## M-G-M Films to Army

M-G-M's "Marriage Is a Private Affair," starring Lana Turner, and "Gold Town," with Wallace Beery, have been requested for overseas showings by the Army's motion picture service. Other M-G-M films recently shipped abroad include "Dragon Seed," "The Canterville Ghost" and "Three Men in White."

## St. Louis 'IA' Delegates

ST. LOUIS, May 21.—Harry Barco, Joseph Schuller and Harvard O'Laughlin have been selected delegates to the IATSE national convention by the projectionists' Local 143 here. The convention will open at the Jefferson Hotel here May 29.


*All Branches of The Industry Have Been Invited to The*

SILVER JUBILEE ANNIVERSARY

*of the*

ALLIED THEATRE OWNERS OF NEW JERSEY, INC.

*and*

GOLDEN ANNIVERSARY

*of the*

MOTION PICTURE INDUSTRY

•

CONVENTION HALL
HOTEL CHELSEA
ATLANTIC CITY, N. J.

•

JUNE 20, 21, 22, 1944

# Washington Sees Decree Compromise

(*Continued from page* 1)

the distributors refused to make changes on cancellations and theatre expansion which he deems important, negotiations would be halted and the matter referred to the Attorney General with a recommendation that it be worked out in the courts. A few days later a distributor told MOTION PICTURE DAILY that no further concessions would be made on those points. Conversations between the Department and the companies have been steadily drifting toward an impasse.

Tomorrow, Abram F. Myers, general counsel of Allied, is scheduled to see Clark, to get an up-to-the-minute report on the decree situation which he can take to the Allied board meeting in Philadelphia Wednesday. Hugh Bruen and Robert Poole of the Pacific Coast Conference of Independent Theatre Owners, who will attend the Allied meeting and have business in New York, will also be in Washington during the week, and while they are expected to discuss major-company expansion in their area under the Office of Civilian Requirements theatre construction program, they no doubt will get into the decree situation when they see Clark.

**Exhibitors Against N. Y. Trial**

Just how the Department will handle the situation if it turns out there is no chance of a decree has not yet been definitely determined. Independent exhibitors are opposed to a revival of the New York trust trial and are urging that if court proceedings are initiated, a new case be filed in some other jurisdiction, where Wall Street and "big business" are viewed with more suspicion.

Clark is believed also to incline to the idea of a new suit, which would permit the injection of new issues arising during the three-year period in which the decree was under trial.

While a decision as to the course to be pursued may be reached within the next week or two, no court case could be brought to trial before next Fall, because of the summer vacations of the Federal Courts, which will start within the next few weeks.

## *Further Fuel Cuts Seen Necessary*

(*Continued from page* 1)

urgent need for the conservation of electric power. Earlier last week the WPB reported that abandonment of war time would involve the consumption of an additional 1,500,000 kilowatts of power and 1,000,000 tons of coal.

In many quarters the WPB warnings of increased power and coal consumption, plus the knowledge that the invasion of Europe may place new strains upon our material resources were seen as presaging defeat of the move to outlaw Daylight Saving.

## *E. M. Loew Buys Hotel*

BOSTON, May 21.—E. M. Loew has purchased Gray's Inn in New Hampshire. E. M. Loew interests also own shares in the "Latin Quarter" night clubs in New York, Miami and Boston.

# *Spot-News Is Television's Chief Asset: Fitzgibbons*

(*Continued from page* 1)

raphy and their ability to eliminate everything but the best and most interesting portion of any event," have a great advantage over television for general entertainment purposes.

FP-C is acquiring new theatres and sites for theatres at the rate of one per month, the Fitzgibbons report shows. During the past 14 months, the company has taken over as many properties, including eight houses in London, Port Arthur, Galt and Hamilton, Ont.; Vancouver, B. C.; St. John's, Newfoundland, and Montreal; and six sites in Peterborough, Ont.; Prince Rupert, B. C.; Saint John and Moncton, N. B.; Edmonton, Alb., and St. John's, Newfoundland. The new house in the latter city is already under construction.

Fitzgibbons cited the value of FP-C's partnerships in enabling the company to provide entertainment for well over 2,000,000 Canadians weekly in 313 theatres. These houses, he said, had a payroll of $5,902,357 last year and paid out $10,343,158 in taxes. He cited the fact that 900 former employes are now in the armed services and that 22 either have been killed in action or are missing, while 11 are known prisoners of war.

FP-C has found newspapers to be the best advertising medium for theatres, according to Fitzgibbons, who said the company spent approximately $1,000,000 for advertising of this type last year.

He finds the public these days interested in "a wide range of entertainment from the serious drama to lavish musical comedies," with "a very definite leaning toward pictures with a religious theme." Fitzgibbons also pointed out that Technicolor is being used in more films than ever before. "While it increases the cost, there is no doubt that it enhances the entertainment value of productions," he said.

Fitzgibbons' remark on religious films runs parallel to a viewpoint expressed by Jack L. Warner, executive producer for Warner Brothers, whose address to some 700 churchmen in New York recently was reported on May 11 in MOTION PICTURE DAILY.

# Defers Schine Trial Until Next Week

(*Continued from page* 1)

ing the American Medical Association and the Pullman Company.

There was another reason why Richardson was not ready for trial. He left his glasses in Washington.

Further, he said that Schine's subpoena *duces tecum* was received only last Tuesday and it requires presentation of "four or five truckloads of records." Also despite Richardson's objection, the court formally dismissed the "Little 3" from the Schine suit, but on condition they supply various records needed in the case, after hearing Louis Frohlich, attorney for Columbia, defend the dismissal.

Judge Knight said he couldn't see the wisdom of a postponement until Fall, declaring he is anxious for the case to "at least start." Richardson's prior commitments in Washington will make necessary an adjournment of the trial on June 9 until later in the month, at which time he will be able to return. This presupposes that the trial actually will get under way on May 31, as now scheduled.

## *$3,500,000 to Loew's For M & B Shares*

(*Continued from page* 1)

*nal* reported from London at the weekend.

The *Journal* said that $3,500,000 was the price paid by Loew's to the old Fox Film Corp. for half of the latter's 49 per cent interest in M. & B. about 14 years ago, and that in the present sale of that interest, Loew's "will receive back its original investment." It was stated that M. & B. owns a 57 per cent interest in Gaumont-British.

The *Journal* added that Loew's major British interest, as a result of the M. & B. stock sale, would be in the new production organization headed by Sir Alexander Korda.

# Seek More Issuing Agents for N.Y.

Charles C. Moskowitz, Loew executive, and chairman of the Metropolitan New York area for the industry's Fifth War Loan drive, June 12-July 8, is making a special effort to add 50 to 100 local theatres to the list of official bond issuing agents, acting on information from Neville Ford, head of the New York War Finance Committee, that there is a need for more agents in some sections of this area.

Ralph Pielow, distributor chairman here, has named a sub-committee, headed by Julius Joelson, to make a theatre-by-theatre check, aided by zone captains, to line up strategically located houses. The Treasury's WFC will furnish information as to where issuing agents are needed.

Plans for the "mystery meeting" of 1,000 New York theatre men, to be held here June 2, are nearing completion, Moskowitz announced at the weekend.

## *Vanguard Appeal in Chaplin Suit Won*

(*Continued from page* 1)

Constitutional defense in that it contends that the Chaplin suit could deprive it of its property without due process of law. This would pave the way for a Vanguard appeal to the U. S. Supreme Court in the action should the Court of Appeals sustain the lower courts on the issue of a trial of the action in New York, rather than California courts, where Vanguard attorneys contend the suit should be tried.

## *$49,928 to Red Cross*

CHARLOTTE, May 21.—The sum of $49,928 has been turned over to the Red Cross by 98 Wilby-Kincey theatres in North and South Carolina, with several houses yet to report, it was reported here at the weekend by Roy A. Smart, district manager.

# *Films Warned U.S. of War*

(*Continued from page* 1)

done to save the world and, particularly, our United States," Mayor Kelly declared. "To the motion picture industry more than any other group we owe a debt of gratitude for taking the lead in preparing America for the present conflict. For that the people of the industry were called war mongers by the defeatists and isolationists, but the country has come to realize that they were its real patriots."

More than 350 exhibitors and distributors from Illinois, Wisconsin and Michigan gathered here to greet R. J. O'Donnell, national chairman, and other Fifth War Loan campaign leaders. Jules Rubens, exhibitor chairman for Illinois, presided.

**Calls for Greater Effort**

O'Donnell expressed his appreciation for the cooperation in this area on previous drives and stressed the necessity for still greater effort. Campaign director John J. Friedl said that the entire country was taking the Fifth War Loan very seriously and that was the way he expected every exhibitor and distributor to take it.

Among others who spoke were: R. M. Kennedy, campaign vice-chairman; Ned E. Depinet, distributor chairman; Claude Lee, consultant to the Treasury, and Ray Beall, campaign publicity director. Among the guests were: Sam Shirley, distributor district chairman; M. Dudelson, Michigan distributor chairman; Don Woods, Wisconsin distributor chairman; Earl Hudson, president of United Detroit Theatres and exhibitor co-chairman for Michigan; Lew Wisper, president of Wisper and Wetsman Theatres and co-chairman with Hudson; Harold Fitzgerald, general manager for Fox Wisconsin Theatres and Wisconsin exhibitor chairman, and Martin Thomas, Michigan exhibitor co-chairman.

**Others Present**

Others who attended were: John Balaban, advisor to the Illinois War Activities Committee; Kalmenson, Warner Brothers general sales manager; Renslow Sherer, state War Finance Committee chairman for Illinois; Major L. Lohr, Cook County chairman, War Finance Committee; Jack Kirsch, Chicago co-chairman, WAC; Jack Coston, member of the advisory committee for Illinois WAC; Edwin Silverman, also a member of the advisory committee; Bill Bishop, state publicity chairman for the Fifth War Loan, and Dave Wallerstein and Henry Sticklemeier of Balaban and Katz. The latter was in charge of arrangements for the meeting.

**Jackson Alabama. Chairman**

Mack Jackson of the Strand Theatre, Alexander City, Ala., has been named state chairman for the industry's Fifth War Loan drive, R. M. Kennedy, national vice-chairman, disclosed here at the weekend from campaign headquarters.

Jackson has been an active participant in previous drives. He is a member of the state legislature and through his efforts, Alabama's Governor Sparks was obtained to address both Third and Fourth War Loan meetings.

First in Film and Radio News Brief, Accurate and Impartial

# MOTION PICTURE DAILY

Alert, Intelligent and Indispensable to the Motion Picture Industry

VOL. 55. NO. 101 NEW YORK, U. S. A., TUESDAY, MAY 23, 1944 TEN CENTS

FILE COPY DO NOT REMOVE

## Revised OCR Set-up Seen In Washington

### *Interests Outside Films May Force Changes*

WASHINGTON, May 22.—Controversy over activities of the recreation section of the Office of Civilian Requirements, marked by the resignation of John Eberson, consultant, last Friday, is expected to culminate in other personnel changes within the next day or two, it was learned tonight.

Although OCR officials said that Eberson had proffered his resignation several times because of the strain of commuting between New York and Washington, it was learned that he decided to quit the office because of the unsatisfactory situation.

Basis of the recreation section's dif-

(*Continued on page* 10)

## RKO's Gross Is Up But Net Is Down

Estimated net profits of Radio-Keith-Orpheum for the first quarter of 1944 will be about $1,500,000 after estimated provision of $3,000,000 for Federal taxes and some other charges, it was learned here at the weekend. RKO's net for the first 13 weeks of 1943 was $1,925,819 after provision of $1,406,454 for taxes and other charges.

Gross operating profit for the first quarter of 1944 will run about $4,500,000, it was said, compared to $3,300,000 for the similar period in 1943.

Estimated gross profit for the first

(*Continued on page* 10)

## Expect Big Turnout At Allied Meeting

PHILADELPHIA, May 22.—A record turnout is expected at the combined four-day meeting of the national board and caravan of Allied States Association scheduled for the Hotel Warwick here, beginning tomorrow.

Allied of Eastern Pennsylvania, observing its fifth anniversary, will be host at a dinner Wednesday night, following a party given by W. F. Rodgers, M-G-M vice-president and general sales manager. Several hun-

(*Continued on page* 10)

## 'White Cliffs' Heads For $120,000 to Equal Big 1st Week

Business at New York first-run theatres this week is generally on a par with last week. Spotty business at several houses is attributed to a decline in morning and afternoon attendance. "The White Cliffs of Dover" and a stage show at the Radio City Music Hall are drawing bigger in its second week than the first on the basis of the receipts of the first four days ending Sunday night, which reached $75,300, and $120,000 is expected. The combination will enter a third week on Thursday.

"Going My Way" and a stage show headed by Charlie Spivak and band will give the Paramount a highly profitable third week of $90,000, equal to the second week. The combined

(*Continued on page* 6)

## 'Honour' to Be First '44-'45 Soskin Film

The best film material will be found in Europe after the war, Paul Soskin, British independent producer, who just returned from Hollywood to New York en route to London, declared at the weekend.

Soskin, while in Hollywood, concluded a deal with Arthur Koestler, author of "Arrival and Departure," to do the screen adaptation of "Fame Is the Spur." Negotiations have started for Dudley Nichols and Jean

(*Continued on page* 10)

### *28 States Now Levy Admission Taxes*

**Washington, May 22. — Internal Revenue Bureau officials here report that taxes on admissions are now levied by 28 states in a variety of ways. This was learned during the formulation of a recent order permitting exhibitors to show their established price of admissions in fractions of a cent, where a state tax of this denomination is passed on to the public.**

## *April Taxes $14,907,919*

WASHINGTON, May 23. — Final month of the one-cent-on-ten Federal admission tax returned a revenue of $14,907,919, a slight increase over the March total of $14,893,007, it was reported today by the Internal Revenue Bureau.

April receipts, more than $1,600,000 above the $13,283,115 recorded in the same month last year, brought the total for the first four months of the year to $58,640,047, against $48,203,382 in 1943. For the ten months of the Government's fiscal year, total collections topped $150,000,000 and were $21,716,120 above those for the corresponding period a year ago, the Bureau announced. There was a slight downward trend in collections in the third New York (Broadway) district which amounted to $2,228,332 last month

(*Continued on page* 10)

## *Big Bond Rallies in Phila., Minneapolis, Des Moines*

Nearly 1,000 exhibitors and distributors pledged their efforts to the Fifth War Loan drive in rallies held over the weekend and yesterday in Philadelphia, Minneapolis and Des Moines, according to War Activities Committee headquarters here.

In Des Moines, where more than 200 gathered yesterday at the Ft. Des Moines Hotel, a goal of $9,000,000 worth of sales for Iowa theatres, on a basis of $5,000 for each of 1,800 Iowans killed in action in the war, was announced by the state's regional committee.

With A. H. Blank, exhibitor state chairman, playing an important role at the meeting, and G. Ralph Branton, general manager of Tri-States Theatres and chairman of the area WAC special events committee, presiding, R. J. O'Donnell, national industry chairman, outlined the drive's objectives, as did campaign director John J. Friedl, vice-chairman R. M. Kennedy, publicity director Ray Beall and Claude F. Lee, industry consultant to the Treasury. John E. Flynn, Western sales manager for M-G-M, represented the distributors committee. Major Allen V. Martini, war hero, also addressed the gathering.

Among the distinguished guests on the dais were Lieut. Governor Robert Blue of Iowa; Major General C. H. Danielson, commanding officer of the Seventh Service Command; Bishop Gerald Bergan of the Des Moines Roman Catholic Diocese; C. R. Dud-

(*Continued on page* 6)

## $2,000,000 in Para. Notes To Balaban

### *Will Ask Stockholders to Approve Sale June 20*

Stockholders of Paramount Pictures will be asked to approve issuance and sale to Barney Balaban, company president, of $2,000,000 in convertible notes of the corporation with certain surviving stock purchase rights in event of prepayment, it was disclosed yesterday with the issuance of the company's proxy statement. The annual stockholders meeting will be held at the Paramount home offices on June 20.

Paramount is also asking shareholders to approve the elimination of 144,672 shares of $100 par first preferred stock and 555,101 shares of $10 par second preferred from the authorized capitalization of the corporation. These shares are authorized but are not now

(*Continued on page* 10)

## *Bruen, Poole Talk to OCR*

WASHINGTON, May 22.—Hugh Bruen and Robert Poole of the PCCITO conferred with officials of the Office of Civilian Requirements today regarding new theatre construction on the West Coast but due to the failure of Assistant Attorney General Tom C. Clark to return from St. Louis as scheduled, were forced to postpone until tomorrow their discussion of the situation with Department of Justice officials.

The two West Coast exhibitor rep-

(*Continued on page* 10)

## Theatre Equipment Outlook Brightens

CAMDEN, N. J., May 22.—Reports of definite improvement in theatre equipment delivery prospects and discussion of the effects of the new IATSE wage agreement, providing for an increase in wage rates of sound service men, were major topics at a series of meetings just concluded by district managers and home office executives of the RAC Service Co. here.

The situation on parts and tubes was discussed and, due to easing of

(*Continued on page* 10)

## Seek Way to Raise Exchange Wages

Film exchange-operation heads and IATSE officials are understood to be studying possible courses of action that can be taken to secure approval of a ten percent increase for thousands of film exchange shippers, inspectors and poster clerks in all exchange centers.

As reported in MOTION PICTURE DAILY recently, the Regional War Labor Board in Philadelphia dismissed an appeal from a previous ruling by the Wage Stabilization Director denying the ten percent increase for exchange service workers in M-G-M's Washington office.

The RWLB ruling on the M-G-M application had been awaited by IATSE film exchange service workers' locals throughout the country as a test for all.

## *Butterfield on Siegel Staff at MGM Studio*

HOLLYWOOD, May 22.—Allyn Butterfield, who recently completed his duties as a liaison between the industry and the War Department, has joined M-G-M and been assigned to the staff of M. J. Siegel, production executive.

Butterfield had eight years of production editing experience before entering the newsreel field in 1923. He resigned as managing editor of Pathe News in 1939 and became a Republic producer the next year, later serving as director of photographic relations for Wendell Willkie during the 1940 presidential campaign. In 1941, after the screen preparation of "Cavalcade of Faith" for Jeffrey Pictures, he joined the War Department's bureau of public relations as motion picture editor and then became director of motion picture activities for the public relations division of the Army Air Forces.

## *Sherman Promoted to RKO Film Buyer*

Robert K. Sherman of the RKO Theatres film booking department has been promoted to film buyer, it was announced here yesterday by Harold J. Mirisch, head RKO booker.

As Matthew Polen was advanced to head booker for out-of-town theatres, Joseph Becker moves up to become his assistant. New York circuit bookings will continue to be handled by Ruth Lowenthal, under Mirisch's direct supervision.

## *15,108 Theatres Will Observe M-G-M Week*

An additional 1,730 theatres have agreed to play an M-G-M feature or short subject during the 20th anniversary observance, set for June 22-28, bringing the total cooperating to 15,108, it was announced.

## *Skinner Gets 16mm. Film*

SAN FRANCISCO, May 22.—C. R. Skinner Manufacturing Co. here distributing photographic and film equipment, has acquired a $24,000 16mm. film library.

# *Personal Mention*

STEVE BROIDY, Monogram vice-president and general sales manager, has left for Hollywood.

•

JOE MARKOWITZ, former M-G-M Chicago office manager, and recently discharged from the Army, has rejoined the company as Los Angeles exchange office manager.

•

MISS MARJORIE MCCORD, secretary to RICHARD WRIGHT, Warner Theatres Cleveland assistant zone manager, will be married to JOHN STREIB July 16.

•

MAURICE WHITE, associated with RKO theatre enterprises in Cincinnati, is visiting in New York.

•

F. J. A. MCCARTHY, Universal Southern and Canadian sales manager, will leave for Charlotte today.

•

PHIL KEENAN, general manager of Hillman Magazines, left yesterday for Kansas City.

•

W. E. WEINSHENKER, Universal Chicago manager, is vacationing in Ft. Worth, Tex., until June 6.

•

RUDY NORTON, PRC Cleveland salesman, has resigned to join the local Paramount exchange.

•

MISS RUTH BLOSTEIN, United Artists Cleveland assistant booker, was married last week to PVT. SID TAIT.

LEON J. BAMBERGER, RKO Radio sales promotion manager, is a grandfather. A son was born to his daughter, MRS. SHELDON KAPLAN, yesterday at the New Rochelle Hospital.

•

GRAHAM WAHN of Warners' home office publicity department, became the father of a baby girl, JUDITH, born to MRS. WAHN at the New York Hospital.

•

CHARLES ZAGRANS, RKO Radio Philadelphia branch manager, has announced the engagement of his daughter, EVELYN MAE, to PFC. LEONARD MELNICK.

•

CHARLES EINFELD, Warners' advertising-publicity director, returned yesterday to the Coast after a six weeks' visit at the home office.

•

DAVE STARKMAN, former theatre manager in Philadelphia, has joined the local Film Classics exchange as salesman.

•

MORT BLUMENSTOCK, Warners' Eastern advertising-publicity head, left last night for Atlanta.

•

MELVIN FOX, Philadelphia exhibitor, recently became the father of a son, ROGER, born to MRS. FOX.

•

MAX WEISFELDT, Columbia short subject sales manager, is visiting in Cleveland.

## *Para. Shorts Meeting Opens Tomorrow*

Oscar Morgan, general sales manager for Paramount short subjects and Paramount News, will launch the new selling season at a sales meeting at the Hotel Pierre here tomorrow. This is the first of a series of meetings to be devoted to Paramount shorts, which will take Morgan to all key exchange centers. Sales personnel from New York, Boston, New Haven, Buffalo and Albany will attend the New York meeting. Subsequent meetings will be held as follows: May 26, Philadelphia; May 31, Dallas; June 2, Kansas City; June 3, Denver; June 5, San Francisco; June 12, Chicago; June 13, Cleveland.

## *M-G-M Backing 50% Of 'Bloomer Girl'*

Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer has arranged to finance up to one-half the production cost of the stage musical, "The Bloomer Girl." The show, which is scheduled to open in September is, being produced by John C. Wilson and Nat C. Goldstone.

## *Extend Schine Standstill*

BUFFALO, May 22.—Federal Judge John Knight today signed a stipulation extending the terms of the Schine-Department of Justice two-year standstill agreement of May 19, 1942, until May 31, 1944, the date on which trial of the Government suit against Schine is scheduled to start.

## *Roy Haines West for WB Sales Meetings*

Roy Haines, Western and Southern division sales manager for Warners, will leave today for the Western territory, where he will hold a series of meetings with sales personnel of the Denver, Salt Lake City, Portland, Seattle, San Francisco and Los Angeles branches. Haines will be joined in the West by Henry Herbel, district manager for the Coast territory, who will accompany him on the tour.

## *Monogram Sets Top Four for 1944-45*

HOLLYWOOD, May 22.—Monogram has set its four top productions to head the 1944-45 program, Trem Carr, company production head, announces here. They are: "Wonderland," starring Belita, Scott R. Dunlap producing; "Alaska," with Margaret Lindsay and Kent Taylor, produced by Lindsay Parsons; "Little Devils," to be produced by Grant Withers, and "Sunbonnet Sue," another Dunlap production, with Gus Edwards' music. "Alaska" has already been completed.

## *Engels' Reunion May 28*

PHILADELPHIA, May 22.—Joe Engel, Republic branch manager, and Jack Engel of Film Classics will join about 45 other members of the Engel family at a reunion in the Adelphia Hotel here May 28. Most members are in distribution and exhibition in the industry.

## *Major Martini, the 'Dry Martini'*

**Major Allen V. Martini, who is appearing with the Fifth War Bond film campaign committeemen on their 16-city tour to report drive details to exhibitors and distributors, flew that Flying Fortress which has become famous as the 'Dry Martini'; while the members of the crew are known as 'The Cocktail Kids.'**

**The 23-year-old Texan holds the Silver Star, Distinguished Flying Cross, Air Medal with three Oak Leaf Clusters and the DFC of Britain. His 'Cocktail Kids' set a record for all wars when they shot down 23 German planes in 15 minutes.**

## *Urias, New Producer*

MEXICO CITY, May 22.—Feder Senator Antonio Franco Urias h organized Filmos, S. A., to produ films. He has also purchased sto in Azteca studio here, second large in the country.


NEW YORK THEATRES

RADIO CITY MUSIC HALL
Showplace of the Nation Rockefeller Center
A Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer's Picture
"THE WHITE CLIFFS OF DOVER"
Starring IRENE DUNNE
with ALAN MARSHAL
SPECTACULAR STAGE PRESENTATION
First Mezzanine Seats Reserved. Circle 6-4600

LOEW'S STATE B'WAY & 45
ON SCREEN 'LADY IN THE DARK' In Technicolor! GINGER ROGERS RAY MILLAND
IN PERSON Jack PEPPER Peggy FEARS BLOCK & SULLY

RKO PALACE B'WAY & 47th St.
"SHOW BUSINESS"
Eddie Cantor — George Murphy
Joan Davis — Nancy Kelly

PARAMOUNT'S
"GOING MY WAY"
with BING CROSBY
In Person
CHARLIE SPIVAK and His Orch.
PARAMOUNT Times Square

The Inside Story of the World's Worst Gangsters
PARAMOUNT'S
"The Hitler Gang"
BRANDT'S B'way & 46 St. GLOBE


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# Brazil Business Is Up 30%: Szekler

Theatre business in Brazil has increased 30 per cent over the previous year, it was disclosed yesterday by Al Szekler, Universal's general manager in Brazil, who arrived in New York over the weekend from his headquarters in Rio de Janeiro.

Business there is expected to increase in the post-war unlike previous periods. At least eight new houses were built last year throughout the country, and another theatre, seating 2,000, is now under construction in Sao Paulo, Szekler added.

In the six month period from Oct. 1943 to March, 1944, the Brazilian government has censored 41 American, 12 Argentine, 4 Brazilian, 4 French and British films, he continued. The government has been very cooperative with the American companies, as evidenced by a lack of adverse legislation passed or contemplated. A representative of the American Embassy attends all conferences involving American companies and the local film interests and the government, in promoting inter-American goodwill, Szekler stated.

**'Phantom' Is Top Grosser**

Universal's "The Phantom of the Opera," which opened in nine houses day and date in Rio de Janeiro, is the top grossing film in that country breaking all records, he added. At present most of the theatres in Brazil are not air conditioned, but plans have been formulated to install such equipment for a large percentage of the 1,003 houses after the war.

Szekler, who has been with Universal 30 years, 25 of which he has spent in Brazil, is here on his first visit in four years. He plans a trip to Hollywood to confer with studio officials.

## MPOE, Universal to Talk Classifications

Negotiations are in progress between Motion Picture Office Employes Union, Local 23169, AFL, and representatives of the Universal home office headed by John J. O'Connor, vice-president, looking toward the establishment of job classifications and minimum and maximum salaries for over 225 "white collar" workers in the Universal home office, newsreel unit and non-theatrical departments.

MPOE, which previously had confined its activities to Warners' home office and subsidiaries, took over representation of the Universal office workers through the AFL in April. The present contract which Universal has with the union will expire in September and the current negotiations are to set up job classifications similar to those set by the union with Warners.

## Newsreel Cameramen Pact Faces Delay

IATSE newsreel cameramen's locals 644, New York, and 666, Chicago, are not expected to set new contracts with the newsreel companies here until Pat Casey, film labor contact, returns from California. Casey is not expected to return for several weeks.

Stumbling block in the negotiations is the unions' demands for severance pay and the desire of the newsreels to make provision for apprentices on their cameramen's staffs.

## 400 School Boys 'Police' Theatres

**Kansas City, May 22.—O. F. Hitchler, manager of the Summit, community theatre here, has introduced to theatres the newly formed "Junior Officers," a group of school boys who will "police" local film houses and other places, in an effort to prevent vandalism and to keep down juvenile delinquency.**

**The organization, now numbering about 400 members, was formed by the community division of the city's welfare department and could serve as a model for exhibitors troubled elsewhere.**

## Arrest 4 Stagehands In F. & M. Dispute

St. Louis, May 22.—The controversy between the stagehands' union and the managers here flared up again recently, when James Arthur, one of the managers of Fanchon & Marco's first-run Shubert Theatre, caused the arrest of four members of the union on a charge of trespassing.

The Shubert employs two stagehands who, according to Arthur, recently insisted on turning on the house lights momentarily and closing and opening the stage curtain, in defiance of his order.

Arthur said he discharged them and they insisted their boss was Elmer Moran, business agent of the union, and not Fanchon & Marco. At that ultimatum, Arthur called the police and asked for the arrest of the two stagehands and of two other union members who were backstage to lend moral support. The case will be heard in police court.

The War Labor Board has under advisement the union's wage dispute.

## 4 New Navy Films For War Plants

Washington, May 22.—Four new short subjects, produced by the Industrial Incentive Division of the Navy, are now available to war plants, it was reported here yesterday.

The films are "Behind Nazi Guns," "The Battle Against Shop," "For Distinguished Service," available in 16 or 35 mm prints, and "Your Ship in Action," available in 16 mm. only.

## 400 Theatres Book UA 'Open Road'

Both the Fox West Coast and Dent Circuits have booked United Artists' "Song of the Open Road" for early June, Carl Leserman, general sales manager, disclosed here yesterday.

The film will have its world premiere in Portland, Ore., June 1, following which it will be featured in more than 400 theatres in the Fox and Dent circuits.

## Lefton Gets 'Cassidy'

Cleveland, May 22.—Nat L. Lefton, PRC franchise holder here, has acquired the first series of Harry Sherman's Hopalong Cassidy films produced, for distribution through the Cleveland, Cincinnati and Pittsburgh PRC exchanges.

## $324,000 Windfall For Fox St. Louis

St. Louis, May 22.—Stockholders of Fox St. Louis Properties, Inc., owner of the Fox Theatre here, will receive a windfall of a $324,000 interest in the Academy of Music in New York, which has an annual rental of $175,000, it was revealed in Federal Court here this week in announcing an offer of compromise made by the bankrupt Fox Theatres Corp. of New York.

Claims of the St. Louis company amount to $1,500,000 of a total of $8,100,000 against the Fox Theatres Corp. The offer of settlement, which Federal Judge George Moore indicated would be accepted, amounts to an 18 per cent interest in the Academy for the St. Louis stockholders. John S. Leahy, attorney for the trustees of the Theatre Realty Co., predecessor of the Fox St. Louis Properties, Inc., told the court the compromise has been recommended by Federal Judge John C. Knox of New York in settlement of litigation.

## Blank Gives $225,000 To Iowa Hospital

Des Moines, May 22.—A. H. Blank, president of Tri-States and Central States circuits in this territory, has increased a bequest to the Children's Memorial Hospital from $125,000 to $225,000, according to officials of the Iowa Methodist Hospital.

The hospital, to be constructed as a memorial to Blank's son, Raymond, will be operated by the Methodist Hospital. The cornerstone was laid a week ago.

## Stephens-Lang Asks Jury in RKO Suit

Counsel for Stephens-Lang Productions, Inc., producers of a series of six "Dr. Christian" films, filed a demand for a trial by jury in Federal Court here yesterday in connection with the corporation's $506,702 damage suit against RKO for alleged breach of contract.

No date has been set for the trial but it is not expected that the case will be tried before next Fall.

## Legion Rejects One, Five Acceptable

The Legion of Decency this week rates "Delinquent Parents," Judell-Progressive, in Class B, objectionable in part, because of "misplaced emphasis on moral values." Five others are rated acceptable.

Approved are: "The Canterville Ghost," M-G-M, Class A-1; "Call of the South Seas," Republic; "Detective Kitty O'Day," Monogram; "Goodnight Sweetheart," Republic, and "Goyescas" (Spanish), RKO, all Class A-2, unobjectionable for adults.

## San Jose Will Build

San Jose, Cal., May 22. — Directors of San Jose Amusement Co., operating the Jose, Liberty and Victory theatres in this area, have announced intentions to build a $200,000 house in the Bradley Manor district here. Company executives include Ben, James and H. S. Levin and Walter G. Preddy.

# Coast Flashes

*Hollywood, May 22*

J. L. BEDDINGTON, head of the films division of the British Ministry of Information, arrived here from the East today. He will be the guest of the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences at a dinner Friday night.

•

Universal today signed Dick Irving Hyland to produce "Be It Ever So Humble," starring Martha O'Driscoll and Noah Beery, Jr.

•

A. W. Schwalberg and Robert Goldstein of International have arrived here from New York for a week of studio conferences and product inspections.

•

M-G-M has purchased "The Romance of Henry Menafee" by Paul Gallico, and assigned Casey Robinson to prepare the script. Cliff Reid will produce.

•

Lorraine McLean, formerly with M-G-M, has joined Monogram as Trem Carr's technical liaison representative.

•

M-G-M announced "Boys Ranch", a juvenile delinquency subject based on the Amarillo Institution. Robert Sisk will produce the film.

•

Dale Eunson's novel "Our Moment Is Swift" has been bought by 20th-Fox for an Andre Daven production starring Jeanne Crain.

•

Frederick Stephani has rejoined M-G-M as a producer after an absence of two years.

•

Ned E. Depinet, RKO Radio president, arrived here from New York over the weekend.

•

N. Peter Rathvon, RKO president, will leave for New York tomorrow on the Superchief.

## Goldberg Cites Films' War Work Modesty

Philadelphia, May 22.—Contrasted with other industries engaged in war work, the film industry has done practically nothing to publicize its vast contributions to the war effort, declared Harry Goldberg, director of advertising and publicity for Warner Theatres, before the Philadelphia Motion Picture Forum in the Bellevue-Stratford Hotel here yesterday.

Goldberg cited a long list of big industrial companies which use national magazine space, newspapers and radio to advertise war production.

He also cited a message of Harry M. Warner, Warners' president, to his studio staff at the start of the war, stating that the company's policy would be to concentrate on victory as its first objective.

Statements of military leaders, pointing out both the great value of motion pictures to the morale of the soldiers at the front and the all-out cooperation by the industry in getting films to every part of the globe where our soldiers are located, were quoted by Goldberg.




FIGHTING SHOWMEN: JOIN THE FIGHTING FIFTH WAR LOAN, STARTING JUNE 12.

# 'S ON THE AIR!...TO MORE SEATS FOR YOU!

Beginning May 29—A nation-wide radio program—15 minutes of entertainment every day, Monday Through Friday—Coast To Coast over 177 stations of the Blue Network . . .

## . . . AND EVERY DAY A LOCAL PLUG FOR THEATRES PLAYING RKO RADIO PICTURES!

It's "Hollywood Star Time". . . the biggest daytime attraction on the air, because it presents, in a "live" show, such stars as Cary Grant, Ginger Rogers, Rosalind Russell, Frank Sinatra, Joan Davis, Gary Cooper, Ethel Barrymore, Eddie Cantor, Jean Arthur, Teresa Wright, Fibber McGee and Molly, and scores of others . . . plus orchestras, vocalists and other entertainers.

With the general theme of "what's going on at RKO," the program is broadcast direct from the dining room of the RKO Studios from 12:15 to 12:30 P.M., Pacific Coast Time, and one hour later in each of the time zones East. The last minute of the program is devoted to plugs of local showings of RKO Radio Pictures.

# OOD STAR TIME

**COAST TO COAST** Over 177 Stations of the Blue Network, 12:15 to 12:30 P.M., Pacific Coast Time; 1:15 to 1:30 P.M., Mountain Time; 2:15 to 2:30 P.M., Central Time, and 3:15 to 3:30 P.M., Eastern Time—Every Day, Monday Through Friday.

# Production Is Heavy, 55 Are Shooting

HOLLYWOOD, May 22.—One of the heaviest production periods of the year registered this past week with ten new pictures before the cameras and five finishing to bring the total in work to 55. The previous week saw nine started, six finished to total 49. The production scene:

**Columbia**

*Started*: "Ever Since Venus," with Ina Ray Hutton and band, Ann Savage, Ross Hunter, Hugh Herbert, Billy Gilbert, Glenda Farrell, Marjorie Gateson.

*Shooting*: "Bride of the Vampire," "Tonight and Every Night," "Under Western Skies," "Kansas City Kitty," "Battleship Blues."

**MGM**

*Started*: "Son of Lassie," with Peter Lawford, Elsa Lanchester, Nigel Bruce, Donald Crisp, Lassie.

*Finished*: "Maisie Goes to Reno."

*Shooting*: "The Thin Man Goes Home," "Ziegfeld Follies," "Lost in a Harem," "Mrs. Parkington," "The Picture of Dorian Gray," "Thirty Seconds Over Toyko," "Secrets in the Dark," "National Velvet."

**Monogram**

*Shooting*: "Charlie Chan in the Murder Chamber," "Alaska."

**PRC**

*Started*: "Seven Doors to Death," with Chick Chandler, June Clyde, George Meeker, Michael Raffeto, Gregory Gaye, Rebel Randall. "Rustlers' Hideout," with Buster Crabbe, Al St. John, Patti McCarthy.

**Paramount**

*Shooting*: "Fear," "Here Come the Waves," "Murder, He Says," "Two Years Before the Mast."

**RKO-Radio**

*Started*: "The Pumpkin Shell," with Sharyn Moffett, Jill Esmond, Una O'Connor, Bruce Edwards, Clare Carleton, Charles Arnt, Leona Maricle. "The Master Race," with Carl Esmond, Osa Massen, George Coulouris, Nancy Gates, Stanley Ridges, Helene Thimig.

*Shooting*: "Farewell My Lovely," "Having Wonderful Crime," "Tall in the Saddle," "None but the Lonely Heart," "Henvenly Days," "Belle of the Yukon," (International); "Woman in the Window," (International); "Princess and the Pirate," (Goldwyn).

**Republic**

*Started*: "House of Terror," with William Terry, Virginia Grey, Edith Barrett, Helene Thimig. "Cheyenne Wildcat," with Bill Elliott, Bobby Blake, George "Gabby" Hayes. "Anything for a Laugh," with Richard Arlen, Ellen Drew, Charles Butterworth, Richard Bailey.

*Finished*: "San Antonio Kid," "Three Little Sisters."

*Shooting*: "Atlantic City."

**20th Century-Fox**

*Shooting*: "A Tree Grows in Brooklyn," "Laura," "Something for the Boys," "Keys of the Kingdom."

**United Artists**

*Started*: "Dark Waters," (Benedict Bogeaus); with Merle Oberon, Franchot Tone, Thomas Mitchell, Fay Bainter, Alan Napier, Rita Gilman Beery.

*Shooting*: "Story of G. I. Joe," (Cowan); "Guest in the House," (Stromberg); "With All My Heart" (Vanguard).

**Universal**

*Started*: "Trail to Gunsight," with Eddie Drew, Maris Wrixon, Lyle Talbot, Buzz Henry, Marie Austin.

*Shooting*: "The House of Fear," "Bowery to Broadway," "San Diego, I Love You," "See My Lawyer," "Babes on Swing Street."

**Warners**

*Finished*: "The Doughgirls."

*Shooting*: "Strangers in Our Midst," "Roughly Speaking," "Objective Burma," "The Conspirators."

# *Big Bond Rallies in Phila., Minneapolis, Des Moines*

(*Continued from page* 1)

ley, deputy administrator of the Iowa War Finance Committee.

Also yesterday in Philadelphia, another 200 gathered at the Broadway Hotel under the direction of chairman L. J. Finske, who obtained 23 pledges of bond premieres from independent exhibitors, compared with 95 lined up at an area meeting in Wilkes Barre last week.

Largest of the gatherings took place on Saturday in Minneapolis, where 500 overflowed the Nicollet Hotel. W. A. (Al) Steffes, veteran independent exhibitor leader, who came out of retirement to serve as state exhibitor chairman for Minnesota presided, and led the gathering in a rousing welcome for national chairman O'Donnell and his lieutenants.

**Praise from Governor**

Governor Edward J. Thyre of Minnesota, welcoming the guests, told the gathering that Minnesota was proud of its accomplishment as "the leading state in the Union in the Fourth War Loan, having been the first to exceed its quota."

Among other guests at the luncheon dais were: O. J. Arnold, State War Finance Committee chairman; Leif Gilstad, executive manager, state WFC; W. H. Workman, Minneapolis area distributor chairman; Clarence Chaney, War Activities Committee, Minneapolis; E. J. Ruben and John J. McDonough of St. Paul, Charles Zinn of Minneapolis, 'Honored 100' winner; Norman Pyle, state publicity chairman, and Ben Friedman.

**Newark Bond Buyers Get 'Full Interest'**

Newark theatre and radio men enlisted by the Treasury Department for promotion work in the Fifth War Loan drive will meet at the Warner Brothers district office here tomorrow to dedicate themselves to giving the public "full interest for its money," according to Adam A. Adams, chairman of the special events committee of Essex County's amusement industry, who will preside over the session.

Last week, Adams and the members of his committee lined up a program of five major events planned for successive Monday nights throughout the campaign. There will be a voting contest for a "Bond Belle," who will be crowned queen of a ball and show at the Adams Theatre on July 8.

Two film premieres, one scheduled to open the drive and another for the week of June 26, are tentatively listed and a "Parade of Bands," with 20 or more "name" orchestras, will be held at Schools Stadium on June 18. A music or cultural enterprise will be presented by the Griffith Music Foundation on July 3.

**Iowa Triples Fourth Loan 'Bond Premiere' Total**

DES MOINES, May 22.—Nearly three times the number of "bond premieres" held during the last campaign have already been lined up in this territory for the Fifth War Loan drive, Dale McFarland, state publicity chairman, has announced. A total of 134 are already set, as compared to 48 in the Fourth War Loan.

A. H. Blank, exhibitor chairman, and Lou Levy, distributor chairman, predict that the grand total of premieres will reach 200, he said. When this figure is reached, it will mean a premiere in virtually every town in this area.

**Exhibitors in Field Set For Fifth Loan: Richey**

Exhibitors in the field are rapidly organizing for the Fifth War Loan campaign, H M. Richey of M-G-M, representing the WAC distributors' division, said at the weekend following his return from Buffalo, Cleveland and Indianapolis. He accompanied members of the national industry committee to those cities, where he addressed regional campaign meetings.

"Every state so far visited by the national committee has an organization functioning," Richey said.

**Kansas City WAC Meets On Fifth Loan May 29**

KANSAS CITY, May 22. — The War Activities Committee of the exchange area here will meet on May 29 with representatives from distributors and exhibitors to formulate plans for the Fifth War Loan drive. E. C. Rhoden will be chairman of the meeting. Several representatives from this area attended the regional meeting called by national industry chairman R. J. O'Donnell in St. Louis last week.

## *TBA Board to Meet*

The board of directors of the Television Broadcasters' Association will meet here next Friday afternoon at TBA headquarters, 500 Fifth Ave.

## *Rainy 'American Day'*

CHICAGO, May 22.—Loop boxoffice receipts rose yesterday afternoon when a sudden rain storm drenched the "I Am An American" celebration at Soldiers' Field. Film stars who appeared included Don Ameche, master of ceremonies; Joan Fontaine, Danny Kaye, Joan Leslie and Jane Powell. Warners filmed scenes of the observance for incorporation into the short subject, "I Am An American."

## *Egypt Bans 'Spain'*

"Inside Fascist Spain," March of Time release, has been banned in Egypt, it was learned here at the weekend at the 20th-Fox home office. The film opened in Cairo but was withdrawn at the request of the Egyptian Censor Board. No reason for the withdrawal was made available.

# 'White Cliffs' Heads For $120,000 to Equal Big 1st Week

(*Continued from page* 1)

bill will start a fourth week tomorrow. Roxy business is below expectations with "Pin-Up Girl" and a stage bill featuring Connee Boswell, Willie Howard and Raymond Scott and his CBS orchestra headed for $75,000 on the basis of the $64,000 recorded for the first five days ending Sunday night. The combined show will hold for a final six days of the third week with 20th Century-Fox's "The Eve of St. Mark" set to take over on Decoration Day. The Capitol expects $53,000 on its third week with "Gaslight" and a stage show featuring Phil Spitalny's "Hour of Charm" all-girl orchestra. The first five days ending Sunday night brought a satisfactory $40,000 and the combined bill will hold. Receipts on the third and final week of "Between Two Worlds" and the Coast Guard show, "Tars and Spars," at the Strand are expected to reach a modest $35,000 on the basis of weekend business of $18,000. Warners' "Make Your Own Bed" and a stage show headed by Cab Calloway and his band will open at the Strand on Friday.

**$35,000 for 'Cobra Woman'**

Universal's "Cobra Woman" is headed for a happy $35,000 on its first week at the Criterion, which ends tonight, and will hold with M-G-M's "Meet the People" set as the next film. Business is holding up at the Palace with "Show Business" expected to get $26,000 in its second week on the basis of a profitable $20,000 recorded on the first five days ending Sunday night. The 17th week of "The Song of Bernadette" will give the Rivoli about $21,000 with the run ending June 4. Paramount's "The Story of Dr. Wassell" is set to open at the Rivoli on June 6. "See Here, Private Hargrove," will bring the Astor $16,000 on its ninth week and will continue. The Globe expects to get about $15,500 on its third week of "The Hitler Gang" on the basis of satisfactory weekend business of $7,500 and will hold it for a fourth with 20th Century-Fox's "Roger Touhy, Gangster," set to follow. The second week of "The Hour Before Dawn" will give the Victoria $13,000, which will be but slightly under the first week's receipts of $13,500. This is excellent for this small house and the film is expected to remain for two more weeks.

**'Twain' Ends Run**

The final eight days, ending the third week of "The Adventures of Mark Twain," will give the Hollywood about $16,000, which is far from satisfactory. Warners' "Mr. Skeffington" will open on Thursday. Business has begun to fall off at the Manhattan, with "Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs" getting $8,500 on its seventh week, but it will continue. "Up in Mabel's Room" is expected to bring the Gotham a profitable $8,000 on its fifth and final week. United Artists' "It Happened Tomorrow" will open on Friday. The Rialto will do a comfortable $9,000 on its first week of "The Scarlet Claw" and it will hold the film.

# 'Hargrove' Captures Smash $16,000

CINCINNATI, May 22.—The RKO Grand, with "See Here, Private Hargrove" in a record opening, is following through to a terrific $16,000, estimated for its eight-day initial week, despite unprecedented hot weather. Other grosses sagged.

Estimated receipts for the week ending May 24-27:

**"The Falcon Out West" (RKO)**
RKO ALBEE—(3,300) (44c-50c-55c-65c-85c) 7 days, plus Saturday midnight show. Stage: Sammy Kaye's orchestra, Jack Durant. Gross: $21,000. (Average: $22,000).
**"Gaslight" (M-G-M)**
RKO CAPITOL—(2,000) (44c-50c-60c-70c) 7 days, 2nd week, plus Saturday midnight show. Gross: $8,000. (Average: $10,000).
**"The Cowboy and the Senorita" (Rep.)**
**"Return of the Ape Man" (Mono.)**
RKO FAMILY—(1,000) (30c-40c) 4 days. Gross: $1,500. (Average: $1,600).
**"Guns of the Pecos" (WB Reissue)**
**"Passport to Destiny" (RKO)**
RKO FAMILY—(1,000) (30c-40c) 3 days. Gross: $800. (Average: $800).
**"See Here, Private Hargrove" (M-G-M)**
RKO GRAND—(1,500) (44c-50c-60c-70c) 8 days, plus Saturday midnight show. Gross: $16,000. (Average, 7 days: $9,500).
**"Shine On, Harvest Moon" (WB)**
KEITH'S—(1,500) (44c-50c-60c-70c) 7 days. 4th week, moveover from three weeks at the RKO Grand. Gross: $4,500. (Average: $5,000).
**"Up in Mabel's Room" (UA)**
**"The Chinese Cat" (Mono.)**
RKO LYRIC—(1,400) (44c-50c-60c-70c) 7 days, 2nd week, plus Saturday midnight show. Gross: $5,000. (Average: $5,000).
**"Show Business" (RKO)**
RKO PALACE—(2,700) (44c-50c-60c-70c) 7 days, plus Saturday midnight show. Gross: $13,000. (Average: $15,000).
**"Uncertain Glory" (WB) (2 days)**
**"Penny Serenade" (Col.) (5 days)**
**"Too Many Husbands" (Col.) (5 days)**
RKO SHUBERT—(2,150) (44c-50c-60c-70c) 7 days, 2nd week on moveover from the RKO Palace. Gross: $5,000. (Average: $5,000).

# Propose Memorial for Second Film Studio

WAUKEGAN, Ill., May 21.—As an outgrowth of the local celebration of the industry's 50th anniversary, a movement has been started here to establish a memorial at 421 North Ave., where the S. & A. Film Co. is said to have established the second motion picture studio in the United States—in August, 1894, a few months after Thomas A. Edison established the first.

The proposal has been made by Mrs. Bess Dunn, former actress at the studio and former historian of the Waukegan County Historical Society, who was introduced at a recent meeting of the local Chamber of Commerce by John Mitchell, manager of the Genesee Theatre. At about the same time, the *Waukegan News-Sun* carried an interview with George K. Spoor, who, with E. H. Amet, now of Redondo Beach, Cal., founded the studio. It is claimed that they developed a number of devices which later became standard in cameras and projectors.

# Electronics Output to Be Ruled by WPB

The radio and radar division of the War Production Board has assumed responsibility for assuring that production of electronics equipment conforms as far as possible with the electronics precedence list with the dissolution of the Army-Navy Electronics Production Agency, according to Ralph A. Parker, deputy regional director of the WPB board in charge of production service.

# Reviews

## "Jungle Woman"

*(Universal)*

*Hollywood, May 22*

A BEAUTIFUL girl, primitive to the extreme in her desires, is the keystone character portrayed by Acquanetta with the feline characteristics of a jungle cat stalking her prey when mad jealousy goads her on because of thwarted love in "Jungle Woman." Acquanetta is a female ape changed to human form by science. Her desire fastens on a young man, the fiancee of Lois Collier, daughter of scientist J. Carrol Naish, who is seeking to determine what makes the reconversion job tick. She slays a sanitarium handyman who bothers her. After one attempt on the other girl's life the jungle woman stalks her to crush her to death in an ape-like grip, but Naish saves his daughter, inadvertently slaying the jungle woman he was trying to render harmless with a drug.

The story is told with force by Naish, Collier, Milburn Stone and Evelyn Ankers, as witnesses before a coroner's jury with flashbacks revealing the events. A look at the dead girl in the morgue reveals she has reverted to jungle form, and the scientist is cleared.

Reginald LeBorg directed smoothly from a screenplay by Bernard Schubert, Henry Sucher and Edward Dein, with Associate Producer Will Cowan at the helm.

Running time, 60 minutes. "A."* Release date, not set.

JACK CARTWRIGHT

**"A" denotes adult classification.*

## "The Drifter"

*(PRC)*

"THE DRIFTER," Buster Crabbe's latest for PRC, is average, placing stress on drama of the outdoor variety. Once again Al (Fuzzy) St. John backs Crabbe on the comedy end. Patricia Harper, who is credited with the original story and screenplay, has furnished Crabbe with a dual character role. As "Drifter" Davis, he is a sharpshooter in a medicine show engaged in looting banks, which activity is ascribed to Billy Carson, his double, a genial Robin Hood of the range.

When Davis is jailed as Carson, the real Carson is afforded an opportunity, by working in the show, to delve into the ramifications of the plot. He discovers that Davis has been working with Jack Ingram, the show's publicity man, and Ray Bennett, territorial bank examiner. Fuzzy stumbles on the situation and helps Davis break jail, mistaking him for Carson. The gang is eventually apprehended, following a series of mix-ups between Davis and Carson, but not before Ingram has killed Davis. There are several nocturnal chases with shooting in the dark, but in the main not too much gunpowder is expended for this type of film. Several brawls are also injected.

Carol Parker is the film's lone female and has very little to do. Jimmy Aubrey, Slim Whitaker, Kermit Maynard, and George Chesebro also appear. Production was by Sigmund Neufeld, while Sam Newfield directed.

Running time, 62 mins. "G."*

CHARLES RYWECK

**"G" denotes general classification.*

# MPPDA Meet Awaits Borthwick Return

The second adjourned session of the annual meeting of the Motion Picture Producers and Distributors of America is expected to be held following the return to New York of George Borthwick, treasurer of the organization, who is now on the Coast making a periodic inspection. Borthwick is due back late this week.

The first session of the annual meeting, on March, 27, was devoted to reelection of officers and to president Will H. Hays' report on motion pictures in wartime. The second session, April 14, was given over to commemoration of the industry's 50th anniversary.

## 'Heaven' at Stanley

"Taxi to Heaven," an Artkino release, will have its American premiere at the Stanley Theatre here tomorrow. Herman Rappaport directed from a script by the late Eugene Petrov.

# Mexican Producers Face Cost Rise

MEXICO CITY, May 22.—Now that film players have won their dispute with the National Cinematographic Industry Workers Union and have their own independent organization, they are demanding of producers that all player contracts hereafter be made on the basis of employment by the week instead of by the production—more pay for the players and more costs for producers—and that the producers put up $30,000 against future salaries.

## GWTW in 5th Year

M-G-M's "Gone With the Wind," continuing its record-breaking run in London, recently entered its fifth consecutive year at the Ritz Theatre, Leicester Square, according to the home office. The second longest run in British film history was established by M-G-M's "Ben Hur," which ran 49 weeks at the Tivoli in London in 1926.

# 'Jills' on Dual Gets $28,500 to Lead Brisk San Francisco

SAN FRANCISCO, May 22.—Business hit a high peak for the Spring here topped by "Four Jills and a Jeep" and "Tampico" at the Fox, where the gross neared $28,500. The Golden Gate took $28,200 with "Passport to Destiny" and Diosa Costello on the stage. "Man From Frisco" opened big with $24,500 at the Paramount.

Estimated receipts for the week ending May 22-25:

**"Up in Mabel's Room" (UA)**
**"Hat Check Honey" (Univ.)**
UNITED ARTISTS—(1,200) (45c-65c-85c) 7 days, 4th week. Gross: $9,500. (Average: $11,000).
**"Maltese Falcon" (WB)**
WARFIELD—(2,680) (45c-65c-85c) 7 days. Stage: vaudeville. Gross: $23,500. (Average: $21,800).
**"Passport to Destiny" (RKO)**
GOLDEN GATE—(2,850) (45c-65c-85c) 7 days. Stage: vaudeville. Gross: $28,200. (Average: $25,000).
**"Four Jills and a Jeep" (20th-Fox)**
**"Tampico" (20th-Fox)**
FOX—(5,000) (45c-65c-85c) 7 days. Gross: $28,500. (Average: $24,000).
**"Man from 'Frisco" (Rep.)**
PARAMOUNT—(2,740) (45c-65c-85c) 7 days. Gross: $24,500. (Average: $19,600).
**"See Here, Private Hargrove" (M-G-M)**
STATE—(2,306) (45c-65c-85c) 7 days, 2nd week, moveover from Fox. Gross: $13,200. (Average: $12,100).
**"The Lodger" (20th-Fox)**
**"Charlie Chan in the Chinese Cat" (Mono.)**
ST. FRANCIS—(1,400) (45c-65c-85c) 7 days, 2nd week, moveover from Paramount. Gross: $14,500. (Average: $11,600).
**"Once Upon a Time" (Col.)**
**"Swing Out the Blues" (Col.)**
ORPHEUM—(2,440) (45c-65c-85c) 7 days. Gross: $16,900. (Average: $14,800).
**"Address Unknown" (Col.)**
**"Black Parachute" (Col.)**
ESQUIRE—(1,008) (45c-65c-85c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $10,400. (Average: $9,000).
**"Address Unknown" (Col.)**
**"Black Parachute" (Col.)**
TIVOLI—(1,488) (45c-65c-85c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $9,500. (Average: $9,000).

# 'Gaslight' Nets $5,000 Over Par in Balto.

BALTIMORE, May 22.—"Gaslight" which started off big here at the Century, had a splendid weekend and looks like an easy $22,500 this week. "Address Unknown, aided by a stage show, is in line for $18,500 at the Hippodrome.

Estimated receipts for the week ending May 25:

**"Gaslight" (M-G-M)**
CENTURY—(3,000) (35c-45c-55c and 60c weekends) 7 days. Gross: $22,500. (Average: $17,500).
**"Standing Room Only" (Para.)**
KEITH'S—(2,405) (35c-40c-50c-60c) 4 days. 3rd week. Gross: $9,000. (Average: $15,000).
**"Tampico" (20th-Fox)**
NEW—(1,581) (30c-40c-60c) 7 days. Gross: $13,500. (Average: $13,000).
**"Uncertain Glory" (WB)**
STANLEY—(3,280) (35c-44c-55c-66c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $10,500. (Average: $18,000).
**"Address Unknown" (Col.)**
HIPPODROME—(2,205) (35c-44c-55c-65c) 7 days. Stage show: Marjorie Gainsworth, Cy Reeves, Gautier's Steeplechase, Three Edward Bros., Jerry & Jane Branrow. Gross: $18,500. (Average: $18,000).
**"Bermuda Mystery" (20th-Fox)**
MAYFAIR—(1,000) (35c-54c) 7 days. Gross: $6,500. (Average: $7,000).

## Nichols to 'Ideal' Group

Maurice W. Nichols has been named Eastern advertising manager of the Ideal Women's Group, publishers of the magazines *Movie Life, Movies* and *Movie Stars Parade,* it was announced here yesterday by S. F. Nelson, advertising director.

# A DE LUXE ATTRACTION

**FOX THEATRE ST. LOUIS** — MAY 25
Fanchon & Marco Theatre Circuit — De Luxe house

•

**METROPOLITAN THEATRE WASHINGTON** — MAY 26
Warner Bros. Circuit — De Luxe house

•

**FULTON THEATRE PITTSBURGH** — MAY 27
Shea Theatrical Circuit — De Luxe house

•

**WOODS THEATRE CHICAGO** — JUNE 7
Essaness Theatre Circuit — De Luxe house

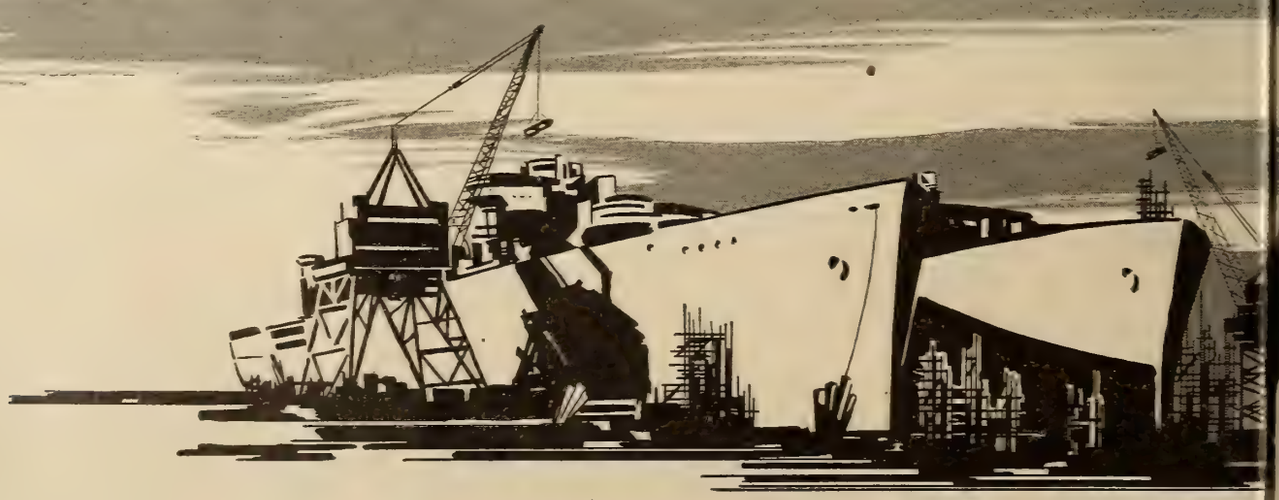
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**RIVERSIDE THEATRE MILWAUKEE** — JUNE 2
Warner Bros. Circuit — De Luxe house

•

**PALACE THEATRE JACKSONVILLE** — JUNE 9
Paramount Florida Circuit — De Luxe house

•



FOR DE LUXE THEATRES

# Man from Frisco

## MICHAEL O'SHEA • ANNE SHIRLEY

## GENE LOCKHART

DAN DURYEA • STEPHANIE BACHELOR • RAY WALKER • TOMMY BOND

*and a cast of 20,000*

•

ROBERT FLOREY—DIRECTOR

Original Story and Adaptation: GEORGE WORTHING YATES • GEORGE CARLETON BROWN

Screenplay by ETHEL HILL • ARNOLD MANOFF

A REPUBLIC PICTURE



# $2,000,000 in Para. Notes To Balaban

(Continued from page 1)

outstanding. According to the proxy statement $15,926,452 will be added to the capital surplus of the corporation which may be made available for any authorized purpose "for which such surplus may be used."

An agreement was entered into with Balaban on May 9, the statement disclosed, subject to approval by the stockholders, to sell to him $2,000,000 of convertible promissory notes, carrying interest of 2¾ percent. The notes, according to the terms of the agreement, will be convertible into common stock of the corporation at $25 a share, the closing price of the stock on the New York Stock Exchange on the date of the agreement.

**Plan Three Resolutions**

Three resolutions relating to additional outside directors, selection of auditors and sending stockholders a comprehensive summary of annual meeting proceedings will be submitted to the meeting by stockholders, the company has been advised. All three are opposed by management.

The present board of directors of 16 has been renominated for reelection. Members of the board are: Balaban, Stephen Callaghan, Y. Frank Freeman, Harry D. Gibson, Leonard H. Goldenson, A. Conger Goodyear, Stanton Griffis, Duncan G. Harris, John D. Hertz, John W. Hicks, Jr., Austin C. Keough, Earl I. McClintock, Maurice Newton, E. V. Richards, Edwin L. Weisl and Adolph Zukor.

**'Best Interests of Corporation'**

In commenting on the proposed sale of securities to Balaban, the proxy statement declared, "In the judgment of the board of directors, it is in the best interests of the corporation that Balaban should have an opportunity to acquire, at a fair and reasonable price, a substantially increased interest in the common stock of the corporation, and that this can best be accomplished by the proposed sale to him of the notes. It is intended that the proceeds of the sale of the notes shall be made available for any proper corporate purpose and, among other things, may be used, if and to the extent the board shall determine that such use is in the best interests of the corporation, for the payment of obligations and purchase of stock or other securities of the corporation."

## *April Admission Tax Totaled $14,907,919*

(Continued from page 1)

against $2,283,512 in March, but the district ran $440,000 above the $1,786,818 reported for April, 1943.

Box office collections in the New York sector dropped from $2,074,806 in March to $1,964,280 last month, it was shown, but tickets sold by brokers increased from $25,730 to $42,588; tickets sold by proprietors in excess of the established price increased from nothing to $17,379, and admissions to roof gardens and cabarets jumped from $182,975 to $204,085.

# *Revised OCR Set-up Is Foreseen in Washington*

(Continued from page 1)

ficulties is said to be the pressure exerted by baseball, bowling alley and other interests, not including the theatre industry, for new facilities which the War Production Board refused to grant, following purported assurances by section officials that their activities were essential to the war effort and should be cared for in the same way as the motion picture needs of war areas were being provided through the construction of new theatres.

So serious did the controversy become that it reached top officials of WPB, including Chairman Donald Nelson, who is understood to have ordered a reorganization of the recreational section's activities.

While neither George W. McMurphey, chief of the section, or other officials of the service trades division, would confirm the rumor, it was said that McMurphey also might step out, clearing the way for a new organizational setup by Donald R. Longman, chief of the division.

Longman tonight refused to verify reports of the impending reorganization and said that there were no changes contemplated in the program to provide recreational facilities in war centers. He said, however, that a statement would be issued in the next day or two, clarifying the situation.

The difficulties of the recreation section have been piling up over a period of some weeks and brought an order recently that officials were not to talk directly to newspaper men but were to release information through the WPB information division.

Several items contributed to the situation, one a newspaper story that a Western baseball entrepreneur had been offered financial assistance, which is not within the power of WPB to grant, and another that a Mid-Western city was to get a number of bowling alleys. Following publication of the latter, a number of applications for the alleys were received in WPB, where they were turned down.

Officials said, however, there had been no friction with respect to the theatre program, in which a respectable record has been achieved, with some 60 construction and rebuilding jobs sponsored by OCR given WPB approval. All of the criticism and pressure, it was said, has come from other amusements.

## 'Honour' to Be First '44-'45 Soskin Film

(Continued from page 1)

Renoir, to write and direct, respectively, the "Precious Bane," by Mary Webb, he said.

As previously announced, Ben Hecht will write and direct "The Life of Shakespeare," in Technicolor, with Laurence Olivier sought for the name role, he said.

Soskin's first production for the new season's release through J. Arthur Rank's Eagle-Lion Distributors, will be "Signed with Their Honour", adapted for the screen by Maxwell Anderson. Arrangements have been made with Samuel Goldwyn to star David Niven in the production at the Denham studios, and negotiations are being completed for Elia Kazan to direct. He added, however, that if his return to London is prevented by the pending Allied invasion, the film will be produced at the Samuel Goldwyn Coast studios, starring Jennifer Jones, with direction by Frank Borzage.

Production costs will range from $1,000,000 to $2,000,000, he said.

Soskin disclosed plans to produce both in Hollywood and London, adding that it is important to learn Hollywood production technique, if worldwide distribution similar to American companies is to be obtained.

British independent producers distributing through Eagle-Lion have discussed with Rank post-war plans for a dramatic school for the grooming of British players for stardom, Soskin concluded.

## *Levey-Levins to Build*

VALLEJO, Cal., May 22.—Ellis Levey and Ben and Jesse Levin, operators of the Rio in Richmond, have obtained building priorities for construction of a 400-seat theatre here.

## Expect Big Turnout At Allied Meeting

(Continued from page 1)

dred local industry members will be present.

Caravan sessions will be held tomorrow and Thursday, while the board will gather on Wednesday and Friday. Between 25 and 30 Allied directors and caravan leaders from other territories are slated to attend.

Sidney E. Samuelson, Eastern Pennsylvania Allied business manager, announced today that the following officials are expected: chairman Abram F. Myers, Washington; president Martin G. Smith, Ohio; and executive committeemen Jack Kirsch, Illinois; Col. H. Cole, Texas; William L. Ainsworth, Wisconsin; Roy L. Harold, Indiana; Meyer Leventhal, Maryland; P. J. Wood, Ohio; Hugh Bruen and Robert H. Poole, Southern California; Jack Fishman, M. A. Alderman, N. Bailey and Dan Pouzzner, Connecticut; Morris Wax and Harry Chertcoff, Eastern Pennsylvania; Ray Branch and Fred Pennell, Michigan; Nathan Yamins, Arthur K. Howard and Walter B. Littlefield, New England; Harry Lowenstein, Irving Dollinger and E. J. Kelly, New Jersey, and Fred J. Herrington, Western Pennsylvania. M. A. Rosenberg of Pittsburgh will be absent because of illness.

## *RKO's Gross Is Up, But Net Is Down*

(Continued from page 1)

13 weeks of 1944 is almost 25 per cent higher than for the similar period in 1943, but tax provisions are being computed on a basis of almost 66⅔ per cent as compared to 42 per cent for the first 13 weeks of 1943.

# Theatre Equipment Outlook Brighter, RCA Announces

(Continued from page 1)

some restrictions by WPB, improvement is expected in the immediate future. However, a few types of tubes will remain critically short because of military needs. Substitutions have been made wherever possible in such cases.

With reference to the IATSE pact, W. L. Jones, vice president and general manager of RCA Service, pointed out that service rates have remained unchanged for more than six years, in spite of general price and wage rises. Previous cost rises, such as the wage rise in 1941, increased travel and living expenses of field service representatives, and heavier taxes on such items as telephone and telegraph service, were all absorbed by RCA, Jones said.

**RCA Plans Postwar Drive-in Equipment**

CAMDEN, N. J., May 22.—Plans for distribution of sound and projection equipment for postwar drive-in theatres and for large-screen theatre television are under discussion at meetings being held this week by salesmen and executives of RCA's theatre equipment section here.

New products in the theatre equipment, soon to be announced, were discussed. Homer B. Snook, sales manager of the equipment section, outlined prospects for manufacture of sound and projection equipment for the remainder of the year, and declared that delivery prospects are definitely brighter for the second half of 1944. Projection equipment deliveries probably will show some improvement, he said, but to lesser degree than that foreseen for sound equipment.

Home office participants in the conferences are Edward C. Cahill, manager of the industrial and sound department; David J. Finn, sales manager of that department; Barton Kreuzer, manager of the theatre equipment section; Snook, and John F. O'Brien, assistant sales manager; Charles Underhill and William V. Courtney.

## *Bruen and Poole in Talks with OCR*

(Continued from page 1)

resentatives are understood to have protested the construction program sponsored by Fox West Coast Theatres, which has secured a permit to build one theatre and has pending applications for five more, and were said to be prepared to ask the Department of Justice to halt circuit expansions arising under the OCR program.

OCR officials refused to comment on today's meeting, but it is understood that the Californians discussed the matter with George W. McMurphey, chief of the OCR recreation section, informing him that independent exhibitors on the Coast were able and prepared to meet all needs for additional facilities. The session was said to have been inconclusive and Bruen and Poole are expected to return for further conversations after talking with Clark, probably some time time next week.



The Anzio Beach-head was tough going!

# BE GLAD YOU'RE ALIVE TO BACK NUMBER FIVE!

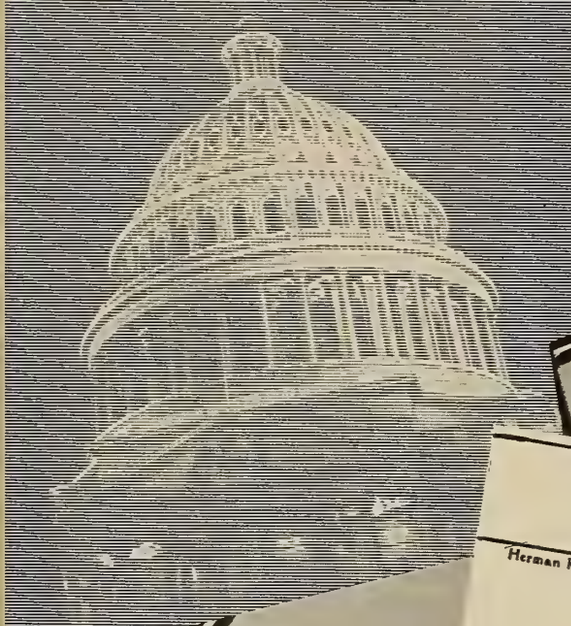
*Sure it will be tough going! Let's go!*

# 5th WAR LOAN

## The Industry's New Job!

*Sponsored by War Activities Committee of Motion Picture Industry, 1501 Broadway, N. Y. C.*

# HOME FRONT INSTRUCTIONS:



NATIONAL SCREEN SERVICE
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Minneapolis
New Haven
New Orleans
New York
Oklahoma City
Omaha
Philadelphia
Pittsburgh
Portland
St. Louis
Salt Lake City
San Francisco
Seattle
Washington

Studios:
Hollywood
New York

Dear mister exhibitor -

You have been just fine about handling our film and Advertising carefull - so they will last out untill this war gets finished --

We appreciate this kindness very much and thanks you very much

But this war is not over yet - and we just want to remind you that all our stuff has still a long ways to go .

We have a motto over here. It is STRETCH it - make it LAST - NEVER throw it away . So untill Hitler get his neck stretched GOOD - and Japaneese Emporer also gets his neck stretched away out GOOD

Please take good care of all FILM and Advertising material and help our boys win this war.

Yours trully
The Prize Baby

p s please buy a BOND please

First in Film and Radio News Brief, Accurate and Impartial

# MOTION PICTURE DAILY

Alert, Intelligent and Indispensable to the Motion Picture Industry

VOL. 55. NO. 102 NEW YORK, U. S. A., WEDNESDAY, MAY 24, 1944 TEN CENTS

COPY DO NOT REMOVE

## British Weekly Attendance Is 30,000,000

### *Jumps from 24,000,000 In 10-Year Period*

LONDON, May 23.—Attendance at motion pictures in England has now reached a weekly average of 30,000,000, a jump of 6,000,000 from what was considered an unsurpassable top ten years ago, according to estimates compiled here by the British Board of Trade's films' council.

BOT announced at the same time that the gross footage shown in British theatres during the year ended Sept. 30, 1943, was 44,768,000,000, compared with 44,278,000,000 the previous year. Of this amount, 9,013,000,000 feet, or 20.13 per cent, comprised British films, which the year before had contributed 21.12 per cent of the total. The non-British

(*Continued on page* 12)

## *Bonds Delay Anniversary*

Exhibitors' field celebrations of the 50th anniversary of commercial motion pictures, now being arranged by 40 state exhibitor chairmen recently appointed by Harold J. Fitzgerald, national director of the observance, will not take place, in most instances, until after the Fifth War Loan drive ends on July 8. A few circuits and associations, however, have scheduled their celebrations for next month.

Mid-State Theatres, Pennsylvania circuit, has chosen the week of June 22; Allied Theatres of New Jersey

(*Continued on page* 10)

## *SEC Orders Hearing On RKO Stock Sale*

PHILADELPHIA, May 23.—The Securities and Exchange Commission has ordered a hearing to be held here May 29 on the application filed by Lehman Brothers of New York for an order exempting from the provisions of Section 17 (A) of the investment company's contemplated purchase, with Goldman Sachs, of 57,337 shares of RKO six per cent preferred stock from the Atlas Corp.

The requested exemption for the transaction is necessary, it was pointed out, because Frederick I. Ehrman,

(*Continued on page* 12)

## Carmen Trust Suit Dismissal Asked By Special Master

DETROIT, May 23.—A recommendation of dismissal of the anti-trust suit brought in 1941 by Greater Detroit Theatres, Inc., against Cooperative Theatres of Michigan, Inc., and seven distributing companies, has been made to Judge Arthur J. Tuttle in Federal District Court here by Donald L. Quaife, special master, to whom the case was referred. Quaife also recommends dismissal of a cross-bill filed by Cooperative.

The complaint charged booking conspiracy and price discrimination on first suburban-run films against the Carmen Theatre, Dearborn, and in favor of the Warren Theatre, op-

(*Continued on page* 12)

## *Bowl Rally to Launch Drive*

HOLLYWOOD, May 23.—The industry's Fifth War Loan drive in Southern California will be launched on Wednesday, June 14, with a rally in Hollywood Bowl, where Secretary of the Treasury Henry Morgenthau, Jr., will address an assembly of 25,000 studio campaign workers and other film representatives.

Entertainment will be furnished by stars supplied through the Hollywood Victory Committee, and the Secretary's speech, as well as other portions

(*Continued on page* 10)

### *'Free Movie Day' Every Day Urged*

**Newark, May 23.—Adam A. Adams, chairman of the special events committee for the industry's Fifth War Loan drive in this area, has proposed a month-long motion picture theatre program different from any tried before, with "a seat for every bond," by which patrons would be admitted free by purchase of a bond at any theatre at any time, instead of on a specific "Bond Premiere" night.**

## *Decree Before Allied Today*

PHILADELPHIA, May 23.—The four-day meeting of officials of Allied States Association opened here today, with the Allied caravan meeting at the Hotel Warwick, and will continue tomorrow, when the board goes into two days of executive session.

Uppermost on the board's agenda is a summary report by Abram F. Myers, Allied counsel, on the status of consent decree negotiations, and consideration of the Ohio resolution for a Congressional investigation of lack of diligence in prosecuting pending cases under the Sherman Act. Other subjects to be considered are: "high film rentals and forced percentage playing, contract provisions relative to checking and audits, the Ross Federal Service and Copyright Protection Bu-

(*Continued on page* 10)

## *CBS Orders Experimental Television Transmitter*

Columbia Broadcasting has placed an order with General Electric for an ultra-high frequency television transmitter which will operate on radio frequencies nearly ten times as high, above 400 megacycles, than the present CBS television station WCBW, CBS disclosed here yesterday. The new transmitter will be installed in the spire of the Chrysler Tower in New York from which CBS now transmits television pictures on pre-war standards.

The order is claimed to be the first of its kind in electronic development and is intended to back CBS' belief in higher television standards for post-war broadcasting. CBS said yesterday: "We know that General Electric is technically far advanced in work on the higher frequencies. The order is, of course, subject to obtaining an experimental license from the FCC for operation on this frequency, and is also subject to mutual agreement on specifications and cost. The primary concern is to make practical field tests, at the earliest possible time, of a television broadcasting service on higher frequencies."

Dr. W. R. G. Baker, vice-president of General Electric, added that his company is presently "engaged 100 per cent in war work and that present restrictions on materials and manpower precluded immediate work on the transmitter. He added that development work would necessarily have to wait "until such time as cer-

(*Continued on page* 10)

## Republic's 68 Titles for '44-45 Season

### *Yates and Grainger Say Budget is $17,750,000*

Republic yesterday announced all titles for the 68 pictures promised for next season. The company is the first to disclose a full title schedule for 1944-'45. The announcement, made jointly by H. J. Yates, chairman of the board, and J. R. Grainger, president and general sales manager, said $17,750,000 has been allocated to production.

Eight features predominantly musical and dramatic and slated for top-budgets include "Brazil," "Flame of Barbary Coast," "Lake Placid Serenade," "Storm Over the Philippines," "Hit Parade," "A Fabulous Texan," "Earl Carroll's Vanities," and "Let the Hurricane Roar." "Brazil" con-

(*Continued on page* 12)

## Poole, Bruen Confer With Tom Clark

WASHINGTON, May 23.—Robert Poole and Hugh Bruen of the Pacific Coast Conference of Independent Theatre Owners after conferring yesterday with the Office of Civilian Requirements, carried their opposition to broad circuit theatre expansions to the Department of Justice today, meeting with Assistant U. S. Attorney General Tom C. Clark before leaving to attend the Allied board meeting at Philadelphia tomorrow.

The mounting opposition to the

(*Continued on page* 12)

## *Theatre Guild Enters Television Field*

The Theatre Guild will produce a series of television programs for a manufacturer of a nationally known product, it was learned here yesterday. The sponsor is now negotiating for radio time.

Entry into television was previously indicated in MOTION PICTURE DAILY. The Guild is also understood to be negotiating with film interests for picturization of many of its valuable stage properties, with Hal Wallis figuring most prominently in the discussions. The Guild is also reported interested in the establishment of a ballet theatre in addition to continuation of its present stage production activities.

# Personal Mention

ANDREW STONE, United Artists producer, has arrived in New York from Hollywood for a two-week stay.

•

ARTHUR SACHSON, Warners' assistant general sales manager, and JULES LAPIDUS, Eastern division sales manager, will leave today for Philadelphia and Washington.

•

MAURICE BERGMAN, Universal Eastern advertising and publicity head, will leave for the Coast at the weekend with stopovers at Cincinnati and Chicago.

•

BERNARD GOODMAN, Warners' assistant exchange operations head, and MAX D. BLACK of the real estate department, are due back in New York from Buffalo today.

•

LEW SCHREIBER, executive assistant to DARRYL ZANUCK, has arrived in New York from Hollywood for a week's stay.

•

SYDNEY SAMSON, 20th Century-Fox Canadian district manager, was visiting in Buffalo this week.

•

NORMAN AYERS, Warners' Eastern district manager, left last night for Buffalo.

•

LOUIS PHILLIPS, Paramount attorney, has returned from Chicago.

## Milestone Gravely Ill; Cromwell Takes Over

HOLLYWOOD, May 23.—Director Lewis Milestone was reported in grave condition at the Hollywood Hospital late today following an emergency operation for a ruptured appendix. First stricken yesterday while directing "Guest in the House" for Hunt Stromberg, he collapsed at his home this morning while attempting to leave for the studio. Dr. William Branch, who performed the operation, views Milestone's chances for recovery as "fair."

Meanwhile, work on "Guest in the House" has been suspended for a few days until John Cromwell, borrowed from David O. Selznick, can take over the direction.

## McConville to England

Joseph A. McConville, Columbia vice-president in charge of foreign distribution, left yesterday for England, where he will confer with Joseph Friedman, managing director, and other executives in the British organization.

## Schine Case Subpoena

BUFFALO, May 23.—Federal Judge Knight today signed an order to subpoena Frederich Lorrey of Mount Vernon, Ohio, as a Government witness in the pending anti-trust suit against Schine Chain Theatres, Inc.

# Insider's Outlook

By RED KANN

*Hollywood, May 23*

ON this page and this very space February 2 was a bevy of observations about "The Song of Bernadette." Some of them, telescoped in brevity's cause:

"It is not the calibre of effort which necessarily will display staggering returns immediately, for this is a film quiet in mood and even in tempo. It is not apt to be 'sensational' within the meaning of the term as the trade generally accepts it. More likely will it be that grosses will build steadily and sustain themselves over the period of the run. Moreover, it is entirely possible receipts will scale high peaks and approach some valleys. But it is also very possible the averaging off process will establish this attraction in highly formidable brackets over extended periods of time."

■

The weeks and the months have rolled by since this film went into its initial playdate in Los Angeles. Therefore, what about it? Did your Nostradamus hit it on the commercial side or did he not? The record of early first run dates in key cities usually sets the pace. The Picture Grosses Department of *Motion Picture Herald* offers as good an answer as any extant.

When finally reported in the *Herald*, "The Song of Bernadette" tallied a gross of $1,914,000 against a comparative average of $1,280,000. Percentagewise, the over all performance turned out a handsome 149.5. At that juncture the picture had played 23 theatres in 16 cities, ranging from Baltimore to Washington, and its total playing time in that highly limited total of situations and theatres was 78 weeks. In all cases, advanced admissions represented exhibition policy.

■

A rapid roaming over performance by percentages is interesting by a wide assortment of diagnoses. Here are a handful:

First week in Baltimore 194.1 per cent with a slough-off to only 97 per cent in the fifth. First week in Chicago 217.2 and 184.2 in the first moveover week which was the sixth of the run in that city. First week in Cincinnati 214.2, in Denver 131.1, in Indianapolis 152.5, in Kansas City 83.3, obviously a bad spot. First week in Hollywood 183.1 and 171.6 in a downtown house on a day-and-date setup.

Opening stanza in Milwaukee showed amazing strength at 207.3. The sustaining power of the long run at the New York Rivoli must be widely known by now. But, at any rate, the first week there showed 213.8 per cent and the eleventh 131.5.

■

Best of all, not in money because of size of theatre but relatively, was the initial week at the Harris, Pittsburgh, where business soared to 287.1 per cent of average.

On the crystal ball side, if this demonstrates anything, it shows once more how precarious is the business of trying to square the future with the predictions so frequently made for it.

■ ■

Evaluation of the musicians' deal between major studios and James C. Petrillo will bear little resemblance to its ultimate prospective until negotiations for a renewal of the contract just signed get going. Retroactive to April 1, the pact runs out March 31, 1946.

Insofar as the big lots are concerned, the terms reached after five days of back-and-forth are not onerous, but the case of the smaller studios and several dozens of independent producers, is something different. It is, however, in the precedental phases of the arrangement that the speculation and the rumination are lodged.

■

Standby orchestras are now the prevailing order. MGM, Warners and 20th-Fox each will keep 35 men employed on a regular basis, Paramount 30, and RKO, Universal, Columbia and Republic 25. Studios, like Metro and TFC, which make many musicals face no problem dollar-wise or employment-wise because they reach considerably beyond the minimums set up. As it goes on the other side of the ledger, Paramount made far fewer musicals and obviously found its requirements, musically, less persistent.

■

The significant point is that the standbys remain exactly as fixed without relationship to the ups and downs of the musical requirements of the employing studios. Thus, there has been established a manpower base not necessarily dictated by needs. The creation of this is regarded in some quarters as a foundation—the cement and steel kind—which will defy dislodgement in the future.

This is why the ultimate perspective is not on the current horizon and why it cannot be fathomed on the basis of the two year deal and its hardly dry signatures.

■ ■

Here is one of the best stories Joe E. Brown tells about his overseas entertainment trip.

Enemy planes interrupted an open air show in the South Pacific. The boys had to run to cover.

Commented the commanding officer: "Those Japs made a lot of enemies tonight."

■ ■

Thumbnailer on "A Guy Named Joe": Here comes Mr. Jordan in a P-38.

## Cinema Lodge Will Install Officers

Si Fabian and Arthur L. Mayer, exhibitors, and Col. A. Ralph Steinberg have been elected to the advisory board of Cinema Lodge No. 1366, B'nai B'rith, and will be installed with other officers at the lodge's annual inaugural meeting to be held at the Hotel Edison here on Wednesday evening, May 31. William S. Gailmor, news analyst on station WHN, New York, will be guest speaker.

The new officers who will be installed by Harry B. Epstein, past president of B'nai B'rith Grand Lodge, District No. 1, include Albert A. Senft of Sterling Sign Co., president; S. Arthur Glixon, Bernard Goodman, Leo Jaffe, Samuel Lefkowitz, William Melnicker, Alvin T. Sapinsley, Norman Steinberg, Louis Weber, Robert M. Weitman, Robert Wile and William Zimmerman, vice-presidents; Max B. Blackman, treasurer; Herman Levine, corresponding secretary; Julius M. Collins, recording secretary, and Dr. Charles Goodman, monitor.

### Others on Board

In addition to Fabian, Mayer and Col. Steinberg, Cinema Lodge's advisory board includes Barney Balaban, Joseph Bernhard, Nate J. Blumberg, Harry Brandt, Jack Cohn, Leopold Friedman, Malcolm Kingsberg, William Klein, Abe Montague, Charles C. Moskowitz, Dr. David De Sola Poole, Abe Schneider, Samuel Schneider, Joseph H. Seidelman, Murray Silverstone, Nate Spingold, Herman Starr, Major Albert Warner, Harry M. Warner, Abraham S. Weber and Adolph Zukor.

## Griffith Casualty Suit

TULSA, Okla., May 23.—Alleging that Henry C. Sowders died on March 25 from injuries received when he fell last Oct. 20 at the Tulsa Theatre, where he was employed, the executrix of Sowders' estate filed suit for $20,000 damages against Griffith Southwestern Theatres in state court here today.

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The crowning achievement of
Twenty Years of M-G-M leadership—



# The WHITE CLIFFS OF DOVER

M-G-M's THE WHITE CLIFFS OF DOVER

A mighty attraction fittingly celebrates M-G-M's Twenty-Year Anniversary with a glorious record-breaking World Premiere at Radio City Music Hall

M-G-M's Great Story of Love in Our Time!

# THE WHITE CLIFFS OF DOVER

*starring*

## IRENE DUNNE

A CLARENCE BROWN PRODUCTION

*and with* ALAN MARSHAL

RODDY McDOWALL • FRANK MORGAN

VAN JOHNSON • C. AUBREY SMITH

DAME MAY WHITTY • GLADYS COOPER

Directed by CLARENCE BROWN • Produced by SIDNEY FRANKLIN

Screen Play by Claudine West, Jan Lustig and George Froeschel

Based on the Poem "The White Cliffs" by Alice Duer Miller



Fighting Showmen! Join The
Fighting 5th WAR LOAN!

MOTION PICTURE DAILY
MAY 24, 1944

This magnificent picture
celebrates

TWENTY YEARS OF LEADERSHIP
1924 - 1944
MGM

## Atkinson Challenges Discharge of Moore

CHICAGO, May 23.—Disapproval of Mayor Edward Kelly's appointment of Samuel Todd, veteran city electrical inspector, as successor to Edward J. Moore, as city examiner of projectionists, was voiced today by Gene Atkinson, business manager of Chicago projectionists' Local 110.

"As Todd is a non-member of our union, we will not recognize him and are demanding that the Mayor give us details which might justify his action," declared Atkinson. The Mayor's explanation that Moore was discharged "for the good of the service" fell far short of satisfying the union, he added.

Moore continues as projectionist at the United Artists Theatre, which job he performed in addition to serving as city examiner since 1935. In view of the examiner's office being self-sustaining, with more than $15,000 revenue annually from the projectionists for their licenses, the union always has considered it as its own property, and Kelly's discharge of a member is considered as unjust rebuke.

## Grafton Nears End of Loew's Examination

Examination before trial of Nicholas Schenk, president of Loew's, William F. Rodgers, M-G-M vice-president in charge of distribution, and Howard Dietz, M-G-M advertising-publicity director, in the $1,000,000 damage suit pending in Federal Court here against Loew's filed by Grafton Films, is expected to be completed soon, it was learned yesterday.

The suit alleges that after a distribution deal was entered into with M-G-M Pictures of England, Ltd., Loew's subsidiary, for the complainant's film, "The Stars Look Down," the company here delayed release after learning that 20th Century-Fox had in production "How Green Was My Valley," a similar film.

Loew's is preparing to take depositions from exhibitors. Plaintiff, it is understood, also contemplates calling in key city exhibitors to the trial, which may begin in June.

## Exhibitors to Receive Promotion Plaques

M-G-M will award 20 plaques to exhibitors for the best campaigns in connection with the company's 20th anniversary observance, set for June 22-28, William R. Ferguson, company exploitation manager, announced here yesterday.

Accessories, including pennants, one-sheets, stickers, valances, plastic pins and badges, bumper strips and other items have been shipped to exchanges, in addition to National Screen Service materials also to be used in conjunction with the observance.

## Clyde Hager Dies

HARRISBURG, Pa., May 23.—Clyde Hager, 57, veteran vaudeville artist, who played theatre circuits throughout the country, died here yesterday following a heart attack. Hager was on a tour of service camps when stricken. He is survived by two sons and a granddaughter.

# Reviews

## "Home in Indiana"

*(20th Century-Fox)*

*Hollywood, May 23*

THIS attraction runs to 106 minutes. It runs too long for the story it tells. "Home in Indiana" is chiefly a quiet, idyllic-type of yarn concerning itself with harness racing. Its tenuous story thread is entirely about horses, Walter Brennan, who once bred them successfully and fell upon hard times, and the means and methods by which he regains his one-time self-esteem and reputation. Means and method are supplied by Lon McAllister, a nephew, who arranges a mating job between Brennan's former champion and a prize member of the string maintained by Charles Dingle, his neighbor and also his enemy.

It's done in the dead of night and the results are a horse which wins the $10,000 sweepstakes in due time. Everything stems from and to that end result, backgrounded charmingly and nostalgically in eye-arresting Technicolor. The parallel narrative vein is the stumbling, bumbling and, finally successfully, romantic strain involving McAllister and Jeanne Crain.

"Home in Indiana" is escapist in the purest sense of the word. It bears on a day when there was no rationing, no war, no apparent conflicts to mar the pleasantries of what purports to be the placid Indiana countryside. Its appeal, pretty apparently dictated by "My Friend Flicka," a predecessor picure from the same company, seems geared preponderantly to those who know horses and hold affection for them. The conclusion pretty apparently, too, is that where "Flicka" did business this probably will. Miss Crain, fantastically called Char, and June Haver, fantastically called Cri-Cri, are newcomers who don't get much opportunity to give out with histrionics, but who are attractive youngsters for whom the future could be much worse. Best marquee name is Walter Brennan. The supporting cast includes Charlotte Greenwood and Ward Bond.

Henry Hathaway directed and Andre Daven produced.

Running time, 106 mins. No release date set. "G."* RED KANN

## "Roger Touhy, Gangster"

*(20th Century-Fox)*

CLOSE adherence to the facts of the life of one of gangland's "Greats" marks "Roger Touhy, Gangster" as unique for its presentation of the unembellished truth, which, by the excessive use of detail tends, however to slow the action, thus making for a picture almost too documentary for the average audience. Beginning in a blaze of gunfire the story gradually cools and peters out completely—as did Touhy.

As representative of the typical American gangster of the 1930's, Touhy's character has been drawn carefully by Preston Foster's deft handling. A fine supporting cast includes Victor McLaglen, Frank Jenks, Anthony Quinn and Kent Taylor.

The film opens with the "Terrible Touhys" chalking up another victory over the forces of law and order. The subsequent kidnaping of a Wall St. broker, William Post, Jr., who owes Touhy money, proves the gang's undoing when Henry Morgan, a former associate of the gang, "squeals." Touhy passes eight years in Joliet (Ill.) State Prison, plotting a "legal" release, which fails to materialize. He, with his cohorts, stages a daring escape. State and federal dragnets close in and, in the dramatic but not climactic finish, Foster, McLaglen and Jenks surrender.

Robert Florey directed from a screenplay by Crane Wilbur and Jerry Cady. Lee Marcus produced.

Running time, 65 mins. Released in the July block. "G."*

HELEN MCNAMARA

*"G" denotes general classification.

## Additional Holiday Shows

TORONTO, May 23. — Theatres throughout Canada have arranged pre-holiday midnight shows and special matinees for "Victoria Day," to be celebrated tomorrow, despite the Dominion order that the holiday be removed from the statutory list for the duration.

## $106,618 to Red Cross

CHARLOTTE, May 23. — The Red Cross drive netted a total of $106,618 from 444 theatres in North and South Carolina, it was reported at the weekend by Roy A. Smart, WAC coordinator here.

## WLB Approves Pay Rise

The War Labor Board has approved wage increases, retroactive to Dec. 1, 1943, for employes of the S. O. S. Cinema Supply Corp., under a new contract negotiated by the International Association of Machinists, AFL with whom the company has a closed shop.

## GPE Declares Dividend

The board of directors of General Precision Equipment Corp. here yesterday declared a dividend of 25 cents per share on the company's capital stock, payable June 15 to stockholders of record June 3. The same amount was paid on March 15.

# Coast Flashes

*Hollywood, May 23*

NED E. DEPINET, national distributor chairman of the industry's Fifth War Loan drive, left today for San Francisco, where he will meet with distributor groups regarding the campaign. He will return here for a similar meeting Friday, attend another in Dallas Monday, and then go to New York.

•

Minor Watson will have a featured role in Paramount's "A Medal for Benny," John Steinbeck-Jack Wagner original, starring Dorothy Lamour and Arturo de Cordova. Shooting of the film, to be directed by Irving Pichel, has been postponed until next month.

•

Proceeds from the premiere June 7 of "The Story of Dr. Wassell" at the Hollywood Paramount will go to the Naval Aid Auxiliary and will be used to open a new service canteen and furnish a 200-bed unit in San Diego's U. S. Naval Hospital.

•

William Wright, recently returned to Columbia following his honorable discharge from the Army, will have the male lead in a murder mystery tentatively titled "Death Walks Alone," as his first assignment. Will Jason will direct.

•

"Out of This World," Sam Coslow's musical for Paramount, is slated to start in two weeks under Hal Walker's direction. Eddie Bracken, Diana Lynn and Veronica Lake will star.

•

Y. Frank Freeman, Paramount vice-president, left here by plane for Atlanta to attend the wedding today of his son, Y. Frank Freeman, Jr., to Miss Jean Perkins of Winston-Salem, N. C.

•

Leonard Warren and Blanche Thebom, Metropolitan opera stars, will be featured in 20th-Fox's "Irish Eyes Are Smiling," which Damon Runyan is producing and Gregory Ratoff directing.

•

Hillary Brooke has been given a featured role in "Kitty," which Mitchell Leisen will direct for Paramount. Paulette Goddard and Ray Milland will co-star.

•

"Boomerang," by Comm. William C. Chambliss, former member of 20th-Fox's publicity department, will appear serially in the *Saturday Evening Post*, prior to its production by 20th-Fox.

•

K. T. Stevens, daughter of Sam Wood, has been signed for the feminine lead in his production of "The Kincaids," his second for Columbia.

•

Dore Schary, producer of "With All My Heart," returned to Vanguard today after a week's hospitalization for an arm infection.

•

John Joseph, Universal's advertising-publicity director, is expected to arrive here from the East tomorrow.

•

Red Skelton will report for induction into the Army at Fort MacArthur tomorrow.

# SING A SONG OF BOXOFFICE

# POCKETS FULL OF DOUGH



## SING . . . FOR THE RAVE REVIEWS!

**"It's a boxoffice cinch!"** —*Hollywood Reporter*
**"Will evoke a merry melody for theatre cash registers!"** —*M. P. Daily*
**"A wide range of entertainment all expertly geared to popular taste!"**—*Film Daily*
**"Has lilt and sparkle, an attractively presented piece of entertainment!"**—*Daily Variety*



## SING . . . FOR THE STARS!

**Edgar Bergen and Charlie McCarthy, Bonita Granville, W. C. Fields and Sammy Kaye and his Orchestra plus the screen debut of a bright new star, Jane Powell, direct from weekly guest star appearances on the Bergen-McCarthy radio show and now making a sensational, front-page grabbing personal appearance tour of 14 key cities!**



## SING . . . FOR THE MUSIC!

**The songs America will be singing and hearing, including the new smash hit "Too Much In Love", introduced by Frank Sinatra to his millions of air fans!**



*Watch for the World Premiere!*

**BROADWAY THEATRE, PORTLAND, OREGON, JUNE 1-4!**



INTRODUCING

## Jane Powell

"It is a pleasure to state Miss Powell's wares are all good. She is lovely to look at, has an enchanting personality, sings beautifully, acts most creditably and has a radiant vitality which is captivating. She is a natural star as the public will attest quickly, for her initial picture is a boxoffice cinch."
*—Hollywood Reporter*

"Jane is sure to carve a niche for herself in filmdom's Hall of Fame!"
*—Boxoffice*

"She has a voice and personality equal if not superior to any player of her years yet presented on the screen!" *—M. P. Herald*

CHARLES R. ROGERS presents

# SONG OF THE OPEN ROAD

EDGAR BERGEN and CHARLIE McCARTHY ★ BONITA GRANVILLE ★ W. C. FIELDS

Peggy O'NEILL · Jackie MORAN · Bill CHRISTY · Reginald Denny · Regis Toomey · Rose Hobart · Pat Starling

SAMMY KAYE AND HIS ORCHESTRA • AND INTRODUCING JANE POWELL

Specialties by CONDOS BROS. • HOLLYWOOD CANTEEN KIDS • LIPHAM FOUR • CATRON & POPP • Directed by S. SYLVAN SIMON

Produced by CHARLES R. ROGERS • Screenplay by ALBERT MANNHEIMER • Based on a story by Irving Phillips and Edward Verdier

*Yes, it's a U.A. Hit!*

# Anti-Alliance Rally Set for June 18

HOLLYWOOD, May 23.—Sparked by the Screen Writers Guild, a planning committee of eight, claiming to represent 20,000 union and guild members, today issued a call for an industry-wide mass meeting June 18 to establish a public relations front and repudiate the Motion Picture Alliance for the Preservation of American Ideals.

Foremost purpose of the group will be to seek "a simple plan for continued guild and inter-union activity to further the war effort and to preserve the basic unity of our industry and protect its good name." Other objectives include developing the industry's post-war position "as a dominant world influence" and preventing curtailment of the freedom of the screen.

Methods of preserving "the economic and general welfare and consideration of how these are threatened by systematic campaigns of abuse" are on the committee's formal agenda. A way to establish "a truly representative and authoritative voice to speak for the people of our industry through constructive public relations" will be sought.

Evidently designed to emphasize that the program is non-political, the agenda stipulates that participating guilds and unions are to be limited to the declared purposes.

### Say MPA Caused Disunity

It was charged that the Alliance "has spread disunity among guilds and unions by apparently seeking to draw into its membership only a few members of these organizations and then attempting to turn them against their fellow members." Also that the Alliance is disseminating "irresponsible charges" without evidence of proof, with the result that they "impugn the patriotism of our industry and hold it up to public contempt."

The planning committee is composed of Herb Aller, International Photographers Local 659; Bill Blowitz, Screen Publicists Guild; George Bradley, international vice-president of Building Service Employes, Local 99; Sig Nesselroth, Studio Painters Local 644; William Pomerance, Conference of Studio Unions and Screen Cartoonists Guild, Local 852; Mary McCall, Jr., SWG president; and Howard Estabrook and Emmet Lavery, the latter, also, representing SWG.

# *Hollywood Bowl Rally Will Launch West Coast Drive*

(*Continued from page* 1)

of the program, will be broadcast nationally and shortwaved to members of the armed forces overseas.

### Caravan Given Warm Reception in Denver

DENVER, May 23.—Triumphing over transportation difficulties, national industry chairman R. J. O'Donnell and his committeemen came here today for a rally of five states in the Cosmopolitan Hotel, where they addressed a gathering of 500 after receiving a gift of spurs and other cowboy accoutrements from F. H. Ricketson, Jr., Colorado exhibitor chairman.

Robert W. Selig of Denver pledged the support of the "Honored 100," selected in the contest he headed nationally during the last drive. Len Gruenberg, district distributor chairman, represented national distributor chairman Ned E. Depinet. Theatre men from Wyoming, Montana, Idaho, Utah and Colorado were in attendance.

Governor John C. Vivian of Colorado headed a list of guests, which included Mayor Benjamin F. Stapleton, Brigadier General Arthur Easterbrook, Paramount vice-president Leonard Goldenson, and Paramount executive Sam Dembow.

The national committee will leave tomorrow for San Francisco for a meeting there on Thursday.

### Brooklyn Officials Will Move Barometer Hands

Some 30 theatre managers, selected as leaders in 16 sections of Brooklyn, attended a special meeting yesterday at the RKO Albee Theatre to formulate a campaign for the Fifth War Loan drive.

Under the direction of chairman Charles MacDonald and co-chairman Erwin Gold, the managers decided to build a war bond sales barometer, arranged in clock-fashion, on Albee Square. It will be the focal point of weekly war rallies, with all downtown theatres participating. Local public officials will be invited to move the hand of the barometer each week.

Present at the meeting were: Charles MacDonald, Erwin Gold, John L. Fitzgerald, Sydney MacKean, Al Zimbalist, Sol Handwerger, Peggy O'Reilly, Miriam Brookman, Harry Nestler, James Bergen, Lou Liss, Ed. Sachs, Murray Scharf, Joe Beck, Sig. Schwartz, Al Shor, Al Weiss, Jim Bruno, Larry Grieb, Lou Levy, Paul Binstock, Murray Alper, Harry Mogelofsky, Murray Reisner, Sig Wexo, Lou Goidel, Monroe Schram and Murray Greene.

### Whirlwind Trip Made To Omaha Meeting

OMAHA, May 23.—Some 200 Nebraskans attended a Fifth War Loan industry rally in the Fontenelle Hotel here last night, addressed by national chairman R. J. O'Donnell and his committee caravan, who are making a whirlwind tour of the Midwest.

Area distributor chairman H. B. Johnson presided, after arrangements had been made by William Miskell, state exhibitor chairman. Among the speakers was W. Dale Clark, state War Finance Committee chairman.

## *Salesmen May Affiliate*

DES MOINES, May 23.—The Iowa Film Salesmen's Club, now in its second year, has voted to communicate with the recently organized Motion Picture Colosseum chapter at Atlanta to study the possibility of affiliation. The Colosseum was organized by salesmen in the Southeast "to handle film salesmen's problems" with a view to becoming a national group. Pearl Robbins of the Paramount sales staff here is president of the local organization.

# *Decree Before Allied Today*

(*Continued from page* 1)

reau, serial numbering of admission tickets, Columbia's policy on "Cover GGirl," and the forced increase of admission prices for particular pictures."

On Friday, Sidney Samuelson, chairman of the caravan committee, will report to the board, followed by a talk on theatre maintenance by Virgil J. Rader, regional representative of the Office of Civilian Requirements. There will then be a discussion of the experience of regional leaders in securing the "locally needed" status for theatres. Postwar planning will also be considered, especially the disposition by the Government of motion picture equipment, participation in a proposed all-industry planning conference, television, and a "Don't buy another depression" campaign. H. H. Lowenstein of the War Activities Committee will report on the Fifth War Loan drive. Under the head of unfinished business from last Winter's meeting in Chicago, the board will hear a committee report on enlarged bulletin service and will discuss the "Allied Bomber" campaign.

President Martin G. Smith and recording secretary P. J. Wood will officiate at the meetings. The caravan is scheduled to hold a concluding session on Friday.

# *Bonds Delay Anniversary*

(*Continued from page* 1)

has announced that its convention in Atlantic City, June 20-22, will be devoted to the silver jubilee of the organization and the golden anniversary of the industry. Others have also set observation dates.

Meanwhile, the 50th birthday has already been signalized in many cities by newspaper editorials and large display advertisements. Typical are the *Staunton, Va., Evening Ledger,* which recently carried a four-page section, and theatres in Easton and Phillipsburg, Pa., joined in a full page in the *Easton Express,* with the movement spearheaded by J. F. Osterstock of the State Theatre in Easton.

### Editors Dig Back

Also, editors of scores of papers throughout the country have been digging back into files and interviewing old residents on the subject of the earliest films in their localities. The Mansfield, Ohio, *Journal* traced the beginning in that city to the "Dreamland" in the Brunswick Hotel building in 1906. The Richmond, Va., *Times-Dispatch* found the first nickelodeon there to have been opened in a tent near what is now the Colonial Theatre. The Erie, Pa., *Times* recalled nothing earlier than the Nelson-Britt fight pictures at the Majestic Theatre in 1906. The Allentown, Pa., *Call-Chronicle* credited the late Lyman H. Howe with bringing the first "bona fide" films to town—after giving up his local coal mining operations the moment he heard of motion pictures in New York, organizing his own company and going to London, where he put on an early film program at Buckingham Palace.

# CBS to Experiment On New Equipment

(*Continued from page* 1)

tain tools and techniques now restricted for military services are declassified"—lifted of military secrecy.

The new transmitter, according to CBS, is intended to broadcast "high fidelity television pictures" containing twice as many picture elements as present standards, and should also make possible the transmission of high-fidelity pictures in color, it was said. It will operate on a power of one-kilowatt. This contrasts with 40 kilowatts contemplated by CBS for broadcasting the lower standards on its present frequency of 56 megacycles; it was pointed out by CBS that far less power is required on very high frequencies. CBS has placed an order, also with GE, for a 40 kilowatt transmitter. Paul W. Kesten, CBS executive vice-president, pointed out that as a result of both orders, CBS will be able to telecast on both standards after the war. The company is applying to the War Production Board for the release of the necessary materials to permit the earliest possible work on the new experimental transmitter.

RKO RADIO PICTURES, INC.

TRADE SHOWINGS

OF

"A NIGHT OF ADVENTURE"

NEW YORK, Wed., May 31, 11 A.M.

RKO Projection Room, 630 Ninth Ave., New York, N. Y.

LOS ANGELES, Wed., May 31, 11 A.M.

RKO Projection Room, 1980 So. Vermont Ave., Los Angeles

# 'My Way' Pulls Big $34,000 in Boston

BOSTON, May 23.—Business here is still affected somewhat by the new taxes but not to the extent of the past weeks. "Going My Way" has taken the town by storm pulling $34,000 into the Metropolitan. "See Here, Private Hargrove" has been a hit at the State and the Orpheum taking a combined $46,000.

Estimated receipts for the week ending May 24:

**"Falcon Out West" (RKO)**
BOSTON—(3,200) (44c-55c-65c-85c-$1.10) 7 days. Stage show with Xavier Cugat. Gross: $28,000. (Average: $28,300).
**"The Man Down Under" (M-G-M)**
**"Lady, Let's Dance" (Mono.)**
FENWAY—(1,373) (40c-55c-75c) 7 days. Gross: $5,800. (Average: $7,000).
**"The Song of Bernadette" (20th-Fox)**
MAJESTIC — (1,400) (65c-$1.10) 7 days. Gross: $34,000. (Average: $16,000).
**"Uninvited" (Para.)**
**"Going My Way" (Para.)**
METROPOLITAN — (4,367) (44c-55c-65c-85c) Gross: $34,000. (Average: $23,000).
**"Follow the Boys" (Univ.)**
**"The Scarlet Claw" (Univ.)**
MEMORIAL — (2,900) (44c-55c-65c-74c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $31,000. (Average: $23,000).
**"See Here, Private Hargrove" (M-G-M)**
**"The Whistler" (Col.)**
ORPHEUM — (2,900) (44c-55c-65c-74c) 7 days. Gross: $30,000. (Average, $24,000).
**"See Here, Private Hargrove" (M-G-M)**
**"The Whistler" (Col.)**
STATE—(3,200) (44c-55c-65c-74c) 7 days. Gross: $16,000. (Average: $10,000).
**"The Man Down Under" (M-G-M)**
**"Lady, Let's Dance" (Mon.)**
PARAMOUNT — (1,700) (44c-55c-65c-74c) 7 days. Gross: $15,000. (Average: $16,700).

# *'Boys' on Dual Tops Providence Take*

PROVIDENCE, May 23.—Business continued slightly off here the past week. RKO-Albee grossed a nice $15,000. however, with "Follow the Boys" and "Three Russian Girls." "Gaslight" was good for $12,000 in its second week at Loew's State.

Estimated receipts for the week ending May 25:

**"Follow the Boys" (Univ.)**
**"Three Russian Girls" (UA)**
RKO-ALBEE—(2,239) (35c-44c-55c) 7 days. Gross: $15,000. (Average: $12,800).
**"Address Unknown" (Col.)**
**"Sailor's Holiday" (Col.)**
STRAND—(2,200) (44c-55c) 7 days. Gross: $8,600. (Average: $10,500).
**"Gaslight" (M-G-M)**
LOEW'S STATE—(3,232) (35c-44c-55c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $12,000. (Average: $17,700).
**"Uncertain Glory" (WB)**
MAJESTIC—(2,250) (35c-44c-55c) 7 days. Gross: $13,000. (Average: $12,100).
**"Four Jills in a Jeep" (20th-Fox)**
**"The Monster Maker" (PRC)**
FAY'S — (1,800) (35c-44c-55c) 7 days Gross: $7,000. (Average: $6,500).
**"The Purple Heart" (20th-Fox)**
**"Pardon My Rhythm" (Univ.)**
CARLTON—(1,526) (35c-44c-55c) 7 days. 2nd week, moveover from Fay's. Gross: $4,000. (Average: $4,000).
**"The Chinese Cat" (Mono.)**
METROPOLITAN—(3,050) (50c-60c-70c) 7 days. On stage: Cab Calloway's Orchestra. Gross: $7,500. (Average: $7,900).

# *Cincinnati Theatre Lowers Admissions*

CINCINNATI, May 23. — The RKO Albee here, currently playing stage shows with films, has lowered weekday prices to 44 cents until 1 P.M.; 55 cents for the matinee, and 85 cents for evening performances.

The new Saturday scale has admissions set at 55 cents to 1 P.M., and 85 cents until closing time. Previous scale started at 50 cents and ranged to 95 cents top admission.


Paramount NEWS

AND NOTHING BUT THE NEWS



OF 10 LEADING NEW FILMS RECOMMENDED BY THIS WEEK'S "TIME" AS "CURRENT AND CHOICE," 5 ARE PARAMOUNT HITS - 5 TIMES MORE THAN ANY OTHER SINGLE COMPANY. LIST IS HEADED BY **THE HITLER GANG** AND INCLUDES "GOING MY WAY," "MEMPHIS BELLE," "THE UNINVITED" AND "THE MIRACLE OF MORGAN'S CREEK."


# 'Two Worlds' Heads For $24,500 In Philadelphia Run

PHILADELPHIA, May 23.—"Between Two Worlds" at the Mastbaum started big with $24,500 indicated for the week. The only other new major opening this week, "The Heavenly Body" at the Aldine, pointed to $13,200 with $2,500 already in for the dual Sunday showing at the Earle.

Estimated receipts for the week ending May 24-26:

**"The Heavenly Body" (M-G-M)**
ALDINE—(900) (40c-45c-50c-65c-75c-85c) 7 days. Gross: $13,500. (Average: $14,600).
**"Uncertain Glory" (WB)**
ARCADIA — (600) (40c-45c-50c-65c-75c) 7 days, 2nd run. Gross: $4,300. (Average: $4,000).
**"Standing Room Only" (Para.)**
BOYD—(3,000) (40c-45c-50c-65c-75c-85c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $16,500. (Average: $18,000).
**"Lady Let's Dance" (Mono.) (6 days) $17,600**
**"The Heavenly Body" (M-G-M) (1 day) $2,500**
EARLE — (3,000) (50c-65c-85c-95c) 6 days of vaudeville including Teddy Powell's orchestra, Virginia Weidler, Hibbert, Byrd & La Rue, Frank Paris, Peggy Mann, Skip Nelson, Charles Venturo and Pete Condoli. Gross: $17,600. (Average: $27,600).
**"Buffalo Bill" (20th-Fox)**
FOX — (3,000) (40c-45c-50c-65c-75c-85c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $14,800. (Average: $20,500).
**"Cover Girl" (Col.)**
KARLTON — (1,000) (40c-45c-50c-65c-75c-85c) 7 days, 2nd run. Gross: $8,000. (Average: $6,600).
**"The Sullivans" (20th-Fox)**
KEITH'S—(2,200) (40c-45c-50c-65c-75c-85c) 7 days, 2nd run. Gross: $6,000. (Average: $5,800).
**"Between Two Worlds" (WB)**
MASTBAUM—(4,700) (40c-45c-50c-65c-75c-85c) 7 days. Gross: $24,500. (Average: $22,500).
**"See Here, Private Hargrove" (M-G-M)**
STANLEY — (3,000) (40c-45c-50c-65c-75c-85c) 7 days, 4th week. Gross: $15,200. (Average: $20,000).
**"Women in Bondage" (Mono.)**
STANTON — (1,700) (40c-45c-50c-65c-75c-85c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $9,500. (Average: $9,400).

# *'Broadway Rhythm' Fetches $12,700*

TORONTO, May 23. — "Broadway Rhythm" was pointing to $12,700 at Loew's Theatre. "Cover Girl" promised $11,800 for the second week at Shea's and "Up in Arms" is expected to gross $11,300 in its second week at the Imperial Theatre.

Estimated receipts for the week ending May 25:

**"The Man in Grey" (British)**
EGLINTON — (1,086) (18c-30c-48c-60c) 6 days, 2nd week. Gross: $3,500. (Average: $4,000).
**"Up in Arms" (RKO-Goldwyn)**
IMPERIAL—(3,373) (18c-30c-42c-60c-90c) 6 days, 2nd week. Gross: $11,300. (Average: $12,800).
**"Broadway Rhythm" (M-G-M)**
LOEW'S—(2,074) (18c-30c-42c-60c-78c) 6 days. Gross: $12,700. (Average: $11,200).
**"Cover Girl" (Col.)**
SHEA'S—(2,480) (18c-30c-42c-60c-90c) 6 days, 2nd week. Gross: $11,800. (Average: $12,800).
**"The Uninvited" (Para.)**
**"Doughboys in Ireland" (Col.)**
TIVOLI—(1,434) (18c-30c-48c) 6 days. Gross: $3,900. (Average: $4,400).
**"Chip Off the Old Block" (Univ.)**
**"Her Primitive Man" (Univ.)**
UPTOWN—(2,761) (18c-30c-42c-60c-90c) 6 days. Gross: $10,800. (Average: $9,800).

# *'Goyescas' to Open*

"Goyescas," produced in Spain by Universal Ibero Americana de Cinematografia studios and distributed in this country by RKO, will have its New York premiere Saturday at the World Theatre here.

# Carmen Trust Suit Dismissal Asked By Special Master

(*Continued from page* 1)

erated by Lou Wisper and Frank Wetsman; and the Midway and Circle, all Michigan, operated by Joseph Stoia. The plaintiffs alleged that Co-operative had "obtained a strangle hold on exhibition in Detroit and environs" and that, within the circuit's ranks, Wisper and Wetsman had acquitted "de facto control of the organization," to the detriment of less influential members. Dissolution of all the defendants and rearrangement of their properties into smaller units was sought.

**Cross-Bill Charge**

The defendants charged in the cross-bill that Raymond Moon and his Mutual Theatres, Inc., a rival buying and booking agency, had conspired with the plaintiff to break up Co-operative through "unfounded litigation" and other methods.

Special master Quaife, in his opinion filed a week ago and made public today, held that there was no clear evidence of violation of the Sherman Act, that in determining the runs in Dearborn the various distributors were acting individually and not as a result of agreements among themselves, that the legality of Cooperative as a whole should be sustained, and that the plaintiff did not establish any actual or threatened injury resulting from admission price restrictions in film rental contracts. In recommending dismissal of the cross-bill, Quaife said it was not fairly established that Moon instigated the present suit and that there was no substantial evidence of his contributing to the expense of this or previous cases.

Regarding the plaintiffs' special charge that Cooperative had violated the Robinson-Patman Fair Price Act, Quaife stated that "a licensee of motion pictures is not the purchaser of a commodity, and, accordingly, there is precedent to show that this act cannot be applied."

**Patman Act Out**

There were ultimately six distributor defendants in the case when the charges against Loew's were dropped when they began serving the Carmen with product to the satisfaction of the management. Paramount was never involved. In the trial early last year the plaintiffs were represented by attorney Ralph E. Routier and the defendants by Rockwell T. Gust of Detroit and John Caskey and Willis Newcomb of New York. The defendants will soon make a motion asking that the court confirm the report of the special master.

# *SEC Orders Hearing On RKO Stock Sale*

(*Continued from page* 1)

a partner of Lehman Brothers, is a director of RKO.

Lehman Brothers, Goldman Sachs and affiliated underwriters plan to purchase the stock at a price related to the market at the time it is offered to the public less a gross underwriting commission of $4.50 a share maximum or $3 a share minimum.

# *Republic Lists 68 Titles For 1944-45 Season*

(*Continued from page* 1)

tains a score by the Brazilian composer, Ary Barroso. "Flame of Barbary Coast" is a melodrama; "Lake Placid Serenade," an ice spectacle; "Storm Over the Philippines," a drama; "Hit Parade" is a musical; "A Fabulous Texan," a drama; "Earl Carroll's Vanities," a musical; and "Let the Hurricane Roar," a drama adapted from Rose Wilder Lane's best-selling pioneer novel.

Eight Roy Rogers productions are titled: "Song of Arizona," "Utah," "Man from Oklahoma," "Sunset on the Colorado," "Rainbow Over Texas," "Under Dakota Stars," "The Gay Ranchero," and "Bells of Rosarita."

**Third Group**

A third group of features includes: "Moon Over Tahiti," a comedy; "Affairs of Geraldine," a college musical; "Faces in the Fog," a melodrama; "A Guy Could Change," an aviation romance; "My Buddy," a melodrama inspired by one of the most famous songs of World War I; "Gay Blades," a melodrama; "New Faces of 1945," screen revue based on the Leonard Sillman stage presentations; "The Phantom Speaks," mystery melodrama; "Night Train to Memphis," featuring radio and stage players; "Melody and Mystery," a murder mystery; "Sing, Neighbor, Sing," combining screen and radio talent in melodrama with music; "Queen of the Jungle," a romantic drama with South Seas background; "Moonlight and Roses," a musical; "Grizzly's Millions," a murder mystery; "Fun Valley," musical; "Tell It to a Star," comedy romance; "The Chicago Kid," a racketeer drama about the black market; "Under Cover Girl," a melodrama; "Three's a Crowd," a dramatization from the novel, "Hasty Wedding," by Mignon Eberhart; "Mysterious Mr. Valentine," a mystery drama; "The Fatal Witness," a drama based on the John Collier New Yorker story "Back for Christmas"; "Vampire's Ghost," a horror story; "Road to Alcatraz," from Alva Johnston's biographical story by Raymond Schindler, and "Gangs of the Waterfront," a melodrama.

Eight Red Ryder Westerns featuring Wild Bill Elliott, are titled: "Tucson Raiders," "Marshal of Reno," "Cheyenne Wildcat," "Vigilantes of Dodge City," "Sheriff of Las Vegas," "Lone Texas Ranger," "San Antonio Kid," and "Great Stagecoach Robbery."

Eight Smiley Burnett Westerns are: "Bordertown Trail," "Firebrands of Arizona," "Code of the Prairie," "Saga of Sioux City," "Santa Fe Saddle-Mates," "Sheriff of Cimarron," "Union Pacific Scouts," and "Buffalo Frontiers."

**Eight to Star Lane**

Also eight Westerns to star Allan Lane, are titled: "Jesse James' Last Ride," "Code of Billy the Kid," "Sheriff of Sundown," "The Topeka Terror," "Trail of Kit Carson," "Corpus Christi Bandits," "Stagecoach to Denver," and "Silver City Kid."

Republic is also re-releasing eight Gene Autry productions during 1944, including "Rootin' Tootin' Rhythm," "The Big Show," "Melody Trail," "Comin' Round the Mountain," "Ride, Ranger, Ride," "Git Along, Little Dogie," "Red River Valley," and "Oh, Susanna." "Manhunt of Mystery Island" and "The Purple Shadow Strikes" are the two 15-chapter serials; and "Zorro's Black Whip" and "Federal Operator 99" are 12-chapter serials which complete the 1944-45 program.

# 'Hargrove' Draws in Pittsburgh Slump

PITTSBURGH, May 23. — Thunderstorms prolonged a box-office slump here this week, with "See Here, Private Hargrove," moving over from the Penn to the Warner for its second week, the only show to top house average at all, making a gross of $10,000.

Estimated receipts for the week May 19:

**"Tampico" (20th-Fox)**
FULTON — (1,700) (35c-44c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $6,000. (Average: $8,500).

**"Cover Girl" (Col.)**
HARRIS—(2,200) (35c-44c-65c) 7 days, 3rd week. Gross: $6,100. (Average: $10,100).

**"Uncertain Glory" (WB)**
PENN—(3,400) (35c-44c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $12,500. (Average: $21,700).

**"Shine On, Harvest Moon" (WB)**
RITZ — (1,100) (35c-44c-65c) 7 days, 4th week (moveover after 1 week at Penn, 1 at Warner). Gross: $2,000. (Average: $3,000).

**"Henry Aldrich, Boy Scout" (Para.)**
**"Uncensored" (Para.)**
SENATOR—(1,750) (35c-44c-65c) 5 days. Gross: $1,100. (Average for full week: $3,400).

**"It Happened Tomorrow" (UA)**
STANLEY—(3,800) (44c-68c-85c) On stage, 6 days of vaudeville, including Tommy Tucker's orchestra. Gross: $15,500. (Average: $22,000).

**"See Here, Private Hargrove" (M-G-M)**
WARNER — (2,000) (35c-44c-65c) 7 days, 2nd week, moveover from Penn. Gross: $10,000. (Average: $9,350).

# *Ask Fair Treatment Of Negro Problem*

The entertainment industry has been called upon to initiate a program "of treating the Negro problem in full truth with full seriousness," as a contribution to national unity, in a declaration of principles adopted by 500 stage, radio and film performers and artists at a meeting of the Entertainment Industry Emergency Committee last weekend.

The declaration, written by Maxwell Anderson, Lillian Hellman and Peter Lyon, was read at the meeting by Herman Shumlin.

# *Rogers Goes 'Home'*

CLAREMORE, Okla., May 23.—The remains of Will Rogers, film, stage and radio star, were returned to his home town last night for permanent interment in a stone crypt near the Rogers memorial. The return of the humorist's body to Oklahoma was financed by his friends.

# *Waves to See 'Ape'*

United Artists' "The Hairy Ape" will be screened tonight for the Wave detachment at Hunter College, it was reported yesterday by the home office.

# Poole, Bruen Confer With Tom Clark

(*Continued from page* 1)

theatre-construction program of the OCR recreation division, of which the PCCITO resistance to the six-house project planned by Fox West Coast is a part, also was disclosed today to be one of the points of difficulty of the section, which may this week be thoroughly reorganized.

OCR officials this afternoon had a long discussion of the recreation sections' troubles, which it was indicated will result in other members of the section following John Eberson, who resigned as consultant last Friday, and in a sharp contraction of the section's program to provide recreation facilities for population-swollen war centers. Much of the pressure which has been exerted for a change in the OCR was learned to have emanated from other sections of the War Production Board which have complained that OCR, while actually a part of WPB, has in some instances operated as if it were a separate agency set up to pull things out of the Board over the latter's resistance. It was pointed out that the Board's first concern is to see that military requirements are met and it has been charged that OCR has at times come in with ambitious programs which simply could not be approved.

**Comment Withheld**

Pending a clarification of the situation, promised within the next few days, OCR officials are withholding all comment on the reports of an impending reorganization, although in other quarters an impression prevails that George W. McMurphey, chief of the recreation section, may be planning to leave the agency.

While Clark could not be reached tonight at the Department of Justice, it was understood that Poole and Bruen devoted their visit to a discussion of the West Coast Theatre situation and the contention of independent exhibitors that they can meet all the theatre needs of the war centers in their area and no circuit expansions should be permitted.

# *British Attendance at 30,000,000 Weekly*

(*Continued from page* 1)

footage is largely composed of American product.

The gross footage of features during the year was 41,084,000,000, with 7,712,000,000 of it, or 18.77 per cent, British-made, as against 18.8 per cent during the previous year. The statutory quota calls for 15 per cent of the features and 12.5 per cent of the shorts to be British.

The film council is still considering recommendations of prosecutions for quota defaults.

# *Pythias Benefit Tonight*

The annual benefit show of the Knights of Pythias, arrangements for which are being handled by Robert Weitman, managing director of the New York Paramount, will take place tonight at Madison Square Garden.

# *'Three Men' N.Y. Premiere*

M-G-M's "Three Men in White" will have its New York premiere here tomorrow night at Loew's State Theatre.

First in Film and Radio News Brief, Accurate and Impartial

# MOTION PICTURE DAILY

Alert, Intelligent and Indispensable to the Motion Picture Industry

VOL. 55. NO. 103 NEW YORK, U. S. A., THURSDAY, MAY 25, 1944 TEN CENTS

## Seek Approval Of Increase In RKO Board

### *Stockholders Will Act on Move at Annual Meet*

Stockholders of Radio-Keith-Orpheum, it is understood, will be asked at their annual meeting, announced for June 7 in Dover, Del., to vote an amendment to the company's by-laws providing for an increase in the number of members of the board of directors.

At present there are nine members of the board. It is believed that this number will be augmented to give representation to the underwriters of the scheduled purchase from Floyd B. Odlum's Atlas Corp. of 57,337 shares of RKO six per cent preferred stock. The purchase will be underwritten by a syndicate headed by Lehman Brothers and Goldman, Sachs & Co., as reported in MOTION PICTURE DAILY on May 18. Robert Lehman was recently added to the board of directors of 20th Century-Fox Corp.

A hearing is scheduled to be held

(*Continued on page* 10)

## RKO Radio Show to Be Aired Monday

The RKO radio show "Hollywood Star Time" will begin its eight-week trial period over the Blue Network Monday, it was disclosed yesterday by Ned E. Depinet, president. The 15-minute program, originally set for a 20-station hook-up, will be broadcast every day, direct from the studio dining room on the RKO lot, from 12:15 to 12:30 P.M., reaching WJZ, the Blue's New York outlet, at 3:15 P.M.

Stars who will participate in the show will include Cary Grant, Ginger Rogers, Rosalind Russell, Frank Sinatra, Joan Davis, Gary Cooper, Ethel Barrymore, Eddie Cantor, Jean Arthur, Teresa Wright, Edward G. Robinson, Sonja Henie, Joan Bennett, Raymond Massey, Frank Morgan, Fibber McGee and Molly, Dennis Day, Margo, Constance Moore, Pat O'Brien, George Murphy and Toumanova.

## *'Cover Girl' Set for Long London Run*

LONDON, May 24.—The Prince of Wales Theatre, an old established Leicester Square house devoted to legitimate shows, has been leased by Columbia for an extended run of "Cover Girl" starting early in June.

## Closing of Wallis Deal with Para. Is Expected Today

Official announcement of the closing of Hal Wallis's producing and distribution deal with Paramount is expected to be made by Wallis and his executive associate, Joseph H. Hazen, at a cocktail party at 21 Club here this afternoon. The deal was set for signing yesterday and is expected to be closed this morning.

Negotiations between Wallis and J. Arthur Rank's Eagle-Lion Films were broken off late Tuesday and, it is reported, Wallis earlier had abandoned negotiations with Loew's and United Artists. Under the Paramount deal, it is said, Wallis will have his own producing organization working at that

(*Continued on page* 10)

## *Resigns as Business Agent of 'IA' Local*

CHICAGO, May 24.—George Benson, head Chicago booker for Warner Brothers, has resigned as business agent of IATSE film exchange front office employees union Local F-45 here.

Candidates nominated for a special election to be held June 20 to fill his post and other vacancies caused by the draft or new jobs in other cities, include: for president, Herman Couston, Columbia; vice-president, Oscar Bernstein, United Artists, Gerald Weiss, Paramount, Inez Raysson, Universal; business manager, Jack Eckhardt, 20th-Fox, Harold Weiss, Monogram; treasurer, Melba McCauley, RKO, Helen Sherer, Paramount, Jack Friedman, Warners, Marion Shannon, United Artists; executive board, George Benson.

## *Lady Yule Becomes British Nat'l Head*

**London, May 24.—G. W. Parish, chairman and managing director of British National Films, Ltd., today resigned the chairmanship, retaining the managing directorship. Lady Yule, a director and wealthy financial backer of the company, will replace him as chairman.**

## See Further Delay In Decree Meeting

WASHINGTON, May 24.—A further delay in the long-pending "final" meeting between the distributors and the Department of Justice officials on the revised consent decree appeared probable tonight, when it was learned that other matters will prevent the negotiators getting together before sometime well into next week.

Several telephone conversations between Joseph Hazen and Assistant Attorney General Tom C. Clark have taken place during the past two weeks, in which the meeting was tentatively discussed, but both parties have had commitments which made it impossible to set a definite date.

A high decree company spokesman said here yesterday that while several changes had been discussed in the cancellation, circuit expansion and "show case" provisions on their proposals for a new decree, no changes have been made in their "final" proposals for a new decree submitted to the Department of Justice on Jan. 20. As reported in MOTION PICTURE DAILY May 18, the distributors are determined not to yield any further.

## *Chances of Tours by Stars In 5th Drive Seen Slim*

LOS ANGELES, May 24.—Representatives of all studios, at a meeting today with Francis Harmon, War Activities Committee coordinator, and Ken Thomson, Hollywood Victory Committee chairman, and other HVC executives, submitted detailed lists of all talent commitments through the period of the Fifth War Loan campaign, to determine talent availability prospects for a report to R. J. O'Donnell, industry chairman for the drive, on his arrival here tomorrow night from San Francisco.

A decision is expected to be made at tomorrow night's meeting as to whether the personalities available will be sufficient to warrant the undertaking of stars' war bond tours as in previous drives. Although the principals of today's meeting declined to divulge any details, the indication was that prospects for securing an adequate supply of top flight personalities are slim, if present studio production plans remain unchanged.

The Treasury Department is understood to be agreeable to shorter tours for film stars which would be spotted later in the campaign than in the past. The possibility that some films

(*Continued on page* 10)

## Allied Will Not Join National Tax Committee

### *Board Passes Resolution On Tax Matters Policy*

PHILADELPHIA, May 24.—Allied States Association will not join the exhibitors national tax coordinating committee, it was decided at the opening executive session of the national board meeting at the Hotel Warwick here, but the following resolution was passed:

**"It is the policy of Allied States Association to protect its members in tax matters and in that connection to confer and cooperate with other groups so far as is consistent with the interests of its members whenever, in the opinion of the general counsel, an emergency has arisen that justifies such action. Upon proper certification by the general**

(*Continued on page* 10)

## Selznick Sues Over Jennifer Jones

LOS ANGELES, May 24.—The battle over Jennifer Jones' services to 20th-Fox following "The Song of Bernadette" has resolved itself into a studio legal battle, with the Selznick studio suing 20th-Fox in Superior Court today, seeking declaratory relief on grounds that 20th-Fox had abrogated an agreement.

Selznick charged that 20th-Fox failed to keep the terms of an agreement which provided for Selznick's approval of roles offered the star and asked termination of her contract.

## *Skouras Talks on British Visit*

Spyros Skouras, president of 20th Century-Fox, was host at a reception and dinner at the Sky Garden of the St. Moritz Hotel last night which was attended by company officials and trade press representatives.

Skouras discussed informally his recent three months visit in England. Many of his observations were of an off-the-record nature and a release of the essentials of his talk is scheduled to be made by the company today.

Among those present at the dinner were: Tom J. Connors, Francis L.

(*Continued on page* 10)

# Personal Mention

Y. FRANK FREEMAN, Paramount vice-president and studio head, is expected here from Atlanta today.

•

SGT. and MRS. JERRY BRISKIN became the parents of a baby boy Tuesday at Doctors Hospital here. SGT. BRISKIN is the son of LT. COL. SAM BRISKIN and was an associate producer at Columbia.

•

IRVING MAAS, 20th Century-Fox assistant director of foreign distribution, is due back in New York today after a tour of the Latin American countries.

•

PHIL KEENAN, general manager of Hillman Periodicals, returned to New York yesterday after a week's stay in Kansas City.

•

LEO LEFCOURT of M-G-M's studio international department, will leave for the Coast Friday following a home office visit.

•

M. EDWARD MOREY, Monogram home office executive, left yesterday for the Coast, with several stops en route.

•

H. M. BESSEY, Altec Service vice-president, has returned to New York from Virginia.

•

HOWARD WAUGH, Warner Theatre Memphis zone manager, is in New York for a week's visit.

•

PAUL GRAETZ, president of A.F.E. Corp., left yesterday for Hollywood.

## AMPA Officers Hold Meeting Today

Associated Motion Picture Advertisers will hold a closed meeting today at 12:30 A.M. at the Famous Kitchen, at which time the new administration will discuss plans for the coming year.

AMPA plans to meet every other Thursday this year reverting to procedure established at the inception of the organization.

## Schuyler Heads Delft In No. Michigan

MILWAUKEE, May 24.—John B. Schuyler, manager of the local branch of National Theatre Supply, has been named general manager of Delft Theatres in Northern Michigan.

A. J. Larson, former assistant branch manager for NTS here, succeeds Schuyler.

## Bernard Spiegel Dies

SCRANTON, May 24.—Bernard Spiegel, 80, father of Harry Spiegel, city supervisor of Comerford Theatres here, died recently at his home. Interment was in Dalton Jewish Cemetery.

# Film Classics' Sales Meet Opens Today

CHICAGO, May 24.—George A. Hirliman, president of Film Classics, will preside at the first regional sales meeting of the company's franchise holders at the Hotel Blackstone here tomorow. His assistant, Alfred Crown, accompanied him here.

**Film Classics to Make 8 Eddie Dean Westerns**

Film Classics' first production venture will be a series of eight Westerns starring Eddie Dean of the Judy Canova radio show, according to Robert Tansey, who will produce. First of the series will be ready for August 1 release.

## Rodgers Gives Pins At Phila. Luncheon

PHILADELPHIA, May 24.—William F. Rodgers, M-G-M vice-president and general sales manager, and E. K. (Ted) O'Shea, Eastern sales manager, today played host to all employes of the local exchange at a luncheon at the Ritz Carlton Hotel here.

With Robert Lynch, district manager; Lou Formate, branch manager, and H. M. Richey, exhibitor relations, assisting, Rodgers and O'Shea distributed 20-Year loyalty pins to William Hopkins, William Gabriel and Mattie Stewart, and 22 one-star pins, denoting from 10 to 20 years of service, to Joseph Morrow, Benjamin Glatz, Harry Bache, Winifred Haines, Joseph E. Farrow, Charles Baines, Emma Roat, Betty Surman, Mary Banfe, James Dowling, Paul Farrow, Frank Sculli, Margaret Brickley, Ada Norvick, Clarence C. Pippin, Vincent Comforti, Charlotte Knapp, Benjamin Hayney, Frank Jelenke, Dorothy Burrison, Santo Sciulli, and Rose DeMee.

## Coe in Talk Before Overseas Press Club

Charles Francis Coe, assistant counsel of the MPPDA, was guest speaker yesterday at a luncheon meeting of the Overseas Press Club held at the Lotos Club here.

In addition to club members, the following were among those present: Will H. Hays, Arthur De Bra, Walter Trumbull, Wyeth Williams, Fred Croft and Austin Keough.

Coe's subject was "Postwar Problems in America," in which, he declared, motion pictures will play an important part.

## Gruenberg to Navy

DENVER, May 24.—Leonard S. Gruenberg, district manager for RKO here, has been commissioned a lieutenant in the Navy and will leave June 15 for the University of Arizona at Tucson to begin training. Gruenberg was chairman of the local exchange territory's Fourth War Loan campaign and was recently named district chairman of the War Activities Committee.

## Olivier Unveils Howard Memorial

**London, May 24.—Laurence Olivier today unveiled a placque and an endowed bed at the London Hospital in memory of Leslie Howard, who lost his life when a transport plane was lost between Lisbon and here early in the war. The London Hospital cooperated with technical advice on Howard's last film, "The Lamp Still Burns," which grossed more than 2,500 pounds at its opening performance.**

## Schlesinger Funeral In Newark Friday

NEWARK, May 24.—Funeral services for Morris S. Schlesinger, 65, manager of the Hollywood Theatre in New York until a year ago, will be held Friday at 1 P.M. at the Goldsticker Funeral Home here. He died Tuesday at his home in Orange after an illness of three months.

A brother of Leon Schlesinger, producer of cartoon shorts for Warners, "M. S.," as he was known in show business, operated the Schubert and Broad street Theatres here when those houses offered legitimate attractions. He was an occasional partner in stage productions, including "The Locked Door," 1933, and "Strangers at Work," 1934. Later, he made a two-year visit to Hollywood, ending in 1938. The Newark Public Library now has Schlesinger's collection of autographed photographs of many thetrical celebrities.

Schlesinger is survived also, by two other brothers, Gus and Mayer B. Schlesinger, and two sisters, the Misses Matilda and Florence Schlesinger, all of Orange.

## Postpone Hochstein Trial to June 26

Federal Judge William Bondy yesterday further postponed, until June 26, the trial of Harry Hochstein, former morals inspector in Chicago, who is accused of having committed perjury before the special Federal Grand Jury which indicted the Capone gangsters, recently convicted of extorting more than $1,000,000 from motion picture industry executives.

Hochstein, according to the indictment, falsely swore that he knew that certain members of the ring were not present at his Riverside, Ill., home in 1934, when the Capone mob planned the elevation of George E. Browne to the presidency of the IATSE. That the gangsters were present was proven at the recent trial of the gangsters.

## Honor Jones' Memory

CHICAGO, May 24.—The sum of $2,500 will be turned over to La Rabida sanitarium, in the name of the late Aaron J. Jones, former president of the Jones, Linick and Schaefer circuit here, by the Variety Club of Illinois. The sanitarium was one of Jones' favorite charities.

# Coast Flashes

*Hollywood, May 24*

WILLIAM A. SCULLY, vice-president and general sales manager of Universal, is due here tomorrow.

•

The release date for Columbia's new serial, "The Desert Hawk," set for June 2, has been postponed indefinitely, due to injuries suffered by James Ellison, star of the production. Ellison, while on the set, was thrown from his horse Tuesday and suffered a fractured back which will delay completion of the film at least four months.

•

Producers William Pine and William Thomas of Paramount and director Frank McDonald will leave here for Chicago and Nashville to audition musical talent for the forthcoming musical, "Hillbilly Symphony."

•

A top film on M-G-M's 1944 schedule will be "Secret Heart," based on an original story by Rose Franken. Whitfield Cook is preparing the script and Edwin Knopf will produce early this Fall.

•

B. G. DeSylva has offered Brian Donlevy the role of Trampas in Paramount's Technicolor production of "The Virginian," which Paul Jones will produce.

•

Anne Gwynne has been given a featured role in Universal's "Babes on Swing Street," by Bernard Brown, associate producer. Edward Lilley is directing the film.

•

H. J. Yates, Republic board chairman, and James R. Grainger, president and general sales manager, are expected to return here from the East next week.

•

Steve Broidy, Monogram general sales manager, is due to arrive here from New York tomorrow aboard the Superchief.

•

Lou J. Halper, Warner Theatres West Coast zone manager, has returned to his headquarters here from New York.

•

Mona Freeman has been assigned to a role in Paramount's "Here Come the Waves," Mark Sandrich musical.

•

Columbia has signed Robert Rosson as writer and director on a one-picture contract.

•

Red Skelton's draft board has granted him a two-week deferment, M-G-M announced here yesterday.

## Milestone Doing Well

LOS ANGELES, May 24.—The condition of director Lewis Milestone, who was operated on for a ruptured appendix in Hollywood Hospital here yesterday, was reported by his physician as satisfactory today.

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# He's the new THREAT



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Gets his first S
LAUGHS YOU WANT? LAUG


THIS SAYS HE'S EARNED IT!
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SKIN
A-HA-HA-RRING PICTURE!
U GET FROM WARNERS!
HURRY BROTHER MAKE YOUR OWN BID FOR
hurry!!!

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# MAKE YOUR OWN BED



with
ROBERT SHAYNE
Directed by
PETER GODFREY
Screen Play by Francis Swann & Edmund Joseph • Adapted by Richard Weil • From a Play by Harvey J. O'Higgins and Harriet Ford
Produced by
ALEX GOTTLIEB

**FOR YOU IT'S A BED OF ROSES!**

Why? 'cause **WARNERS** made it!

**Jack L. Warner**
*Executive Producer*

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## To Dub 'Bernadette' In Many Languages

"The Song of Bernadette" is presently being dubbed in Spanish for distribution in the Latin American countries, it was disclosed yesterday by Murray Silverstone, 20th Century-Fox vice-president in charge of foreign distribution. The dubbing is being done in Mexico City by Hollywood technicians with top Spanish artists.

There will also be a Spanish superimposed version, which will be used for roadshowing in the key cities, he added. The dubbed version will be the primary medium for general release in the territory.

The decision for releasing this film in the dubbed version was prompted by the belief of Spyros Skouras, president, that "The Song of Bernadette" had such a tremendous message to the people and desired to give every person an opportunity to view this film. The company plans to dub the feature in French, German, Italian and other languages for post-war distribution in Europe, Silverstone concluded.

## *Isaac and Phelps to St. Louis for IATSE*

Lester Isaac, Loew's sound and projection head, and Frank N. Phelps, Warner Bros. Theatres labor relations contact, will leave today for St. Louis to be on hand for the IATSE convention, which opens at the Hotel Jefferson there Monday. Hary Rubin, Paramount sound and projection head, is already in St. Louis, and other circuit representatives are also expected to be present.

**Local 110 Selects Eight Delegates**

CHICAGO, May 24.—Delegates who will represent Projectionists' Local 110 here at the IATSE convention are Gene Atkinson, business manager; Clarence Jalis, assistant business manager; James Gordon, president; Frank Galluzzo, vice-president; Charles McNeill and Sam Klugman, executive board members; and Joseph Rossberger and Larry Strong.

## *Proposes Slash in 30% Cabaret Tax*

WASHINGTON, May 24.—Proposing a cut in the new 30 percent cabaret tax, Senator McCarran of Nevada yesterday introduced a bill in the Senate which, if approved, will reduce the present levy to 10 percent. Night clubs were formerly assessed five percent.

Despite this action, however, film industry observers hold little hope for a reduction in the recently levied 20 percent tax on theatre admissions.

## *'Hot Money' for 'America'*

The latest release in the RKO-Pathe "This Is America Series," produced by Frederic Ullman, Jr., will be titled "Hot Money." This film will be based upon the fallacy of uncontrolled buying as it leads to hunger, unemployment and ghost towns.

## *'Adventure' Screening*

RKO's "A Night of Adventure" will be tradeshown in New York and Los Angeles next Wednesday at 11 A.M. The New York screening will be at the RKO projection room.

# *Review*

## *"Frontier Outlaws"*

*(PRC)*

*Hollywood, May 24*

THIS PRC Western sparkles in the showcase as a sample of action-packed, well-plotted, screen fare to offer the patrons of theatres playing the good old six-gun standbys. Buster Crabbe, Al "Fuzzy" St. John, Frances Gladwin, Marin Sais, Charlie King and Jack Ingram are smoothly directed through a typical Western story by Sam Newfield. Sig Neufeld's production makes it a topnotch example of this studio's offerings in the category.

Off to a fast start, the story deals with Crabbe and his pal, "Fuzzy," hot on the trail of killers determined to gun down Crabbe and grab control of all the ranch lands in Wolf Valley on the Mexican border. Crabbe is framed for murder, but wins release with aid of his friends, sets a trap for the outlaws, who have rustled most of the ranchers' cattle, and neatly springs it. In a blazing finish he outdraws King and one of that villain's henchmen to bring peace to the valley. Original story and screenplay are by Joe O'Donnell.

Running time, 58 mins. "G."* Release date, March 4, 1944.

JACK CARTWRIGHT

**"G" denotes general classification.*

## *60-City Premiere for 'Days of Glory'*

PHILADELPHIA, May 24.—A 60-city premiere of RKO's "Days of Glory" will get underway June 8 with openings in Pennsylvania, West Virginia, New Jersey and Delaware under the direction of exploitation chief Terry Turner, assisted by Harry Reiners, Bob Pryor, Ed Rowland, Lew Carroll, Gene Gaudette and Pete Bathory. Appearing in conjunction with the exploitation campaign will be the Don Cossack Chorus, Marusia Sava and other Russian artists.

Extensive radio tie-ups have been effected, including four half-hour radio shows and several 15-minute programs for the duration of the campaign. Toumanova, star of the film, and producer Casey Robinson will arrive in Philadelphia June 3 to be guests at a series of press parties here and in Pittsburgh, Harrisburg and Wilmington.

## *Reserve Decision on 'Voice' Injunction*

Federal Judge John Bright reserved decision here yesterday on the motion of counsel for May Davis Martenet seeking a restraining order to prevent United Artists from distributing and exhibiting "Voice of the Wind."

The plaintiff had recently instituted a suit in the New York State Supreme Court, and counsel for the defendant moved to have the case transferred to Federal Court on the ground of diversity of citizenship. However, the case was not removed and, through a technicality, cannot be removed until UA's attorneys decide to remove it. The court agreed to reserve decision, pending a determination by him as to whether he has jurisdiction.

## *Museum to Screen 3*

The Museum of Modern Art will preview three new documentary films on Monday at 5 P.M. in its projection room. Pictures are: "Fellow Americans," produced by the OWI; "The Life and Death of U. S. S. Hornet," a Navy film, and "High Plain," produced by the Office of Coordinator of Inter-American Affairs.

## *Screen Cartoonists Call in Conciliator*

LOS ANGELES, May 24.—Acting on a request from the Screen Cartoonists' Guild, the U. S. Conciliation Service has appointed Commissioner Lou Livingston as conciliator in the SCG negotiations with cartoon producers.

Discussions on a proposed new contract went into a deadlock when the producers turned down the contract sought by the guild and offered in its stead proposals which the SCG termed "decidedly less advantageous than the present agreement."

Livingston is expected to call the first session next week.

## *Sponsored News Ban Would Hit Films*

WASHINGTON, May 24.—Film companies and exhibitors who sponsor news programs on radio stations as part of their promotion campaigns, would be prevented from continuing to do so under the proposed revision of the 1934 Communications Act as presented yesterday to the Senate Interstate Commerce Committee by Chairman Burton K. Wheeler, Montana Democrat.

Commercial sponsorship of news broadcasts and radio commentators would be forbidden and such programs would be put on a "sustaining" basis. Hearings on the bill will be held on Friday and next Wednesday.

## *Fire and Rain Hit Nebraska, Iowa*

OMAHA, May 24.—Fires, which completely demolished John Van Groniger's Palace Theatre at nearby Alton and seriously damaged the Rose at Audubon, operated by F. R. Thompson, followed upon severe rain storms which caused an estimated $1,000,000 damage in the state.

The storm also seriously hampered distribution operations in adjacent Iowa when film trucks were unable to pass through flooded areas. Exhibitors were forced to borrow prints from exchange cities which escaped the full impact of the downpour.

## London Sees 3rd Rank Winner In 'Way Ahead'

LONDON, May 24.—J. Arthur Rank's Eagle-Lion-Two Cities' third offering "The Way Ahead," was sneak previewed tonight at the Majestic Theatre in Staines, a remote London suburb. The film, made at the direct behest of the British War Office with unprecedented military cooperation, is supposed to be the British Army counterpart of Noel Coward's "In Which We Serve." It accomplishes its mission magnificently. It is further a fit follower of Eagle-Lion's previous efforts, "A Canterbury Tale" and "This Happy Breed."

The film tells, under Carol Reed's direction, the straightforward story of the experiences of a mixed body of young men brought into the army, some resentful, all fearful of what is in store. They become hardened under intensive training and suffer the ardours of rigorous discipline, gradually unconsciously moulding each other in the glorious company of proven soldiers.

David Niven, in real life a colonel in the British Army, is superb as a young officer. He and the British Army are the joint stars of the picture. An average suburban audience attending the theatre was unaware that the film was to be shown and burst, at its conclusion, into loud and sustained applause.

Eagle-Lion Films undoubtedly have yet another winner.

PETER BURNUP

## *Goldwyn May Get New Rank Film*

"The Way Ahead," the J. Arthur Rank Eagle-Lion production previewed in London this week, is under option to Samuel Goldwyn for distribution here, it was learned yesterday.

Goldwyn acquired an option on the production under a compensation entered into with Two Cities Films several years ago to aid in realizing on Goldwyn's blocked sterling balances in Britain when currency exports were regulated by the British Treasury. A portion of Goldwyn's blocked sterling was made available to Two Cities in return for the option on American distribution rights to several Two Cities' productions, of which "The Way Ahead" was one.

Should Goldwyn exercise his option, it is assumed the picture would be distributed here by RKO Radio, which distributes for Goldwyn, rather than by 20th Century-Fox, which is to distribute Rank's Eagle-Lion releases here.

## *Miss Lillie Gets Fortune*

LONDON, May 24.—Beatrice Lillie, star of screen, radio and stage here and abroad, will receive the entire $600,000 fortune of her son, Sir Robert Peel, 22, killed in April while serving with the Royal Navy.

## *'Comrade' N.Y. Premiere*

RKO's "Tender Comrade," starring Ginger Rogers, will have its New York premiere at the Capitol Theatre on June 1.

# 'Uninvited' Leads in Indifferent St. Louis

ST. LOUIS, May 24.—Business is only "so-so" here this week, with managers unable to explain the decline. "The Uninvited" at the Fox looks like the leader with an estimated $15,000.

Estimated receipts for the week ending May 24:

**"Up in Mabel's Room" (UA)**
**"Voice in the Wind" (UA)**
LOEW'S STATE—(3,162) (40c-50c-60c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $14,000. (Average: $18,900).
**"The Lady and the Monster" (Rep.)**
**"Follow the Leader" (Mono.)**
MISSOURI—(3,514) (40c-50c-60c) 7 days. Gross: $11,000. (Average: $9,900).
**"The Uninvited" (Para.)**
**"The Hour Before the Dawn" (Para.)**
FOX—(5,038) (40c-50c-60c) 7 days. Gross: $15,000. (Average: $18,700).
**"Cover Girl" (Col.)**
**"Pardon My Rhythm" (Univ.)**
AMBASSADOR—(3,154) (40c-50c-60c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $11,500. (Average: $15,700).
**"Andy Hardy's Blonde Trouble" (M-G-M)**
**"Knickerbocker Holiday" (UA)**
LOEW'S ORPHEUM—(1,900) (40c-50c-60c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $6,500. (Average: $7,100).
**"Up in Arms" (RKO-Goldwyn)**
**"Shine On, Harvest Moon" (WB)**
SHUBERT—(1,900) (40c-50c-60c) 7 days. Gross: $7,000. (Average: $6,100).
**"Jane Eyre" (20th-Fox)**
**"Tender Comrade" (RKO)**
ST. LOUIS—(4,000) (45c-50c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $5,000. (Average: $5,200).

# 'Gaslight's' $21,000 Tops Wet Cleveland

CLEVELAND, May 24.—"Gaslight" was the only picture that survived a rainy weekend. It started big and looks like $21,000 at Loew's State Theatre. "Bernadette" held strong in its fourth week, shooting at $4,000 at Warners' Lake at advanced prices. Other takes were under par.

Estimated receipts for the week ending May 18:

**"Up in Arms" (RKO)**
ALLEN—(3,000) (44c-55c-65c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $7,000. (Average: $8,500).
**"Jane Eyre" (20th-Fox)**
WARNERS' HIPPODROME — (3,500) (44c-55c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $15,000. (Average: $22,100).
**"Song of Bernadette" (20th-Fox)**
WARNERS' LAKE—(714) (75c-$1.10) 7 days, 4th week. Gross: $4,000. (Average: $3,200).
**"Andy Hardy's Blonde Trouble" (M-G-M)**
LOEW'S OHIO—(1,268) (43c-65c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $4,500. (Average: $5,000).
**"Tampico" (20th-Fox)**
RKO PALACE—(3,300) (50c-60c-85c-95c) 7 days. Stage: Henry Busse Band, Johnny Johnson. Gross: $21,000. (Average: $25,400).
**"Gaslight" (M-G-M)**
LOEW'S STATE—(3,300) (43c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $21,000. (Average: $19,000).
**"See Here, Private Hargrove" (M-G-M)**
LOEW'S STILLMAN—(1,900) (43c-65c) 7 days, 3rd week. Gross: $9,000. (Average: $10,000).

## *FCC Queries Webs On FM Policies*

WASHINGTON, May 24.—The Federal Communications Commission has decided to ask all national and regional networks for a full statement of their policies and methods of operation relative to FM broadcasting in order to determine whether FM broadcasting is developing according to FCC policy.

The FCC also will ask for an outline of the networks' future plans in the FM field. The Commission's stand has been that FM stations should not merely duplicate programs heard over standard stations.

# *Review*

## *"The Battle of China"*

*(War Department)*

*Hollywood, May 24*

THIS documentary from the hand of Col. Frank Capra, sixth in the War Department's "Why We Fight" series of orientation films produced primarily for enlisted troops, compares most directly to "The Battle of Russia," which preceded it. Public exhibition potentialities may be estimated on the basis of that film's showings.

Like "The Battle of Russia," this subject tells with power, precision and impressive detail the story of Japan's attacks upon China, beginning in 1931, and China's resistance. Graphic footage shot under many kinds of circumstances by many photographers is combined with utmost skill to present a tightly chronological story. Resort to maps and diagrams is infrequent, brief and immensely effective.

The story of China starts 4,000 years back and emphasizes the nation's policy of peace. The story of Japan's plans for conquering the world, after dominating China first, starts in the latter part of the last century with the mapping of the Tanaka Plan. Shots of several attacks on China's cities include close-ups of death and destruction which are more graphic than often used for public exhibition.

Running time, 65 minutes. "A."* Release date, not set.

WILLIAM R. WEAVER

**"A" denotes adult classification.*

# $12,500 to 'Boys' In Slow Pittsburgh

PITTSBURGH, May 24.—Business continued below par here for the third consecutive week, attributed to a seasonal slump. "Follow the Boys" made $12,500 in nine days at the Harris.

Estimated receipts for the week ending May 23-26:

**"The Lady and the Monster" (Rep.)**
**"Weird Woman" (Univ.)**
FULTON—(1,700) (35c-44c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $6,500. (Average: $8,500).
**"Follow the Boys" (Univ.)**
HARRIS—(2,200) (35c-44c-65c) 9 days. Gross: $12,500. (Average, for 7 days: $10,000).
**"Gaslight" (M-G-M)**
PENN—(3,400) (35c-44c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $18,500. (Average: $21,700).
**"Uncertain Glory" (WB)**
RITZ—(1,100) (35c-44c-65c) 7 days, 2nd week, moveover from Penn. Gross: $3,000. (Average: $3,000).
**"Cover Girl" (Col.)**
SENATOR—(1,750) (35c-44c-65c) 9 days, into 5th week, moveover after 3 weeks at Harris. Gross: $4,500. (Average for 7 days: $3,400).
**"The Hour Before the Dawn" (Para.)**
STANLEY—(3,800) (44c-68c-85c). On stage: 6 days of vaudeville, including Bob Chester's orchestra. Gross: $16,000. (Average: $22,000).
**"See Here, Private Hargrove" (M-G-M)**
WARNER—(2,000) (35c-44c-65c) 7 days, 3rd week, moveover after 1 week at Penn. Gross: $7,500. (Average: $9,350).

## *Aims for Planning On Tele. Standards*

"Post-war television need not be handicapped by 'freezing' the present standards, nor need it be delayed by the search for the theoretical ultimate in equipment," according to Paul L. Chamberlain, manager of sales of General Electric's transmitter devision.

"If the Radio Technical Planning Board will adopt the same step-by-step method that many business concerns are now using in their post-war planning," Chamberlain said in commenting upon the present controversy in the television industry, "broadcasters and the public will have the finest television that the industry can provide when conditions again make it possible to manufacture television receivers and transmitters."

# 'Jills' $24,000 Is Denver Leader

DENVER, May 24.—"Four Jills in a Jeep" was riding in first place here this week, grossing $24,000 at the Denver. The Paramount, with a gross of $15,345, featuring "Bridge of San Luis Rey," pulled in second.

Estimated receipts for the week ending May 22-24:

**"The Impostor" (Univ.)**
**"A Yank in the RAF" (20th-Fox)**
ALADDIN—(1,400) (46c-74c) 7 days, moveover. Gross: $8,400. (Average: $5,600).
**"A Guy Named Joe" (M-G-M)**
BROADWAY—(1,040) (46c-74c) 7 days, moveover. Gross: $6,490. (Average: $3,900).
**"The Uninvited" (Para.)**
**"The Navy Way" (Para.)**
DENHAM—(1,750) (35c-45c-70c) 7 days, 3rd week. Gross: $5,000. (Average: $9,000).
**"Four Jills in a Jeep" (20th-Fox)**
**"Bermuda Mystery" (20th-Fox)**
DENVER—(2,600) (46c-74c) 7 days. Gross: $24,000. (Average: $15,000).
**"Four Jills in a Jeep" (20th-Fox)**
**"Bermuda Mystery" (20th-Fox)**
ESQUIRE—(740) (46c-74c) 7 days. Gross: $7,200. (Average: $4,500).
**"The Bridge of San Luis Rey" (UA)**
**"Cow Boy Canteen" (Col.)**
PARAMOUNT—(2,200) (46c-74c) 7 days. Gross: $15,345. (Average: $9,300).
**"Shine On, Harvest Moon" (WB)**
**"Girl in the Case" (Col.)**
RIALTO—(900) (46c-74c) 7 days, moveover. Gross: $8,000. (Average: $5,000).

## *'Navy Way,' Show Off To Indianapolis Lead*

INDIANAPOLIS, May 24. — "The Navy Way," supplemented by a stage show, will do $14,000 at the Circle this week to top grosses here. "Ladies in the Dark" will take $13,000 at the Indiana.

Estimated receipts for the week ending May 23-25:

**"The Navy Way" (Para.)**
CIRCLE—(2,800) (55c-70c) 7 days. Stage show: Gay Nineties. Gross: $14,000. (Average: $11,800).
**"Lady in the Dark" (Para.)**
INDIANA—(3,200) (32c-55c ) 7 days. Gross: $13,000. (Average: $11,600).
**"See Here, Private Hargrove" (M-G-M)**
LOEW'S—(2,800) (32c-55c) 7 days. Gross: $11,000. (Average: $11,500).
**"Women in Bondage" (Mono.)**
**"Sultan's Daughter" (Mono.)**
LYRIC—(2,000) (32c-55c) 7 days. Gross: $6,000. (Average: $4,900).

# Decision Near In SPG Controversy

A decision is due on five points at issue between the Screen Publicists Guild here and the film companies on the guild's classification and automatic-progression plan after over 11 months of negotiations. Hearings were concluded before arbitrators at the American Arbitration Association on April 12.

Issues which the arbitrators have been called upon to decide include the amount still due SPG under the "Little Steel Formula"; whether, under the wage re-opening clause of the contract, SPG's classification and progression plan may be considered; what the the tested "going rates" for publicity workers in New York home offices are; SPG's proposals for automatic progression within classifications and between classifications permissible under the wage re-opening clause; and are the rates paid to members of the Hollywood SPG and New York theatrical press agents pertinent to the Eastern SPG's wage demands.

Meanwhile, SPG has asked all companies to open negotiations for new agreements to replace the two-year contracts which expired May 4. SPG has requested that present pacts be extended pending the outcome of new talks with the understanding that new contracts be retroactive to May 4.

SPG has established a new over all grievance committee comprising chairmen of all unit grievance groups to consider any complaints of the publicists in film companies.

## *'Jills' on Dual Get Bouncing $10,600*

OMAHA, May 24. — "Four Jills in a Jeep" billed with "Three Russian Girls" grossed $10,600 at the Orpheum theatre to lead here this week. "Cover Girl" with "Two-Man Submarine" added was good for $7,100 in its second week at the Brandeis. Showers were frequent.

Estimated receipts for the week ending May 24-25:

**"Cover Girl" (Col.)**
**"Two-man Submarine" (Col.)**
BRANDEIS—(1,200) (44c-60c) 6 days, 2nd week. Gross: $7,100. (Average: $6,500).
**"Flesh and Fantasy" (Univ.)**
OMAHA—(2,000) (44c-60c) 7 days. Gross: $8,400. (Average: $8,400).
**"Four Jills in a Jeep" (20th-Fox)**
**"Three Russian Girls" (UA)**
ORPHEUM—(3,000) (44c-60c) 7 days. Gross: $10,600. (Average: $9,800).
**"Heavenly Body" (M-G-M)**
PARAMOUNT—(2,900) (44c-60c) 7 days. Gross: $9,200. (Average: $11,700).

## *Intervenors Named*

CHICAGO, May 24.—In the some-run and clearance complaint of R. J. Miller, operator of the Colony, McHenry, Ill., pending in the Chicago Tribunal here, Balaban and Katz, Great States Theatres, the Woodstock Amusement Co. of Woodstock, Ill., and the Eltover Theatre, Crystal Lake, Ill., were named as intervenors today.

## *Iturbi Quits Rochester*

ROCHESTER, N. Y., May 24.—Jose Iturbi, under contract to M-G-M, yesterday resigned his position as conductor and musical director of the Rochester Philharmonic Orchestra.


A Career is Born!
A
CASEY ROBINSON
Production
DAYS OF GLORY
Tamara Toumanova
A new career for the greatest dancing star... a new thrill for the screen. Premiere ballerina, Ballet Russe de Monte Carlo ... exotic, hauntingly lovely, actress to her fingertips!
Introducing a New Screen Cast of Brilliant Broadway Stage Personalities...
AN RKO-RADIO PICTURE

# Seek Approval Of Increase In RKO Board

(Continued from page 1)

May 29 before the Securities and Exchange Commission on an application filed by Lehman Brothers for an order exempting the purchase from the provisions of Section 17 (A), necessitated by the fact that Frederick L. Ehrman, a partner in the Lehman firm, is an RKO director, as reported in yesterday's DAILY.

The RKO annual report shows a consolidated net profit of RKO Radio Pictures for 1943 of $7,595,835, before inter-company interest and taxes, as compared to a net loss for 1942 of $2,340,617. This accounted for the bulk of the increase in the corporation's earnings. Domestic film rentals were up 45 per cent and foreign rentals showed a marked increase in the last six months of the year.

**Subsidiaries Earnings**

Theatre operating subsidiaries showed combined net earnings for the year of $5,441,821, before interest and taxes, as against $3,943,377 in 1942. During 1943 the combined funded debt of the corporation was reduced by approximately $5,300,000, leaving at the year's end an aggregate amount of such debt of $19,000,000, including $1,200,000 of a parent company debt which was fully paid on Jan. 3, 1944.

Assets of the corporation are listed at $33,307,122 and liabilities at $13,892,080. Operating income for the year was $78,795,320 and operating expenses $62,218,116, leaving a net income from operations of $16,577,203.

After deductions for interest, losses, etc., and provision for income and excess profits taxes of $6,000,000, net profit for 1943 was $6,964,004, as reported in the DAILY for May 18.

## *Skouras Talks on British Visit*

(Continued from page 1)

Harley, Martin Quigley, Hal Horne, Maurice Silverstone, William J. Kupper, Larry Kent, Richard Dwight, W. C. Michel, John Caskey, Jack Alicoate, Otto Koegle, Bosley Crowther, Joseph Moskowitz, W. C. Gehring, A. W. Smith, Jr., Richard Rowland, Sherwin Kane, Jack Schlaifer, Dan Michalove, Sam Shain, Tony Muto, Tom Pryor, Sidney Self, John Mersereau, Lew Schreiber, Chick Lewis, Mori Krushen, James Ivers, Jack Goldstein, William Formby, Jack Harrison, Dave Bader, H. S. Baremore, L. Picoult and Lou Pellegrine.

## *Rucker to Paramount*

DALLAS, May 24.—Wallace Rucker, owner of the Rock Theatre in nearby Round Rock, and mayor of that town, has returned to Paramount here as a salesman. He will be assigned to West Texas. Mrs. Rucker will manage the theatre in his absence.

## *Mexican Extras Organize*

MEXICO CITY, May 24.—Film extras here, numbering about 5,000, have organized a union, which will be affiliated with the Confederation of Popular Organizations.

# *Chances of Tours by Stars In 5th Drive Seen Slim*

(Continued from page 1)

in work may finish earlier than expected, and others planned for an early start may be delayed, were regarded here as brightening the prospects for the participation of stars in the drive.

O'Donnell will preside at a trade-wide pre-campaign luncheon at the Ambassador Hotel, on Friday, at which time it is expected that the problem might be thrashed out.

**Industry Mobilizes for Drive on June 2**

All elements of the industry, with officials of the N. Y. War Finance Committee, will hold a "Fighting Fifth Breakfast" to mobilize for the Fifth War Loan drive at 9:30 A.M., Friday, June 2. Over a thousand persons, representatives of the 30,000 film workers who will take part in the drive, are expected to attend the breakfast, the location of which is to be kept a "military" secret until the morning of the meeting.

General chairman C. C. Moskowitz, of the film committee for the New York area, has convened the meeting. Those who attend will be instructed, through a "mess call," to assemble at certain street corners at 9:30 A.M. on the morning of the meeting. "Military police" will then escort them to the secret rendezvous.

Major Allen V. Martini, bomber hero, Robert J. O'Donnell, national industry chairman, and Nevil Ford, state chairman for the War Finance Committee for New York, will speak.

**WAC Publicity Committee Meets on Fifth Loan**

The New York area WAC publicity committee, under the chairmanship of publicity director Ernest Emerling met yesterday at Fifth War Loan headquarters here.

Plans discussed by Emerling, and Edward C. Dowden, special events chairman, included borough and county rallies; the routing of the Armed Forces Cavalcade; "The Battle of the Boroughs," the publicizing of bond premieres; the all-industry mobilization meeting on June 2, and the great "indicator" to be erected on Times Square.

Present were: Mike Rosen, John Cassidy, Paula Gould, Peter McCarty, Ben Serkowich, Saul Handwerger, Arthur Price, Norman Greenberg, Sid Kain, Sam Coolick, Al Naroff, John McInerny, Ray Malone, Arthur Egberts, Edgar Goth, Myron Segal, Nick Matsoukas, Janice Rentschler, Sigurd Wexo, Vincent Luigori and Ira Morais, Jerry Sager, Blanche Livingston, Peggy Foldes and William Slater.

**Seek 7,000 Bookings for "Road to Victory"**

A goal of 7,000 bookings before the official opening of the industry's Fifth War Loan drive, June 12, has been set for the War Activities Committee one-reeler, "The Road to Victory," Norman H. Moray, Warner Bros.' short subjects sales manager, has informed Robert J. O'Donnell, national chairman of the campaign.

Moray said the short had already secured 685 first-run bookings in the first two days of release, May 18-19. The hope is that 90 per cent of the population will see the subject before the opening of the drive.

The film, which features Frank Sinatra and Bing Crosby, was produced by Warners as a "Fighting Fifth" War Loan extra and is being distributed through its exchanges.

**Queens Exhibitors Hold Meeting**

One hundred fifty theatre managers, assistants, and War Finance chairmen of Queens County were present at a Fifth War Loan breakfast-organizational meeting yesterday at the Forest Hills Inn. Co-chairmen Jack Harris and Fred Schwartz officiated.

On the dais were: Fred Lemmerman, Nelson Bengston, Hon. Mario J. Cariello, of the Queens War Finance Committee; Fred Schwartz and Jack Harris of the War Activities Committee; Mrs. Mildred Jacobs of the American Women's Voluntary Services; Major Edna Blake of the Hospital Reserve Corps; and Theodore Newhouse, managing editor of the *Long Island Press*.

**San Francisco Today**

DENVER, May 24.—Members of the industry's national committee of the Fifth War Loan drive, headed by chairman R. J. O'Donnell, left here this afternon for San Francisco, where a regional luncheon meeting will be held in the St. Francis Hotel tomorrow. Charles M. Thall, regional chairman, will preside.

### *Lust Jumps Gun With Big Check*

**Sidney Lust, exhibitor chairman from the District of Columbia, yesterday presented the New York office of the industry's Fifth War Loan Campaign the first check for $50,000, the first large war bond sale credited to the "Fighting Fifth" drive.**

**The check comes from a Washington business firm, which requested no publicity. Lust disclosed that he expected to bring in a check for an even larger amount within a few days.**

## *Exhibitor Is Cited For Red Cross Work*

SAN FRANCISCO, May 24.—C. E. MacDonald, manager of the Fox Theatre here, has been presented with a certificate of appreciation by the Red Cross for outstanding work in recruiting plasma volunteers for the Blood Donor Service.

Mrs. Gardner Dailey, director of the service here, stated that 10 per cent of all donors are recruited from theatres and "this 10 per cent means the difference between success and failure."

When the Fox Theatre inaugurated its plasma recruiting program, MacDonald, with the aid of the Red Cross, prepared an illuminated display showing the preparation of plasma for use on the war fronts. His efforts were responsible for as many 1,000 donors recruited in a single week.

# Closing of Wallis Deal with Para. Is Expected Today

(Continued from page 1)

company's lot and will deliver a minimum of two pictures per year for five years. Paramount will purchase a partnership interest in the new Wallis company for an undisclosed sum.

The Wallis company will set up New York offices with Hazen in charge. The latter formerly was a director, vice-president and general counsel of Warners. Wallis plans to leave for the Coast this weekend to complete organization of his producing company and to establish quarters in the Paramount lot. In July, and before starting his first production for Paramount release, he plans to take a vacation of a month or six weeks.

**'Wind' Deal Not Concluded**

Wallis's negotiations for acquisition of motion picture rights to Lillian Hellman's Broadway hit, "The Searching Wind," have not been concluded yet but are continuing. It is assumed that Hazen will be in charge of the negotiations with Charles Schwartz, attorney for Miss Hellman, and Herman Shumlin, producer of the play, after Wallis's departure for the Coast. Wallis said he is interested also in "Junior Miss" and negotiations for that Broadway play property are being undertaken. In addition, a production tie-up with the Theatre Guild, which would give Wallis screen rights to that organization's plays, still is under discussion.

Wallis declined to comment on reports concerning a settlement of his contract with Warners, asserting that the matter still is in the hands of attorneys and is a "legal matter."

# Allied Will Not Join Taxation Committee

(Continued from page 1)

**counsel of the fact of an emergency, the president is authorized to appoint a committee on taxation to represent Allied personnel, the size of the committee resting on the discretion of its president."**

Exhibitor organizations throughout the country recently appointed delegates to the national tax committee which was set up to present a united industry front on any future Congressional tax matters. This committee arose out of the conflict in presentation of the exhibitors' situation when the last tax bill was being considered.

Allied, at its last board of directors' meeting in Chicago, appointed a sub-committee headed by Harry H. Lowenstein, secretary of Allied of New Jersey, to meet in New York and decide whether National Allied should join the exhibitors' national tax group. The sub-committee recommended participation, following the meeting here some months ago.

Functioning of the national committee has been held in abeyance pending National Allied's naming delegates thereto.

# MOTION PICTURE DAILY'S BOOKING CHART

| WEEK OF | COLUMBIA | M-G-M | MONO. | PARA. | PRC | REPUBLIC | RKO RADIO | 20TH-FOX | U. A. | UNIVERSAL | WARNERS |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| April 29 | THE BLACK PARACHUTE<br>Larry Parks<br>Jeanne Bates<br>John Carradine<br>Osa Massen<br>D—(5035) | (Sixth Block)<br>SEE HERE, PRIVATE HARGROVE<br>Robert Walker<br>Donna Reed<br>C—101 mins. (420) | OUTLAW TRAIL<br>(Trailblazer)<br>53 mins. (364)<br>O | (Fourth Block)<br>THE HOUR BEFORE THE DAWN<br>Franchot Tone<br>Veronica Lake<br>D—75 mins. (4317) | MEN OF THE SEA<br>D—50 mins. (420)<br>Wilfrid Lawson<br>VALLEY OF VENGEANCE<br>Buster Crabbe<br>Al St. John<br>O—(464) | TROCADERO<br>Rosemary Lane<br>Johnny Downs<br>Bob Chester's Orch.<br>M—74 mins. (314) | (Block Four)<br>TENDER COMRADE<br>Ginger Rogers<br>Robert Ryan<br>D—102 mins. (416) | (April Releases—no definite date set)<br>BUFFALO BILL<br>(Technicolor)<br>Maureen O'Hara<br>Joel McCrea<br>D—(424)<br>90 mins. | | MOON OVER LAS VEGAS<br>Ann Gwynne<br>David Bruce<br>D—69 mins. (8037) | |
| May 6 | ONCE UPON A TIME<br>Cary Grant<br>Janet Blair<br>James Gleason<br>89 mins. | THE HEAVENLY BODY<br>Hedy Lamarr<br>William Powell<br>D—95 mins. (421) | LAW MAN<br>Johnny Mack Brown<br>O—55 mins. (354) | THE HOUR BEFORE THE DAWN<br>Franchot Tone<br>Veronica Lake<br>D—75 mins. (4317) | THE CONTENDER<br>Buster Crabbe<br>Arline Judge<br>Julie Gibson<br>O—63 mins. (418) | JAMBOREE<br>Ruth Terry<br>George Byron<br>M—71 mins. (316) | PASSPORT TO DESTINY<br>Elsa Lanchester<br>Gordon Oliver<br>D—64 mins. (417) | TAMPICO<br>Ed G. Robinson<br>D—75 mins. (425) | | SLIGHTLY TERRIFIC<br>Leon Errol<br>Anne Rooney<br>Evelyn Ankers<br>C—58 mins. (8036) | THE ADVENTURES OF MARK TWAIN<br>Fredric March<br>Alexis Smith<br>Donald Crisp<br>D—130 mins. (315) |
| May 13 | UNDERGROUND GUERILLAS<br>(British)<br>John Clements<br>Mary Morris—D<br>(5041)<br>RIDIN' WEST<br>Charles Starrett<br>Shirley Patterson<br>O—(5207) | SWING FEVER<br>Kay Kyser<br>Marilyn Maxwell<br>M—81 mins. (423) | DETECTIVE KITTY O'DAY<br>Jean Parker<br>D—61 mins. (322) | YOU CAN'T RATION LOVE<br>Betty Rhodes<br>Johnnie Johnston<br>C—79 mins. (4318) | | | ESCAPE TO DANGER<br>Eric Portman<br>Ann Dvorak<br>D—84 mins. (419) | SHRINE OF VICTORY<br>British Documentary<br>45 mins.—(426) | | COBRA WOMAN<br>(Technicolor)<br>Maria Montez<br>Jon Hall<br>Sabu<br>(8006)—70 mins. | |
| May 20 | STARS ON PARADE<br>Lynn Merrick<br>Larry Parks<br>Judy Clark<br>M—(5023) | RATIONING<br>Wallace Beery<br>Marjorie Main<br>C—93 mins. (418) | THE CHINESE CAT<br>Sidney Toler<br>D—64 mins. (320) | THE NAVY WAY<br>Robert Lowery<br>Jean Parker<br>D—75 mins. (4316) | | COWBOY AND THE SENORITA<br>Roy Rogers<br>Mary Lee<br>Dale Evans<br>M—78 mins. | ESCAPE TO DANGER<br>Eric Portman<br>Ann Dvorak<br>D—84 mins. (419) | (May Releases. No definite date set)<br>PIN-UP GIRL<br>Betty Grable<br>John Harvey<br>Martha Raye<br>Joe E. Brown<br>M—83 mins. (427)<br>(Color) | | PARDON MY RHYTHM<br>Gloria Jean<br>Patric Knowles<br>M<br>(8032)—62 mins. | BETWEEN TWO WORLDS<br>John Garfield<br>Paul Henreid<br>D—112 mins. (316) |
| May 27 | ADDRESS UNKNOWN<br>Paul Lukas<br>K. T. Stevens<br>D—72 mins. (5010) | BROADWAY RHYTHM<br>Ginny Simms<br>George Murphy<br>M—114 mins. (419)<br>(Color) | | (Special)<br>LADY IN THE DARK<br>(Technicolor)<br>Ginger Rogers<br>Ray Milland<br>M—100 mins.<br>(4336) | | MELODY TRAIL<br>(Reissue)<br>Gene Autry<br>O—(3304) | ACTION IN ARABIA<br>George Sanders<br>Virginia Bruce<br>D—75 mins. (420) | | | THE SCARLET CLAW<br>Basil Rathbone<br>Nigel Bruce<br>D—74 mins. (8019) | |
| June 3 | | TUNISIAN VICTORY<br>(Special Release)<br>(466)—80 mins.<br>(Documentary) | FOLLOW THE LEADER<br>East Side Kids<br>D | (Fifth Block)<br>AND THE ANGELS SING<br>Dorothy Lamour<br>Fred MacMurray<br>Betty Hutton<br>M—96 mins. (4321) | SPOOK TOWN<br>(Texas Rangers)<br>O—(457)<br>James Newill<br>Tex O'Brien | SILENT PARTNER<br>Beverly Loyd<br>William Henry<br>Grant Withers<br>O—(314) (342) | UP IN ARMS<br>(special release)<br>Danny Kaye<br>Dinah Shore<br>(Technicolor)<br>C—105 mins. (452)<br>(Color) | BERMUDA MYSTERY<br>Preston Foster<br>Ann Rutherford<br>D—65 mins. (428) | | THIS IS THE LIFE<br>Donald O'Connor<br>Susanna Foster<br>C—87 mins. (8012) | |
| June 10 | THEY LIVE IN FEAR<br>Otto Kruger<br>Pat Parrish<br>Clifford Severn<br>D | (Seventh Block)<br>ANDY HARDY'S BLONDE TROUBLE<br>Mickey Rooney<br>Lewis Stone<br>C—107 mins. (424) | SONORA STAGE COACH<br>(Trailblazer)<br>O—(365) | DOUBLE INDEMNITY<br>Fred MacMurray<br>Barbara Stanwyck<br>Edward G. Robinson<br>D—106 mins. (4325) | WATERFRONT<br>John Carradine<br>J. Carroll Naish<br>D—(415)<br>65 mins. | | (Block Five)<br>THE FALCON OUT WEST<br>Tom Conway<br>Barbara Hale<br>D—64 mins. (421) | (June Releases—no definite date set)<br>EVE OF ST. MARK<br>Anne Baxter<br>William Eythe<br>Michael O'Shea<br>(429) D—96 mins. | | THE INVISIBLE MAN'S REVENGE<br>Jon Hall<br>Evelyn Ankers<br>Alan Curtis<br>D | MAKE YOUR OWN BED<br>Jack Carson<br>Jane Wyman<br>Irene Manning<br>C—82 mins. (317) |
| June 17 | | GASLIGHT<br>Ingrid Bergman<br>Charles Boyer<br>D—(425) | RETURN OF THE APE MAN<br>Bela Lugosi<br>John Carradine<br>D | THE HITLER GANG<br>Robert Watson<br>Victor Varconi<br>D—100 mins.<br>(4323) | | | DAYS OF GLORY<br>Tamara Touranova<br>Gregory Peck<br>D—86 mins. (422) | LADIES OF WASHINGTON<br>Sheila Ryan<br>Trudy Marshall<br>Doris Merrick<br>(430)—D | | GHOST CATCHERS<br>Olsen and Johnson<br>C | |
| June 24 | THE LAST HORSEMAN<br>Russell Hayden<br>Bob Wills<br>"Dub" Taylor<br>O | MEET THE PEOPLE<br>Dick Powell<br>Lucille Ball<br>M—100 mins. (426) | RANGE LAW<br>Johnny Mack Brown<br>O—(355)<br>JOHNNY DOESN'T LIVE HERE ANYMORE<br>Simone Simon<br>James Ellison<br>D | HENRY ALDRICH PLAYS CUPID<br>Jimmy Lydon<br>Diana Lynn<br>Charles Smith<br>65 mins. (4322) | | YELLOW ROSE OF TEXAS<br>Roy Rogers<br>Dale Evans<br>O—(343)<br>69 mins. | THE YELLOW CANARY<br>(British)<br>Anna Neagle<br>Richard Greene<br>D—84 mins. (423) | | | SOUTH OF DIXIE<br>Anne Gwynne<br>David Bruce<br>D—61 mins. | THIS IS THE ARMY<br>(Re-issue)<br>George Murphy<br>John Leslie<br>M—(224)<br>115 mins. |
| July 1 | SHE'S A SOLDIER, TOO<br>Beulah Bondi<br>Nina Foch<br>Jess Barber<br>D | THREE MEN IN WHITE<br>Lionel Barrymore<br>Van Johnson<br>D—(427) | CALL OF THE JUNGLE<br>Ann Corio<br>James Bush<br>D | GAMBLER'S CHOICE<br>Chester Morris<br>Nancy Kelly<br>66 mins. (4324) | MINSTREL MAN<br>Benny Fields<br>Gladys George<br>Roscoe Karns<br>O—(404) | CALL OF THE SOUTH SEAS<br>Janet Martin<br>Allan Lane<br>D—59 mins. (319) | SEVEN DAYS ASHORE<br>Wally Brown<br>Gordon Oliver<br>C—74 mins. (424) | (July Releases—no definite date set)<br>HOME IN INDIANA<br>Walter Brennan<br>Jeanne Crain<br>(431)—D<br>103 mins. | | CHRISTMAS HOLIDAY<br>Deanna Durbin<br>Gene Kelly<br>M | THE MASK OF DIMITRIOS<br>Sidney Greenstreet<br>Zachary Scott<br>D—(318) |
| July 8 | SECRET COMMAND<br>Pat O'Brien<br>Chester Morris<br>Ruth Warrick | TWO GIRLS AND A SAILOR<br>Jimmy Durante<br>Van Johnson<br>C—(428) | LEAVE IT TO THE IRISH<br>James Dunn<br>Wanda McKay<br>Dick Purcell<br>D | (Special release)<br>MEMPHIS BELLE<br>(Color)<br>(Documentary)<br>T3-1—41 mins. | | | SHOW BUSINESS<br>Eddie Cantor<br>Joan Davis<br>George Murphy<br>Constance Moore<br>M 92 mins. (425) | ROGER TOUHY, GANGSTER<br>Preston Foster<br>Victor McLaglen<br>D—65 mins. (432) | | | |

*[Dates Are Based on National Release Schedules and Are Subject to Change. Letters Denote the Following: (D) Drama, (M) Musical, (C) Comedy, (O) Outdoor Action. Production Numbers Are in Parentheses.]*

# THIS IS INDEED A FRIENDLY INDUSTRY!




The response to "Leo-On-Every-Screen" during his Anniversary Week, June 22 to 28, is deeply heart-warming.

The Friendly Lion considers it a birthday honor and privilege to roar—in a feature or short subject—on screens throughout the country.

At press-time 15,108 exhibitors have said: "Okay, Leo, we celebrate with you!"

The total mounts daily. From customers and non-customers comes this stirring evidence of good-will in our industry. It is something of which we may all be proud.

First in Film and Radio News Brief, Accurate and Impartial

# MOTION PICTURE DAILY

Alert, Intelligent and Indispensable to the Motion Picture Industry

VOL. 55. NO. 104 NEW YORK, U. S. A., FRIDAY, MAY 26, 1944 TEN CENTS

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## Wallis-Para. Deal Includes British Films

### *Distribution Agreement Announced by Balaban*

Hal Wallis, under his new distribution deal with Paramount, closing of which was formally announced yesterday by Barney Balaban, president of Paramount, and Wallis and Joseph H. Hazen, his executive assistant, will be in charge of Paramount's British production in addition to the pictures which he will make in Hollywood.



Hal B. Wallis

Plans of the new Hal Wallis Productions, Inc., call for Wallis to devote his entire time to

(*Continued on page 12*)

## C. R. Rogers Will Produce 4 for UA

Charles R. Rogers, independent producer releasing through United Artists, announced here yesterday that he will produce four features for the 1944-45 season.

They are: "Reaching for the Stars," starring Jane Powell, his first, to be followed by "My Wild Irish Rose," a Technicolor musical. Negotiations for the direction of both films by David Butler have begun, he said. Third production will be an original fantasy by Harry Segall, titled, "Angel On My Shoulder." "One Man's Family," the radio program by Carlton E. Morse, will be the final feature.

Total cost for the group, which will be produced at the General Service

(*Continued on page 12*)

## *Baker Reelected as KRS President*

LONDON, May 25.—At the annual meeting here today of the Kinematograph Renters' Society, Major Reginald Baker, managing director of Ealing Distribution Ltd., was reelected president, and Francis Baker of Butcher's Film Service, Ltd., was renamed treasurer.

### *U. S. Seeks Film Cutters, Editors*

**An acute shortage of film cutters and editors has prompted the War Department to issue an appeal for workers in those fields who are not eligible for service with the armed forces. Other positions are available to writers, artists, chauffeurs, shippers, truck drivers, mechanics, electrical engineers and laborers.**

## *Allied Plans For Postwar*

PHILADELPHIA, May 25.—The board of National Allied today authorized Martin Smith, the organization's president, to appoint a committee to form an all-industry postwar planning board whose main duty will be efforts to prevent the Government's indiscriminate disposition of motion picture equipment and to try and keep such equipment out of the hands of non-theatrical groups.

A committee consisting of Irving Dollinger, chairman and Nathan Yamins and William Ainsworth was appointed to investigate all available sources of film to relieve the present shortage. Also a recreation equipment drive was instigated, and Smith will appoint committees in all allied communities to provide the equipment in all Government hospitals.

A plea for harmony in the film industry was voiced by William F. Rodgers, M-G-M vice-president in charge of distribution at the Allied dinner at the Hotel Warwick last night attended by 200 exhibitors, film exchange heads and others.

## 'Clean Bill' Given OCR; Theatre Section Remains

By BERTRAM F. LINZ

WASHINGTON, May 26.—A "clean bill" has been given the theatre-construction and other programs of the recreation section of the Office of Civilian Requirements and all plans for a reorganization of the section have been dropped, it was disclosed here tonight.

As a result, George W. McMurphey, chief of the section, who had been reported preparing to leave the OCR, will remain, as will all members of his staff, and John Eberson, who resigned as consultant last Friday, will be asked either to withdraw his resignation or accept a new appointment.

For some days, the activities of the recreation section have been under study by high officials of the OCR

(*Continued on page 12*)

## Winners of Quigley Awards Honored

In ceremonies on the West and East Coasts this week, the winners of the 10th annual Quigley Showmanship Awards were presented with plaques officially designating them as 1943's champion showmen.

The winners were Jack Matlack, publicity director of the J. J. Parker Theatres, Portland, Ore., and manager of the circuit's Broadway Theatre, and Miss Gertrude Bunchez, publicity director of Loew's Theatres in Baltimore.

Matlack was presented with the Silver Grand Award and the W-- Showmanship Award by David B. Simpson, president of the Portland Chamber of

(*Continued on page 12*)

## *Loew's Inc. Net Profit for 28 Weeks Is $7,442,698*

A net profit of $7,442,698, after Federal taxes, was recorded for the 28 weeks ended March 16, 1944 by Loew's, Inc., compared to $6,376,228 reported for a like period ended March 18, 1943, David Bernstein, vice-president and treasurer, reported yesterday.

**The earnings for the 28-week period amount to $4.44 per share of the common stock as against the earnings of $3.83 per share in the comparable period in 1943.**

The company's share of operating profit after provision for subsidiaries' preferred dividends for the 28 weeks amounted to $19,209,840, compared to $19,632,511 a year ago. Loew's, Inc., profit before Federal taxes was $14,738,551 compared to a previous $15,238,999, Bernstein announced. A reserve of $7,295,853 was set aside for Federal taxes, compared to $8,862,771 the year before. Reserve for contingencies was the same this year as last, $2,600,000, while the reserve set aside for depreciation was $1,871,289 as compared to $1,793,512 a year ago.

## 20th-Fox-Rank British Films Under Zanuck

### *Skouras Announces Deal Is for Five Years*

The joint production activities of 20th Century-Fox and the J. Arthur Rank companies in Britain will have the direct supervision of Darryl F. Zanuck, who will make at least one visit to England annually for that purpose, Spyros Skouras, 20th Century - Fox president, told *Motion Picture Herald* this week.



Spyros Skouras

Skouras and Rank announced earlier that the joint production schedule contemplated four to eight

(*Continued on page 12*)

## Kelly Setting Up Sales Organization

Eagle-Lion Films, J. Arthur Rank's American sales company, will shortly establish a sales organization to consist of a general sales manager, assistant general sales manager, 26 branch managers and approximately 100 salesmen, it was disclosed yesterday by Arthur Kelly, president.

(*Continued on page 12*)

## *British Gov't to Quit Films After War*

HOLLYWOOD, May 25.—The British government will not continue film production after the war, in the opinion of J. L. Beddington, director of the film division of the British Ministry of Information, here visiting studios and BMI local personnel on his first trip since taking the post. Beddington said industry opposition is the chief reason why he believed governmental production will cease.

His production staff is now turning to subjects dealing with post-war England, Beddington said, presenting "in terms of alternatives" possibilities in housing, educational, and other fields of public interest. Films will show the potentialities of different types of policies being discussed.

# Personal Mention

N. PETER RATHVON, RKO president, will arrive from California today.

•

JACK L. WARNER, Warner Bros. vice-president in charge of production, and MRS. WARNER, will leave for California today.

•

LEONARD GOLDENSON, Paramount vice-president in charge of theatre operations, returned yesterday from Denver.

•

MILES CONCANNON, co-manager of Balaban and Katz Chicago theatre, and his wife celebrated their 38th wedding anniversary this week.

•

ISIDRO SANCHEZ, Puerto Rican independent distributor, will return to San Juan today after a three weeks' stay in New York.

•

NED E. DEPINET, RKO-Radio president, will arrive Monday from the Coast.

•

GEORGE BORTHWICK, MPPDA treasurer, will arrive here early next week from Hollywood.

•

HARRY KOSINER, Edward Small's Eastern sales representative, left yesterday for South Carolina.

•

Y. FRANK FREEMAN has been delayed in Atlanta and now is expected in New York this weekend.

## Defer Decision on Theatre Tax Group

Whether or not Allied States' action at Philadelphia on Wednesday in declining to participate officially in the proposed Round Table Conference of exhibitor associations on taxation will result in the abandonment of the organization designed to unify exhibitor opposition to unfair and discriminatory taxation will not be determined for six weeks or two months, it was stated here yesterday.

The proposed unified organization has been approved by MPTOA, PCCITO and affiliated circuits and was approved earlier by a special Allied commitee designed to study the plan, which was rejected by the Allied board at Philadelphia. No action will be taken to determine the wishes of the other subscribing exhibitor groups with respect to proceeding with the Round Table Conference without Allied until after the industry's Fifth War Loan drive has ended, it was said.

## Freeman's Son Weds

ATLANTA, May 25.—Miss Jean Miles Perkins was married here yesterday to Lt.-Cmdr. Young Frank Freeman, Jr., at St. Mark's Methodist Church. Cmdr. Freeman is the son of Y. Frank Freeman, Paramount vice-president in charge of production.

## AMPA Bows Out as Employment Group

The Associated Motion Picture Advertisers yesterday ushered in the regime of its new president, Martin Starr of United Artists, by deciding not to concern itself in the future with the unemployment problems of exploiteers.

The issue came up when some of the 34 members, assembled for a luncheon meeting at the Famous Kitchen here, suggested that the organization serve as an employment clearing house. It was decided to leave this function to others within the industry. AMPA made clear it was seeking to enroll more women in the ranks of advertisers and press agents, holding that women will play an increasingly important role in the future. Meanwhile, the group's relief fund for aging exploiteers will be built up beyond its present substantial figure, according to a further decision by the membership.

**Vote Anniversary Dinner**

The organization also voted to hold a dinner next October in celebration of the industry's 50th anniversary and to devote itself during the coming year to promotion of the war effort. AMPA has now recessed its general membership meetings for the summer, but the board will continue to hold sessions on alternate Thursdays.

Those taking office yesterday, along with Starr, were James Zabin of Cinema Circuit, vice-president; Dave Bader of 20th-Fox, secretary, and Jacques Kopfstein of Astor Pictures, treasurer.

## Schine Motion Would Delay Suit Trial

BUFFALO, May 25.—Schine Chain Theatres today filed a motion in U. S. District Court here to compel the Government to file an amended answer in its anti-trust suit against the circuit in view of the recent dismissal of Columbia, United Artists and Universal as defendants in the case.

The motion was made in the course of pre-trial conferences under way here before Federal Judge John Knight, with Seth Richardson of Washington and Saul E. Rogers and Willard S. McKay of New York acting as counsel for Schine.

If the motion for an amended answer from the Government is granted by the court it would have the effect of delaying for some time the start of trial of the Schine anti-trust suit, now scheduled for next Wednesday.

## Lawyers to Answer Schoenstadt Claim

CHICAGO, May 25.—Preliminary interrogations are to be answered June 1 by defense lawyers before Charles A. MacDonald, master of chancery of United States Court in the case of Schoenstadt and Sons, demanding earlier clearance for their Piccadilly Theatre and charging violations of the Sherman anti-trust act.

Defendants are Balaban and Katz, Warner Bros. Theatres, and major distributors.

## $18,000,000 For CIAA

WASHINGTON, May 25.—Cutting $1,174,000 from the estimates of the Coordinator of Inter-American Affairs, the House Appropriations Committee today recommended that that agency be given $18,000,000 for operation during the fiscal year beginning July 1, next.

The fund granted the CIAA is $12,735,000 less than it has for the current fiscal year, the decrease being made possible by the completion of a number of its programs. In eliminating the $1,174,000 from the Coordinator's estimates the committee did not indicate where cuts were to be made, but left it to the Coordinator to select the activities to be restricted.

## 'Look,' WAC May Report on Films

The publishers of *Look* magazine and the War Activities Committee have made tentative plans for a book devoted to the work of motion pictures in the war, 75 percent of the story to be told in pictures. The volume would be dedicated to all film workers in war service and would describe the industry's prewar campaign against Fascism, its enlistment after Pearl Harbor and its current war activities.

Francis Harmon, WAC executive vice-chairman, and *Look* publishers have been considering the project for some time. The WAC executive committee will make the final decision on whether the WAC will lend its sponsorship to the plan.

Robin Coons, Associated Press Hollywood correspondent, has been granted a six-months' leave of absence to write the text, if and when arrangements are concluded.

## Criticism of Industry On Wane, Says Coe

Outside criticism of the industry has tapered off lately to the point where it is almost negligible, Charles Frances Coe of the Motion Picture Producers and Distributors of America yesterday told that organization's Public Relations Committee in a report on his recent South and Midwest speaking tour.

Coe said that, appearing before Chambers of Commerce, service clubs, women's club and church groups, he found "very little criticism and none of it justified." Summarizing the tour, which placed emphasis on the industry's war effort and its function as an educational force in the postwar world, he stated that it was "the best tour ever, from the standpoints of industry acceptance and general promise. We made more important friends than ever before in the past," Coe added.

The Public Relations Committee devoted a part of yesterday's weekly session to continued work on publicity for the Fifth War Loan drive.

## House Asks Rise in OWI Foreign Funds

WASHINGTON, May 25.—Again restricting the motion picture bureau of the domestic branch to an expenditure of $50,000, the House Appropriations Committee today recommended that the Office of War Information be given $58,625,367 for operation during the fiscal year beginning July 1.

The amount recommended by the committee was $20,402,000 more than provided for the current year but $5,765,000 less than requested by the OWI. While the committee refused the domestic film bureau any increase, it approved an increase for the similar bureau in the overseas branch.


NEW YORK THEATRES

RADIO CITY MUSIC HALL
Showplace of the Nation Rockefeller Center
HELD OVER 3rd WEEK
A Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer's Picture
"THE WHITE CLIFFS OF DOVER"
Starring IRENE DUNNE
with ALAN MARSHAL
SPECTACULAR STAGE PRESENTATION
First Mezzanine Seats Reserved. Circle 6-4600

LOEW'S STATE B'WAY & 45
ON SCREEN
FIRST N. Y. SHOWING
'THREE MEN IN WHITE'
LIONEL BARRYMORE
VAN JOHNSON
IN PERSON
BILLY ROSE'S DIAMOND HORSESHOE REVUE

RKO PALACE B'WAY & 47th St.
"SHOW BUSINESS"
Eddie Cantor — George Murphy
Joan Davis — Nancy Kelly

PARAMOUNT'S
"GOING MY WAY"
with BING CROSBY
In Person
CHARLIE SPIVAK and His Orch.
PARAMOUNT Times Square

3rd WEEK
The Inside Story of the World's Worst Gangsters
PARAMOUNT'S
"The Hitler Gang"
BRANDT'S B'way & 46 St. GLOBE

Betty GRABLE • Charlie SPIVAK & Orch.
'PIN-UP GIRL'
IN TECHNICOLOR
Plus on Stage—Connee Boswell
Raymond Scott & Orch. • Willie Howard
BUY MORE BONDS ROXY 7th Ave. & 50th St.


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# The love story of a soldier



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*Maxwell Anderson's sensational long-run play becomes a love-story so poignant that millions will make it their own!*





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# THE EVE OF ST. MARK

with

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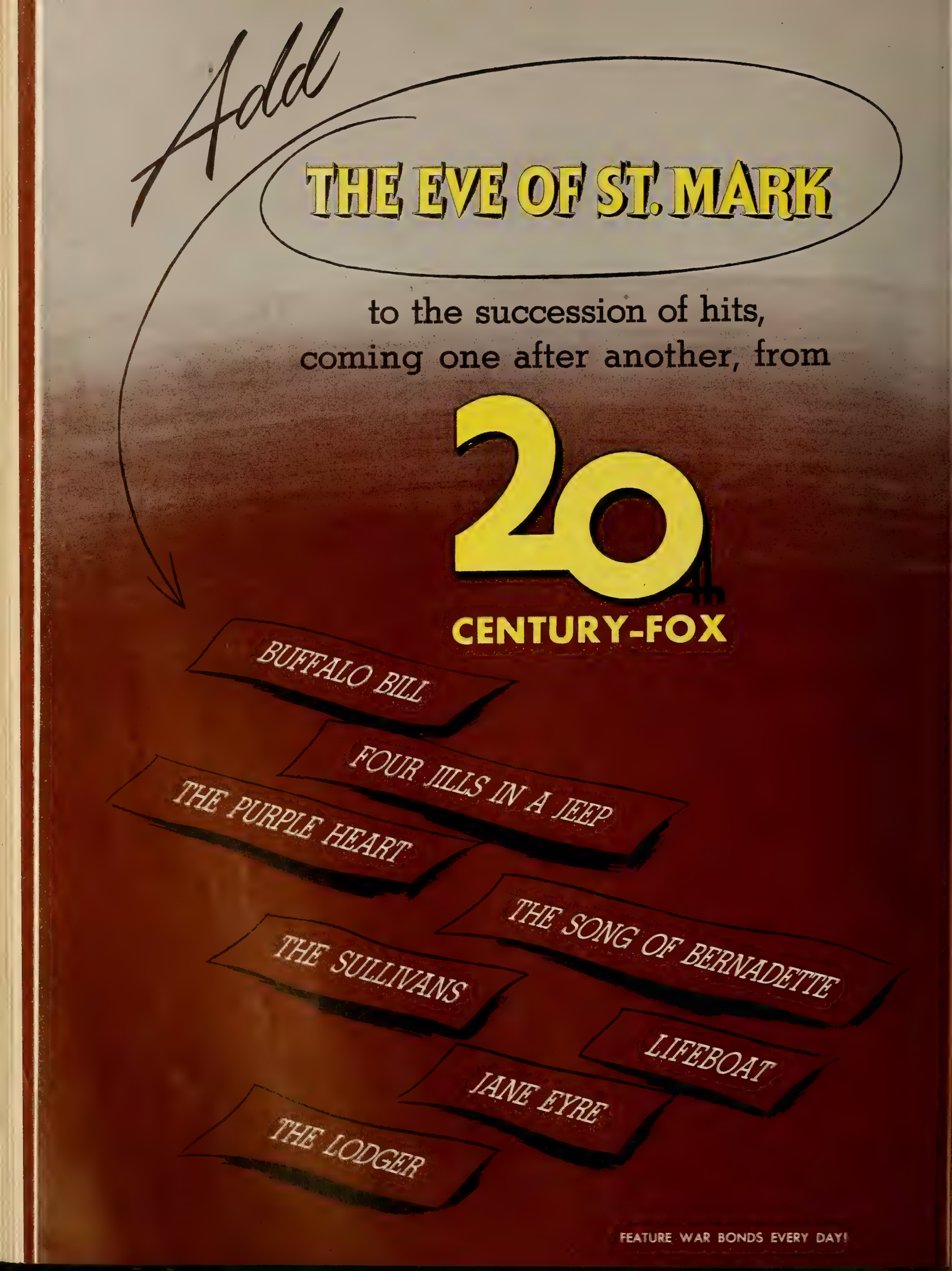
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*The most impelling romance of fighting men and their women that ever crowded your theatre!*


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THE SONG OF BERNADETTE
THE SULLIVANS
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JANE EYRE
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FEATURE WAR BONDS EVERY DAY!

# Coast Flashes

*Hollywood, May 25*

S. BARRET McCORMICK, director of advertising and publicity for RKO; Robert Goldstein and Alfred W. Schwalberg of International Pictures, and Ralph Austrian will leave here tomorrow for New York.

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Paramount has signed Paulette Goddard to a new seven-year contract, which calls for two pictures annually. The pact goes into effect upon completion of her latest Paramount film, "Kitty."

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E. T. Gomersall, Universal assistant sales manager, and John Joseph, "U" advertising-publicity director, arrived here from the East today.

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Universal has acquired rights to the Arsene Lupin title from M-G-M and will produce "Enter Arsene Lupin" as the first of a series.

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Dorothy Lamour has returned to her home in San Bernardino following a minor operation at Good Samaritan Hospital.

•

Boris Karloff's second film under his two-picture deal with RKO will be "The Body Snatchers," the company has announced.

•

Charles Einfeld, national advertising and publicity director for Warners, arrived here today from New York.

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Director Lewis Milestone's condition was reported as improved today by Hollywood Hospital.

•

RKO has signed Dick Powell to a term contract, calling for two pictures annually.

## Court Kills Bioff Recovery Actions

ALBANY, May 25.—The Court of Appeals today unanimously affirmed lower court decisions dismissing the action brought by Paramount stockholders to recover more than $100,000 paid by company officials to William Bioff and George Browne, former IATSE officials, who were convicted of extorting more than $1,000,000 from the motion picture industry.

The action was brought by a group of Paramount stockholders more than a year ago on the basis of testimony of Paramount officials concerning the payments to Browne and Bioff in the course of their trial. Today's decision of the State's highest court settles the law in the case and serves as a precedent for similar stockholders' recovery actions brought against Warners and Loew's on the basis of sums extorted by Browne and Bioff from officials of those companies.

## Edmund Mortimer, 69, Films Pioneer, Dies

LOS ANGELES, May 25.—Edmund Mortimer, 69, motion picture actor and former director, died here recently. A pioneer in the industry, Mortimer had been with films 27 years. Surviving is his widow, Louise.

# Review

## "Mr. Skeffington"

*(Warner Bros.)*

"MR. SKEFFINGTON," the best-selling novel by "Elizabeth" of several seasons back, has supplied the inspiration for this distinguished, handsomely-mounted dramatic production starring Bette Davis and featuring Claude Rains, Walter Abel, Richard Waring, George Coulouris and Marjorie Riordan, produced by Julius J. and Philip G. Epstein for Warner Bros. It deals with a scintillating, vain and selfish woman's struggle against oncoming age, and covers a span of 25 years. Though tending to be overlong in its unfolding, Vincent Sherman's deftly-paced direction sustains engrossing interest throughout. Endowed with several humorous touches supplied by the Brothers Epstein in their screen adaptation and encased in an impressive production, it is a film that is certain to enjoy wide audience appeal, especially among women, and command top box-office returns.

The role of petulant Fanny Skeffington is a "natural" for Miss Davis' talents and it enables her to add another brilliant portrayal to her imposing array of cinematic accomplishments. Rains is provided with an excellent opportunity to display his artistry in the lesser role of Job Skeffington, the wealthy, generous banker-broker. Fanny Skeffington is one of the reigning beauties of her day in New York when she marries Skeffington in 1914, to save her irresponsible brother from disgrace. A devoted and adoring husband, Skeffington hoped that his wife would eventually learn to love him despite the endless parade of suitors who continue to pay her homage even after the birth of their daughter. A serious estrangement develops after the death of Fanny's brother which eventually leads to divorce. Skeffington retreats to Europe with their daughter and Fanny continues to attract men with as much ease as previously. Age finally catches up with Fanny after a serious illness, and the realization that she can no longer attract men is a terrible blow. She finds some comfort, however, in being able to minister to Skeffington, who returns from Europe broken and blinded by the Nazis and still worshipping the beautiful Fanny whom he married 25 years before.

Abel is appealing in the role of Fanny's devoted cousin and lesser roles are splendidly handled by Waring, as Fanny's brother; Miss Riordan as the daughter; Dorothy Peterson as her maid; Coulouris as a psychiatrist; and Jerome Cowan, Robert Shayne, John Alexander, Charles Drake, Peter Whitney and Bill Kennedy, as Fanny's many suitors. Franz Waxman's musical score is a highlight of the production, and Ernest Haller's photography work is excellent. Perc Westmore rates full credit for his handling of Miss Davis' make-up in the latter sequences of the film.

Running time, 146 mins. "G."* No release date set.

MILTON LIVINGSTON

*"G" denotes general classification.

## Discuss Television Channel Allocations

The problems facing post-war television standards and allocation of channels were discussed here last night by David Smith, research director of Philco Radio and Dr. Charles B. Jolliffe, chief engineer of RCA before the second television seminar session of the Radio Executives Club.

"The war," according to Jolliffe, "has opened up a large portion of the frequency spectrum not previously used, but it has also created a number of new services or expansion of services which previously existed, so that there are more claimants for more frequency space than there is frequency space available."

## Harold Bell Wright, Author, Dies at 72

SAN DIEGO, May 25.—Harold Bell Wright, 72, novelist, many of whose stories were used in motion pictures, died here yesterday following an attack of bronchial pneumonia.

Included in film adaptations of Wright's novels were "The Winning of Barbara Worth" and "The Mine with the Iron Door." Surviving are a widow and three sons.

## Ampere, Ltd., Given Clearance Award

A clearance award in favor of Ampere, Ltd., operators of the Ampere, East Orange, N. J., against the five consenting companies was entered at the New York tribunal, the American Arbitration Association reported here yesterday.

Lionel S. Popkin, arbitrator, declared that the existing clearance granted by Paramount, Loew's, 20th-Fox and Warners to the Ormont over the Ampere was unreasonable and should be eliminated. Further that the existing clearance granted by the five companies to the Beacon over the Ampere is unreasonable and should be reduced to one day.

Based on a stipulation entered into by all parties in February 1944, the arbitrator further ruled that Warners and Loew's shall grant no clearance to the Royal and Broadmoor over the Ampere; that the maximum clearance granted by Warners, Loew's and RKO Radio to the Central over the Ampere shall be seven days on features playing both clear and complete runs at the Central.

## McGuire to St. Louis

P. A. McGuire of the Simplex Projection Corp. left yesterday for the IATSE convention in St. Louis.

# Cool Weather Sends L. A. Into Tailspin

LOS ANGELES, May 25.—Coolish weekend weather was the only tangible factor accountable for downward trends all along the box office front, which took the town-wide total of first-run grosses to $193,928, which compares to a total average of $220,100. "Andy Hardy's Blonde Trouble," coupled with "Tunisian Victory," took $26,500 at the Loew's State.

Estimated receipts for the week ending May 24:

**"Andy Hardy's Blonde Trouble" (M-G-M)**
**"Tunisian Victory" (M-G-M)**
CARTHAY CIRCLE—(1,516) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 7 days. Gross: $9,500. (Average: $11,200).

**"Andy Hardy's Blonde Trouble" (M-G-M)**
**"Tunisian Victory" (M-G-M)**
CHINESE—(2,500) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 7 days. Gross: $14,000. (Average: $15,500).

**"Address Unknown" (Col.)**
**"Jam Session" (Col.)**
EGYPTIAN—(1,500) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 5 days. Gross: $9,400. (Average: $9,500).

**"Action in Arabia" (RKO)**
**"The Curse of the Cat People" (RKO)**
HAWAII—(1,000) (50c-60c-75c-80c) 7 days, 4th week. Gross: $3,400. (Average: $6,200).

**"Follow the Boys" (Univ.)**
**"The Scarlet Claw" (Univ.)**
HILLSTREET—(2,700) (50c-60c-80c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $17,000. (Average: $19,700).

**"Andy Hardy's Blonde Trouble" (M-G-M)**
**"Tunisian Victory" (M-G-M)**
LOEW'S STATE—(2,500) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 7 days. Gross: $26,500. (Average: $24,100).

**"Address Unknown" (Col.)**
**"Jam Session" (Col.)**
LOS ANGELES—(2,096) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 7 days. Gross: $17,500. (Average: $14,800).

**"Follow the Boys" (Univ.)**
**"The Scarlet Claw" (Univ.)**
PANTAGES—(2,000) (50c-60c-80c-$1.00) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $14,000. (Average: $17,700).

**"Man from Frisco" (Rep.)**
PARAMOUNT HOLLYWOOD — (50c-60c-80c-$1.00) 7 days. Gross: $8,000. (Average: $11,000.)

**"Man from Frisco" (Rep.)**
**"My Best Gal" (Rep.)**
PARAMOUNT DOWNTOWN — (50c-60c-80c-$1.00) 7 days. Gross: $15,000. (Average: $20,300.)

**"Address Unknown" (Col.)**
**"Jam Session" (Col.)**
RITZ—(1,376) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 7 days. Gross: $9,000. (Average: $8,700).

**"Andy Hardy's Blonde Trouble" (M-G-M)**
**"Tunisian Victory" (M-G-M)**
UPTOWN—(1,716) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 7 days. Gross: $10,500. (Average: $10,500).

**"Uncertain Glory" (WB)**
WARNERS HOLLYWOOD—(3,000) (50c-60c-80c-$1.00) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $12,779. (Average: $17,000).

**"Uncertain Glory" (WB)**
WARNERS DOWNTOWN—(3,400) (50c-60c-80c-$1.00) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $15,150. (Average: $18,700).

**"Uncertain Glory" (WB)**
WARNERS WILTERN—(2,200) (50c-60c-80c-$1.00) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $12,199. (Average: $15,200).

## Warners File Denial Of Rosyl Charges

Answers generally denying allegations in the triple damage anti-trust suit of Rosyl Amusement Corp., operator of the Cameo Theatre, Jersey City, against 23 motion picture firms, consisting of the eight producing companies, their distributors and five theatre chains operating in Hudson County, N. J., were filed in Federal Court here yesterday by Warner Brothers Pictures, Inc., Warner Brothers Circuit Management Corp., Warner Brothers Theatres, Inc., and the Stanley Corp. of America, all named as defendants.



# Welcome, Hal B.

# Paramount

is pleased to announce that the producing firm of Hal B. Wallis Productions, Inc., headed by Hal B. Wallis and Joseph H. Hazen, has become affiliated with Paramount Pictures Inc. The future product of the man who made "Casablanca", "Yankee Doodle Dandy", "This Is The Army", "Watch On The Rhine", "Saratoga Trunk", "Princess O'Rourke" and 105 other famous screen attractions, and who twice won the Thalberg Memorial Award, will augment the remarkable succession of fine pictures which has already won industry dominance for Paramount.

Hal B. Wallis productions will be filmed for the most part at the Paramount studio in Hollywood. The remainder will be produced in England—a co-operative move to help insure world-wide acceptance for British-made pictures.

All Hal B. Wallis productions will be distributed throughout the world by

# Paramount

# Wallis Productions



# Wallis-Para. Deal Includes British Films

(*Continued from page* 1)

production of features in Hollywood and England, and for Hazen to take charge of the organization's corporate, financial and business affairs, with headquarters in New York.

Under the deal Wallis will make two to four pictures annually for Paramount worldwide distribution for an as yet undesignated period. Paramount will advance initial organization and operating costs for the new Wallis company but will not own any interest in Hal Wallis Prod., Inc., it was stated. All subsequent financing after the company begins producing will be its own.

**Only Interested in 'Wind'**

Wallis, who plans to leave for the Coast this weekend or on Monday, said that Lillian Hellman's "The Searching Wind" is the only property in which he is interested now, Warners having closed for "Junior Miss." He further stated that his plans for going to Britain to produce there, as part of the Paramount deal, are uncertain. He indicated that they would depend in large part on the availability of studio space there.

American-made pictures will be produced at Paramount's Hollywood studio. The first film, title of which will be announced soon, will go into production in September.

"The fusion," Balaban said, "for production in England, of the resources of Paramount with Wallis's ability, should result in some real British-made hits for the world market from this highly important production center."

## *C. R. Rogers Will Produce 4 for UA*

(*Continued from page* 1)

Studios, will be $5,000,000. "Song of the Open Road" will have its world premiere in Portland, Ore., the home town of Jane Powell, who stars in the picture, in June, he said.

During his eight-week stay here, Rogers studied the television situation. He said that a new field for films impends with the new medium. Rogers will return to the Coast today.

## *Labor Conciliator to Meet Cartoonists*

HOLLYWOOD, May 25.—Louis Livingston, U. S. Labor department conciliator, will meet with the Screen Cartoonists Guild and representatives of the Walt Disney studios next Thursday morning in an effort to settle new contract negotiations.

Due to the fact that Disney employs 50 per cent of the screen cartoonists, the Guild and other cartoon producers feel that wage increases in Disney's studio will set a precedent in the field.

## *$425,000 for 'Miss'*

Warner Bros. are reported to have purchased the screen rights to the Broadway play "Junior Miss" for a record price of $425,000.

# *Bond Rally Scheduled for Today in Los Angeles*

LOS ANGELES, May 25.—Some 400 Southern California theatre and producer-distributor representatives will gather at the Ambassador Hotel tomorrow to finalize plans for the Fifth War Loan drive and to hear Robert J. O'Donnell outline plans for the forthcoming nation-wide effort.

O'Donnell will tell the theatremen that they will carry the heaviest responsibility for success of the drive. "The industry is setting out to sell a bond for every fighter in the armed forces. There are 12,000,000 fighters, 12,000,000 theatre seats and it is possible for us to sell 12,000,000 bonds," he will say.

**Plan Special Activities**

This area's activities will be highlighted by bond premieres, audience participation activities, mobile units and special performances of varied character in keeping with the national program, plus readaptations based on the area's possibilities. Dave Bershon, territorial chairman, arranged the luncheon and will preside. Charles Skouras, who was Fourth Drive chairman, will be present and will pledge the unstinted cooperation of his theatres.

Other speakers will include Howard D. Mills and R. H. Moulton, Treasury Department officials; Richard M. Kennedy, John Friedl, Ray Beall, Ned E. Depinet, Claude Lee and Major Allen V. Martini, war hero.

Skouras accompanied O'Donnell and his staff, plus Depinet, from San Francisco today and tonight was host to the drive officials at a Variety Club party and dinner at Perino's. Later tonight O'Donnell met with Hollywood Victory Committee officials in a final effort to untangle uncertainties over star bond tours which thus far appear highly circumscribed in view of Hollywood's heaviest production schedule in the past year.

**Campaign Book Placed In Mail Today**

The 24-page Fifth War Loan campaign press book is off the press, and shipments to the field will begin today, Joe Kinsky of the industry's campaign headquarters here announced yesterday. A total of 20,000 copies are being printed for distribution to all exhibitors, exhibitor state chairmen, state publicity chairmen, area distributor chairmen, branch managers, salesmen and War Finance Committee members. A number of innovations devised by Ray Beall, national publicity chairman, are included.

**Missouri Meet Monday**

Western Missouri will hold its Fifth War Loan industry kickoff meeting in Kansas City on Monday, according to a wire received at national campaign headquarters here yesterday from E. C. Rhoden, exhibitor state chairman. J. E. Garrison, district distributor chairman; Jack Langan, area distributor chairman, and Jerry Zigmond, Western Missouri publicity chairman, will be present.

**Slater Heads Speakers**

William Slater of the RKO publicity department has been appointed head of the speakers' bureau for Manhattan theatres by Gene Meyers, borough chairman for the Fifth War Loan.

## 'Clean Bill' Given OCR; Theatre Section Remains

(*Continued from page* 1)

and the War Production Board, following complaints from both within and outside the organization that its efforts to insure adequate theatre and other recreation facilities for war centers were cutting across the programs of the production divisions for war output.

The situation was intensified by press stories that reported assurances that adequate facilities for various amusements would be provided could not be made good and that section officials had greatly exceeded their authority in pressing their program. There also is a situation in the theatre program resulting from the pleas of independent exhibitors on the West Coast to the Department of Justice to bar large circuits from using the OCR to expand their holdings.

Officials said today that all of these situations have been thoroughly studied and a decision reached that while there has been a great deal of loose talk there is nothing basically wrong with either the OCR program or organization.

## *Cantor in NBC Web Telecast to Phila.*

Eddie Cantor appeared in an intercity demonstration of chain television which was telecast for 15 minutes last night from the NBC television studio in New York to Philadelphia where the Poor Richard Club in cooperation with the Franklin Institute at Franklin Hall commemorated the occasion.

Franklin Hall was the scene where the development of the telephone was demonstrated 100 years ago, and the Cantor telecast which was a demonstration of chain television which eventually will be put on a national basis in the post-war world, is claimed to be a 'first' in scientific history and entertainment progress in view of the fact that heretofore programs have been strictly experimental.

## *Winners of Quigley Awards Honored*

(*Continued from page* 1)

Commerce, before 500 members and guests. In his acceptance speech, Matlack expressed his thanks to Martin Quigley for making the awards possible.

Baltimore's Mayor Theodore R. McKeldin made the presentation of the Bronze Grand Award to Miss Bunchez at a luncheon given in her honor at the Lord Baltimore Hotel.

## *'Wallflower' to Warners*

Screen rights to the current Broadway play "Wallflower" have been acquired by Warner Bros., according to an announcement by Jack L. Warner. The show was produced by Meyer Davis and is in its 18th week at the Cort Theatre. The purchase price is reported to be $75,000.

# 20th-Fox-Rank British Films Under Zanuck

(*Continued from page* 1)

pictures annually, some of which would be made in Hollywood. The agreement is for a five-year period, Skouras said, and, as reported earlier, involves physical distribution of Rank's pictures by 20th-Fox in America, Africa and Australasia. Rank's Eagle-Lion Films plans to establish its own branches in South America.

Skouras said that the British industry has made great strides in the past four years and in five years more it will be in a position to compete with the American industry on comparable grounds. Skouras views this impending competition as "one of the best things that has happened to the American industry in years." He intimated that Rank is determined to place the British industry on the same plane with the American industry and that the British leader is motivated by his great belief in the power and influence of the screen throughout the world.

**Will Be on G-B Board**

Skouras said that approximately $19,000,000 has been invested by Fox in Gaumont-British in the past 15 years and that during that time the American company had no effective voice in the management of G-B. Under his new agreement with Rank, Skouras will be on the G-B board, and Larry Kent, his executive assistant, will be an important factor, on a full time basis, in G-B management.

Skouras gave unstinting praise to the British industry for its advances in the face of wartime conditions which have deprived it of manpower, materials and 75 per cent of its studio space. He also paid high tribute to Rank as an individual.

## *Kelly Setting Up Sales Organization*

(*Continued from page* 1)

As previously reported in MOTION PICTURE DAILY, 20th Century-Fox will handle the physical distribution for all films produced by J. Arthur Rank, British film leader. This procedure, it is understood, was adopted as a matter of expediency, and post-war plans call for the setting up of the company's own distribution organization. The Eagle-Lion setup here thus becomes identical to that of Gaumont-British of several years ago when physical distribution was handled by 20th-Fox and G-B maintained its own selling organization.

Plans for the first film to be shown under the Eagle-Lion banner, "The Life and Death of Colonel Blimp," are now being formulated on a road show basis, Kelly said.

## *'Wilson' Premiere Aug. 1*

"Wilson," 20th Century-Fox's Technicolor film produced by Darryl Zanuck, will have its premiere at the Roxy here on Tuesday evening, Aug. 1. The film will run on a roadshow basis.

# STEADILY IMPROVED

**THE PREFERENCE of cameramen and directors of photography for Eastman Films has a sound basis. In the face of wartime pressures, the exceptional quality of these films has been not merely maintained but steadily improved. Eastman Kodak Company, Rochester, N. Y.**

**J. E. BRULATOUR, INC.,** ***Distributors***
**Fort Lee Chicago Hollywood**

# EASTMAN FILMS


A Career is Born!
Gregory Peck
Handsome, dynamic . . . a Broadway hit with Katharine Cornell, Martha Scott, Jane Cowl, Geraldine Fitzgerald . . . a sensation in his first picture!
DAYS OF GLORY
A CASEY ROBINSON Production
Introducing a Brilliant Cast of Broadway Stage Personalities
AN RKO-RADIO PICTURE

# Honored 100 Give 100 Ideas to Fifth

## Their Reports On 4th Cited For Use Again

THE 'Honored 100' theatre-operating bond selling champions of the Fourth War Loan were polled by the national industry committee of the Fifth War Loan drive to determine what methods they employed to set their records. From the 100 reports, the committee has culled for exhibitors 'the stuff that sells bonds, and more bonds!' It covers several separate fields of action; the basic highlights follow:

### *Organizational Tie-ups*

Local AWVS and CDVO offices supplied uniformed bond saleswomen to act as agents at bond booths. In another town, the American Legion, Veterans of Foreign Wars, Kiwanis, Rotary and the DAR were each assigned a special night to sell bonds. Competition was keen; the house was packed each night, and war bond sales soared! Elsewhere, locals of the AFL, CIO and Railroad Brotherhood were enlisted to compete with other locals on special war bond nights. Another theatre was turned over one night to local women's clubs for a half-hour show and bond drive; the women put on the show and the husbands bought the bonds.

### *Premieres*

Bond Premieres were the greatest bond sellers. Refer to the special premiere section in the pressbook, where various types of premieres and special shows are outlined. That section was written directly from the experiences of the men who made the bond-selling records.

### *Special Bond Days*

Among the most successful were: *Buy a Bond for Baby Week.* Purchasers of bonds posted the picture of their 'baby' in theatre lobby; *Local Heroes' Day.* Purchasers bought a bond for son, father, sweetheart, who was notified by letter from the theatre manager that a bond had been purchased in his honor; *Marine Day, Navy Day, Army Day.* Members of the services were guests of war bond purchasers during "their" day.

### *Children's Promotions*

Competition was arranged between local girl and boy scouts in soliciting bond purchases. Public schools elsewhere were pitted against each other for bond purchases. 'A Bond for Each Student' (or 'A Bond for Each Scout') campaign was used in another place, a free ticket going to each student or scout who sold a bond. Special 'Children's Bond Shows' were tops in many cities.

### *Special Services*

A poster board in the lobby announced that the theatre would send a representative and War Bond booth to any organizational rally. Support of high school students in several towns was gained for a stunt wherein they volunteered to do household or other services for bond purchasers.

### *Military Tie-ups*

One theatre in one night sold $932,475 in war bonds by a servicemen's show staged through the cooperation of near-by Army camps and Navy bases. Seats were reserved, at $1,000 to $25 per bond. Mayor, business men and club women got behind the show.

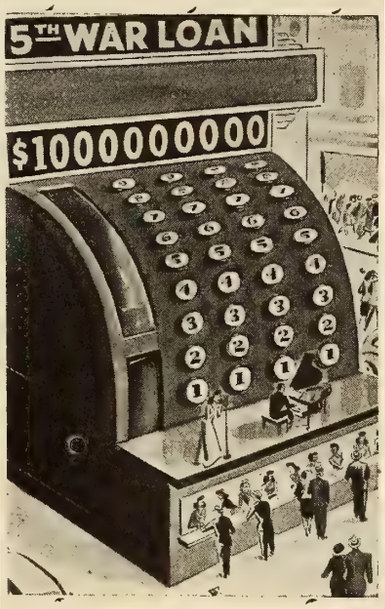
## *Bond-Register, 4 Stories High, for Times Square*

DETAILS of one of the most spectacular "indicators" ever devised to record the progress of a war bond drive, or other community campaign, to be erected in Times Square by the New York Fifth War Loan motion picture committee, in cooperation with the Treasury's War Finance Committee, were disclosed here at the weekend by Charles C. Moskowitz, Loew executive and chairman of the Metropolitan New York film bond committee.

The "bond-register," 40 feet high, will be constructed in the Times Square "island" at 43rd Street and Broadway. It will tower four stories. The numerals that will spring up to record bond sales will be more than four feet high. The "keys" of the register will be more than two feet in diameter. In the base of the "register" will be a large "bond store" with a counter that can handle sales of more than a bond-per-minute. Local motion picture theatres, cooperating with the women's division of the War Finance Committee, AWVS and other groups, will man the booth.

Above the "bond store" will be a platform on which daily shows will be given by performers of screen, stage, radio and night clubs.

At noon each day, while traffic halts for 30 seconds, the total "E" bond sales will be recorded by the cash register. An electrical recording, highly amplified, will send up and down Broadway the clang and rattle of the cash register making a "sale." This sound effect, in turn, will be carried over radio broadcasts throughout the country.




***Four-story-high 'Bond Register' which will be erected to record Fifth War Bond Sales at New York's Times Square.***

## Display Material In 5th Bond 'Kit'

IN order to aid the efforts of every theatre to make its fullest contribution to the 'Fighting Fifth' War Loan campaign, a special accessories and display kit has been prepared and will be shipped to all exhibitors.

**The kit will contain a pictorial 40x60; a 40x60 Honor Roll chart for lobby or outside-theatre display; two colored one sheets with an 8x10 panel for a photo of a local war hero; a special Treasury Department two-sheet for out-front posting; and a press book with 'Fighting Fifth' ads, promotion ideas and publicity.**

In addition to the accessories kit, National Screen has also prepared an eight-foot valance, to sell for $3.50, and a burgee streamer, containing four burgees 12x18, and a center burgee 18x24, printed in red and blue on white cloth. Price of the burgee streamer is $2.85. Both items are available at National Screen exchanges.

## Selling Bonds By Theatre Showmanship

MANY new and scores of tried-and-proven promotions are proposed to exhibitors by the national industry committee for use during the Fifth War Loan drive, June 12-July 8. Industry bond leaders are stressing the Invasion, advising theatre owners that if the Invasion should start during a performance, the opportunity should be seized for making spontaneous bond sales by interrupting the performance with an announcement of the attack and an appeal for bond buying.

Some additional timely showmanship bond selling promotions are addressed to exhibitors in the following:

### *'Bond Office'*

For the duration of the Fifth War Loan, change the title Box Office to read *Bond Office.* The cashier cannot be expected to sell bonds but as a catch the sign has merit. Patrons' inquiries can be directed to the actual bond booth in the theatre lobby.

### *'Shocker Board'*

From the files of the local newspaper, borrow stills of combat zones and arrange a display of realistic war scenes. Change the display as often as you can. The board, placed outside the theatre, can attract much attention and awaken many complacent war bond buyers.

### *'Smear the Axis'*

As an alternate lobby board to the 'Honor Roll-Fight By His Side' write-in poster, have a plain board with a large swastika and Jap rising sun painted on it erected next to the Bond Office. In typing out the bond slip for each sale, use an extra carbon and make a copy, same size, on blank paper of the buyer's name and address. These blanks should be pasted on the board to eventually blot out the swastika and the rising sun.

### *Audience Participation*

To boost bond sales and create interest in a bond lobby there are some good, tried-and-true audience-participation stunts which can be used: A punching bag with Hitler's face on it. A scaffold with Hitler or Tojo on which a bond-buyer springs the trap. A dart board, three shots for one bond, with faces of the Axis partners painted thereon.

Fifth War Loan Drive!

## *3,393 From 20th-Fox In Armed Forces*

**A total of 3,393 employes from 20th Century-Fox and subsidiaries are now in the armed forces, the company reports. This includes those from the home office, exchanges, studio, National Theatres, Roxy Theatre, Movietonews and De-Lux Laboratory. Of the total, which includes both men and women, 1,802 are on duty in combat areas.**

## *'Marseille' on Dual Takes Good $12,000*

KANSAS CITY, May 28.—"Passage to Marseille" and "Gildersleeve's Ghost" gave the Orpheum an excellent $12,000. "Gaslight" at the Midland lured around $15,000. The Esquire, Uptown and Fairway made a pretty good showing with "Tampico," taking around $13,300 for the three.

Estimated receipts for the week ending May 27:

**"Tampico" (20th-Fox)**
ESQUIRE—(800) (45c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $6,500. (Average: $6,000).
**"Gaslight" (M-G-M)**
MIDLAND—(3,500) (40c-60c) 7 days. Gross: $15,000. (Average: $14,000).
**"Standing Room Only" (Para.)**
NEWMAN—(1,900 ) (46c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $11,000. (Average: $10,000).
**"Passage to Marseille" (WB)**
**"Gildersleeve's Ghost" (RKO)**
ORPHEUM—(1,900) (45c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $12,500. (Average: $10,000).
**"Tampico" (20th-Fox)**
UPTOWN—(2,000) (45c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $6,500. (Average: $5,600).
**"Tampico" (20th-Fox)**
FAIRWAY—(700) (45c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $1,300. (Average: $1,600).
**"The Cowboy and the Senorita" (Rep.)**
**"Beneath Western Skies" (Rep.)**
TOWER—(1,200) (45c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $10,000. (Average: $9,400).

## *'Uncertain Glory' Is Buffalo Pacesetter*

BUFFALO, May 28.—Only two houses are expected to do above average this week. "Uncertain Glory" will probably get $13,000 at the Twentieth Century and "Up in Mabel's Room" may hit $11,000 at the Hippodrome. "See Here, Private Hargrove" will make $13,600 in four days at the Great Lakes, however. Weather is warm.

Estimated receipts for the week ending May 27:

**"Andy Hardy's Blonde Trouble" (M-G-M)**
**"Sing a Jingle" (Univ.)**
BUFFALO—(3,489) (40c-50c-60c-70c) 7 days. Gross: $16,000. (Average: $17,400).
**"See Here, Private Hargrove" (M-G-M)**
GREAT LAKES—(3,000) (40c-50c-60c-70c) 4 days. Gross: $13,600. (Average: $16,600).
**"Up in Mabel's Room" (UA)**
**"Weekend Pass" (Univ.)**
HIPPODROME—(2,100) (40c-50c-60c-70c) 7 days. Gross: $11,000. (Average: $9,700).
**"Uncertain Glory" (WB)**
**"Trocadero" (Rep.)**
TWENTIETH CENTURY—(3,000) (40c-50c-60c-70c) 7 days. Gross: $13,000. (Average: $12,200).
**"The Impostor" (Univ.)**
**"Never a Dull Moment" (Univ.)**
LAFAYETTE—(3,000) (40c-50c-60c-70c) 7 days. Gross: $9.000. (Average: $12,400).

## *Monogram Branch Shifts*

HOLLYWOOD, May 28.—The Monogram home office here announced that Mike Lee has succeeded Leland Allen as manager of the Kansas City exchange, while Henry Glover replaced Harold F. Cohen as New Orleans manager.

# *Review*

## *"Bathing Beauty"*

*(Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer)*

LAVISHLY produced in Technicolor, "Bathing Beauty" is another M-G-M top-flight musical film which should register substantially with the customers. Produced by Jack Cummings and directed by George Sidney it provides Red Skelton with an opportunity to display his varied abilities as a comedian; supplies the shapely swimming star Esther Williams with a chance to perform both as an actress and mermaid; and presents the talents of Harry James and his music makers and Xavier Cugat and his orchestra. Lina Romay of the Cugat aggregation, Helen Forrest of the James band, Carlos Ramirez, South American singer and jive organist Ethel Smith are also featured.

The story, which represents the combined efforts of a screen play by Dorothy Kingsley, Allen Boretz and Frank Waldman, from an adaptation by Joseph Schrank of an original by Kenneth Earl, M. M. Musselman and Curtis Kenyon, merely serves to keep things moving in between the impressive and entertaining production sequences and the antics of Skelton. Skelton is a love-sick songwriter who is separated from his bride, Miss Williams, at the altar by the conniving of producer Basil Rathbone. He endures hilarious indignities as a student in an exclusive college for girls in his efforts to rectify the situation. Outstanding are an eye-filling water ballet finale; an amusing take-off on the Rockettes supplied by Skelton, the James orchestra and Miss Smith; and a screamingly funny sequence wherein Skelton performs as a female ballet dancer. Other items include Skelton's familiar pantomime of a woman getting up in the morning; some excellent solos by James and the bubbling personality of Miss Romay.

Also featured are Bill Goodwin, Jean Porter and Donald Meek. Johnny Green is credited with musical supervision and direction; Jack Donohue and Robert Alton were the dance directors; and Harry Stradling was director of photography. John Murray Anderson handled the water ballet sequence.

Running time 101 minutes. "G."* No release date set.

MILTON LIVINGSTON

## *"The Canterville Ghost"*

*(M-G-M)*

THIS ambitious Arthur L. Field production, catapulting Oscar Wilde's ghost story into the current war, is designed to serve Charles Laughton's broadest comedy style and little Margaret O'Brien's pathos. Followers of both will get more than their money's worth, and those customers who enjoy humorous fantasy will find much of that flavor in this picture.

The first one-third of the footage, devoted to Laughton's disgrace in the year 1624, when he flees from a duel and therefore is permanently welled-up by his irate father in Canterville Castle, has been farced to glorious perfection. Likewise, when the action jumps to the present and a company of American Rangers, including Robert Young, arrives to be billeted in the old place only to find the ghost rattling his chains in quest of a descendant whose noble deed can put him to eternal slumber, the laughs are constant and delightful. Then the O'Brien child, as heir to the establishment, discovers that Young belongs to an offshoot branch of the family; and she pleads with the newcomer to do something brave. Here the shift of mood results in some slow stretches and leaves Laughton perilously stranded between fun that seems impertinent and pathos that does not quite jell; but the comedy mood is happily recaptured at the end, when Young, after having faltered in a raid, succeeds in removing a time bomb with a jeep, while the ghost, riding the bomb, urges him on to success.

Edwin Harvey Bloom's screen play is packed with clever dialogue, while Jules Dassin's direction prevents the film from bogging down between its two planes of emotion. Rags Ragland, Una O'Connor, Elisabeth Risdon, Frank Faylen and William Gargan head a smooth supporting cast.

Running time, 96 mins. "G."* Released in eighth block.

TOM LOY

**"G" denotes general classification.*

## *Foreign Countries Observe MGM Week*

Canada and 36 foreign countries will participate in M-G-M's 20-year-Anniversary-Week from June 22-28, the company announced at the weekend. Sweden, Spain and China are not included in the observation in view of certain specific conditions.

## *Cancels Admission Taxes for 'Army'*

HAVANA, May 28.—Admission taxes were eliminated by presidential decree for Warners "This Is the Army," which had its Cuban premiere at the American Theatre here. Theatre management also donated its share of the opening night receipts to Army Relief.

# *Hollywood*

*Hollywood, May 28*

STAGES at M-G-M are busy with the start of three new pictures during the week to bring the number in work there to ten. New ones launched are "Son of Lassie," Technicolor sequel to "Lassie Come Home" with S. Sylvan Simon directing and Sam Marx producing; "Airship Squadron 4," Wallace Beery starrer, with William A. Wellman directing, and "Music for Millions," produced by Joe Pasternak, with Henry Koster directing.

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*Casey Robinson, who recently completed "Days of Glory" for RKO-Radio and then signed a producer-director-writer contract with International, is currently preparing the screenplay of Paul Gallico's novel, "The Romance of Henry Menafee." Cliff Reid will produce for M-G-M. . . . Marjorie Reynolds, brown-eyed and blonde Paramount player, who made one of the first flying entertainment trips to the Aleutians, has just completed one of the new Hollywood Victory Committee-USO tours of service hospitals.*

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**Anne Gwynne has been signed by Universal for the feminine lead in "Babes on Swing Street," which Edward Lilley is producing. . . . PRC has signed Warren William for the lead in "First Illusion." . . . After much discussion and much canvassing of fans, Republic has decided to allow Roy Rogers one romantic kiss with Dale Evans in "San Fernando Valley." It will be Rogers' first on the screen.**

•

Brian Donlevy has been cast as Trampas in Paramount's remake of "The Virginian." . . . Republic signed Virginia Bruce for the feminine lead opposite Tito Guizar in "Brazil." . . . Screen Publicists' Guild has voted to affiliate with Motion Picture Painters Union. Step was taken to provide the guild with an AFL charter. . . . Leon Fromkess has signed Christy Cabanne to write, direct and act as associate producer on "G. I. Guy." . . . World Famous Pictures has changed its corporate name to Coronet Pictures. Clifford Sanforth is executice producer now preparing "Adventures of the Son of Robin Hood."

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*Because Donna Reed is tied up in "The Picture of Dorian Gray," June Allyson gets the role of Barbara in "Music for Millions" at M-G-M. . . . William Beaudine will direct Monogram's "Baby Shoes," which A. W. Hackel is producing, starting June 19. . . . Universal has signed Betty Hutton's sister, Marion, to an exclusive contract for two to three pictures annually. Her first will be the Abbott and Costello comedy, "In Society."*

## *Velez Gets 2 Houses*

MEXICO CITY, May 28.—Othon M. Velez, for many years manager of local radio station XEW, has taken over management of the Alameda, first run film theatre, and the Bucareli, a subsequent run house. Velez has also assumed the general managership of the Emilio Azcarraga enterprises, including radio station XEQ, Radio Programs de Mexico.

# I. A. Board Weighs New Affiliation

ST. LOUIS, May 28.—The possible affiliation of Motion Picture Office Employees, Local 23169, AFL, representing over 600 office workers in the home office of Warner Bros. and subsidiary companies in New York and almost 200 similar workers in the Universal home office there is understood to be under consideration by the IATSE executive board here. There is a possibility that the matter will be brought before the delegates at the IATSE convention which opens at the Jefferson Hotel here tomorrow.

MPOE presently has an AFL charter as a federal office workers' union. Recently, the AFL executive board considered the possibility of establishing an international union of office workers, which would mean removing "white collar" groups from the international unions with which they are affiliated and granting charters to them from a new international which would be set up. However, some opposition to this proposal has developed within the ranks of the AFL executive council and it is now considered doubtful whether the plan will be pressed. The IATSE has jurisdiction over some 3,000 "white collar" workers in the 30-odd film exchange centers. They would ordinarily be eligible to join a new international under the AFL plans, but should the IATSE decide to take in MPOE, it is believed that further discussion of a new international as far as film industry office workers are concerned would be abandoned.

**Charter Applications on Agenda**

Delegates arriving for the opening of the convention indicated there is a good prospect that the charter applications for film salesmen and for theatre managers will be approved by the convention. While the applications are one of the controversial issues on the convention agenda, the sentiment of many of the delegates favors the proposals.

About 1,000 delegates are expected at the convention. The IATSE executive board headed by Richard F. Walsh, president, has been in session during the past week to study matters which will be brought before the convention. William Bennett of the Washington, D. C. stagehands Local No. 22 is expected to offer Walsh stiff opposition in his bid for reelection.

Because of the Tuesday holiday, the convention is not expected to get down to real business until Wednesday.

*"Join the Fighting Fifth"*

## *Shift PRC Meetings From Coast to N. Y.*

PRC's fifth annual sales convention scheduled to be held in Hollywood May 30-31 and June 1 will be held instead in New York from June 26-30, it was announced over the weekend by Leo J. McCarthy, general sales manager, and Leon Fromkess, vice-president in charge of production. Transfer of the session was attributed to wartime conditions.

Modified distributor contracts, which have been agreed upon by the franchise holders' committee and the management, will be presented to the 28 franchise holders at the meeting, it is understood. Fromkess and McCarthy will leave the Coast on June 17 for New York.

## *'Mission to Moscow' Shown to Gandhi*

**A special showing of "Mission to Moscow" has been held for Mahatma Gandhi, with India's newspapers headlining the story that this was the first talking picture to date that Gandhi considered worth viewing, according to a cablegram received by the Warner home office from B. N. Nadkarni, the company's branch manager in Bombay, India.**

## *Block Six Showings Set by Paramount*

Dates for tradeshowings of Paramount's sixth block of 1943-44 pictures were announced at the weekend by Charles M. Reagan, general sales manager, as follows:

"Going My Way" and "Hail the Conquering Hero," June 5; "Take It Big" and "The Great Moment," June 6, and "Henry Aldrich's Little Secret" and "I Love a Soldier," June 7, in Albany, Atlanta, Buffalo, Boston, Charlotte, Chicago, Cincinnati, Cleveland, Dallas, Denver, Des Moines, Detroit, Indianapolis, Kansas City, Memphis, Milwaukee, Minneapolis, New Haven, New Orleans, New York, Oklahoma City, Omaha, Philadelphia, Pittsburgh, Portland, St. Louis, Salt Lake City, San Francisco, Seattle and Washington, D. C.

Los Angeles screenings will be as follows: "Going My Way" and "Hail the Conquering Hero," June 7; "Take It Big" and "The Great Moment," June 8, and "Henry Aldrich's Little Secret" and "I Love a Soldier," June 9.

*"Join the Fighting Fifth"*

## *Barnett Indicted in Bankruptcy Charge*

Roger Barnett, president of Color Classics, was named in a four-count indictment filed in Federal Court here Friday and accused of concealing approximately $20,000 from a trustee in bankruptcy. If convicted, Barnett will face a possible imprisonment for 20 years and fines aggregating $20,000.

Barnett filed a voluntary petition in bankruptcy in Federal Court on Oct. 28, 1942, listing assets of $300 and liabilities of $57,400, chief creditors being H. Sewall Bradley, with a claim for $5,000, and C. H. Hill, with a claim for $20,000.

*"Join the Fighting Fifth"*

## *Griffith to Be Head of Okla. War Council*

OKLAHOMA CITY, May 28.—Oklahoma's Governor Robert S. Kerr has announced the coming appointment of L. C. Griffith of the Griffith Amusement Co. and associated chains as chairman of the State War Council, replacing Norris G. Henthorne, Tulsa publisher.

Kerr said Griffith, who has served two years as vice-chairman of the Oklahoma civilian defense organization, has promised to accept the top job.

*"Join the Fighting Fifth"*

## *Hemingway Injured*

LONDON, May 28.—Ernest Hemingway, author of "For Whom the Bell Tolls," and other novels, suffered head injuries and other abrasions in an automobile accident here last week. The author is reported recovering.

# Manpower Shortage May Delay Envoys

Appointment of the six industry representatives in foreign capitals may be delayed by the current manpower situation, it was learned here at the weekend.

At a meeting of foreign managers in the office of the Motion Picture Producers and Distributors Association late last week, the subject was discussed, but no names of available candidates for the posts were proposed.

It is understood that Fay Allport and Harold Smith of the MPPDA foreign department will canvass the field further in the near future for the purpose of discovering appointees for the approximately half dozen posts around the world which can be filled immediately.

**Important Liaison Work For Film Envoys**

WASHINGTON, May 28.—Film industry envoys who are to be sent to various foreign nations will find a fertile field for their work, particularly those in European capitals after the war, it was said at the weekend in State Department circles.

Despite the efforts which will be made to secure international agreements for the equitable treatment of American films, there is a well entrenched belief that the extent of petty annoyances confronting American picture exporters after the war will be greater than ever before, due largely to the world recognition of the political significance of motion pictures.

**See Postwar Quota Systems**

While the program of the State Department calls for the same treatment of American products abroad as is extended to foreign products by this country, it is also realized that every country of importance is likely to attempt to develop its own industry after the war as a propaganda medium if for nothing else. Accordingly, it is expected that many countries will impose a quota system on American films, applicable in many instances to both distribution and exhibition, and that most of them will exercise a greater surveillance over content of films.

State Dept. officials are hopeful that many of the major barriers to the free interchange of motion pictures may be eliminated by international agreements.

While major issues involving films can be dealt with diplomatically through the State Department, there will be many matters of importance in the foreign field which will be best dealt with through the industry's own representatives, who will have the support of, but no formal connection with, the Department.

## *Darrell Ware Dies; Paramount Producer*

LOS ANGELES, May 28.—Darrell Ware, 38, a film writer since 1937, who was recently made a Paramount producer, died yesterday from a heart attack at his home in West Los Angeles. His last picture, written with Karl Tunberg, was "Bring on the Girls."

Ware leaves a widow; a daughter, Judy, 4, and two brothers, Harland and Leon, both also writers.

# War Need Not Hold Up Trust Suit, Allied Board Claims

Following is the text of a resolution on the industry consent decree adopted by the Allied Board of Directors at Philadelphia last week.

"Resolved, that the Board of Directors hereby respectfully petitions the Attorney General to bring to a speedy conclusion the pending anti-trust suit against the eight major producers and distributors either by the entry of an effective consent decree in harmony with the recommendations of the Conference of Independent Motion Picture Exhibitors, which were submitted to the Department of Justice under date of February 8, 1944, or by the filing of an amended or supplementary petition praying that the defendants be required to divest themselves of their theatre holdings, that their large circuits of theatres be dissolved, and that they be enjoined from further engaging in the unfair and discriminatory practices set forth in the original petition; and the Board further urges that, in case an amended or supplementary proceeding is filed, it be vigorously and effectively prosecuted and that the defendants be no longer indulged in the dilatory and evasive tactics whereby during the past six years they have remained in the full possession of their monopoly, and have continued to exploit the independent exhibitors by charging monopoly prices notwithstanding the pendency of the Government's suit.

**War Films Not Involved**

"Be it further resolved, that the Board of Directors urges that the Attorney General be not swerved from his duty efficiently and impartially to enforce the law by representations from any source to the effect that prosecution of the eight major companies at this time would in any degree hinder or impair the war effort. In this connection the Board calls attention to the fact that the proceedings herein recommended would concern primarily the commercial distribution of motion pictures and could not affect the production of training and informational films for the Government; that the executives whose time and attention might be engaged as witnesses and otherwise would be the home office executives and not the studio executives, supervisors, or directors; and that by far the greatest contribution being made by the motion picture industry to the war effort consists in the fund raising and bond selling campaigns and the exhibition of Government informational films which service has been and is being rendered by the theatres who would be protected and benefited by the enforcement of the Sherman Law against the motion picture trust."

*"Join the Fighting Fifth"*

## *Dorfmann Gets 'Mr. G.'*

Edmund Dorfmann Productions has purchased the film rights to Robert Wilder's "Mr. G. Strings Along" from G. P. Putnam's Sons, it was reported at the weekend. Production budget for the film, to be released through an undesignated major or independent film company, has been estimated at from $800,000 to $1,000,000.

# SHOWB

**BOY, YOU SURE ARE IN**

**WHEN YOU PLAY**

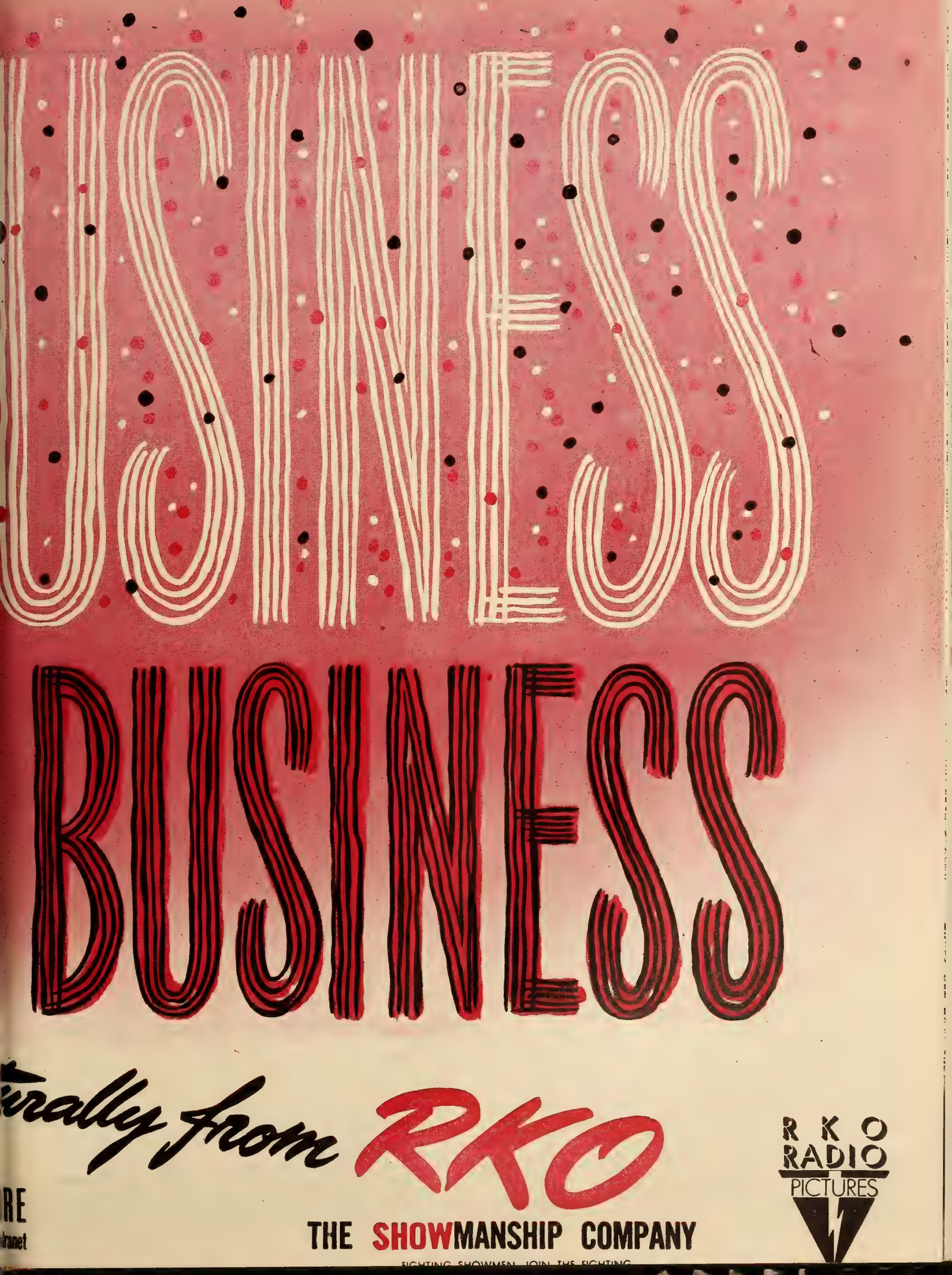
# SHOW



Starring

EDDIE CANTOR · GEORGE MURPHY · JOAN DAVIS · NANCY KELLY · CONSTANCE

with DON DOUGLAS • Produced by EDDIE CANTOR • Directed by EDWIN L. MARIN • Screen Play by Joseph Quillan and Dorothy Bennett • Sto


USINESS
BUSINESS
rally from RKO
THE SHOWMANSHIP COMPANY
RKO RADIO PICTURES

# Bond Kinks Ironed Out, Friedl Says

LOS ANGELES, May 28. — Complete cooperation of distributors was not fully obtained in earlier bond drives, but this has been rectified for the Fifth War Loan campaign, John J. Friedl, national campaign director, told representatives of 600 Southern California area theatres here on Friday at an official luncheon at which speakers, including national chairman R. J. O'Donnell, Ned E. Depinet, national distribution chairman, and Ray Beall, national publicity chairman, outlined highlights of the forthcoming drive.

Friedl cited two additional conditions which the committee viewed as weaknesses, both now believed eliminated. His second complaint cracked at "passive" exhibitors who neglected to put "shoulders to the wheel" and others who never participated at all. The third concerned earlier restrictions, created by distributors, on film availabilities for bond premieres.

**'Vaults Are Open': Depinet**

Depinet, however, later told the meeting, "the vaults are now open," in outlining a plan to make films available to exhibitors in towns of 7,500 and under regardless of whether an exhibitor normally did business with the distributor whose picture he wants. As previously published, a controlling factor provides that the film must have been released prior to last Dec. 30. The committee nationally is urging exhibitors to designate July 6 as "Free Movie Day."

The Southern California Fifth Loan quota is $512,000,000, of which $246,000,000 is being sought from individual sales. The meeting was well attended by nearly 500, and complete cooperation of circuit and independents was pledged.

Dave Bershon, Southern California state exhibitor chairman, presided. Charles P. Skouras, who was national chairman of the Fourth War Loan drive, predicted that his record would be surpassed.

**Other Speakers**

Other speakers were Robert H. Moulton and Howard D. Mills, State War Finance Committee chairmen for Southern California; Marc Wolf of Fanchon & Marco, representing the Hollywood theatre committee, and Major Allen V. Martini, hero of the Eighth Army Air Force.

Among others present were: George Tucker of Albuquerque, exhibitor state chairman for New Mexico; Harry Nace, Jr., representing his father, who is exhibitor state chairman for Arizona; Fred Greenberg, Southern California distributor chairman; Allan R. Marten, Homer Gill, James Richardson and Harry Creasey, Fourth War Loan "Honored Hundred" members from Southern California; Seymour Peiser, state publicity chairman for Southern California; Mort Goodman, state publicity co-chairman for Southern California; Oscar S. Oldknow, National Theatre Supply Co.; Fred Stein and Andy Krappmann, assistant campaign directors of the Fourth War Loan; O. N. Srere, assistant exhibitor chairman for Southern California; Nat Holt, RKO Pictures; George Topper, National Theatres, and Tom Baily.

*"Join the Fighting Fifth"*

## Helicopter Test Shown

BUFFALO, May 28. — The 20th-Fox Theatre here is showing pictures of the test flight of the new Bell Helicopter made here recently.

# Set Goal of 12 Million Fifth Loan Bond Sales

(Continued from page 1)

great an asset to the drive as the largest circuit. To facilitate the efforts of such exhibitors, all possible support and assistance is being pledged by the other branches of the industry and the local and national organization committees. Distributors will make available their films to exhibitors in towns of 7,500 or less for bond premieres, children's "School's Out" premieres and other bond-selling events, regardless of whether or not the exhibitor is on the distributor's customer list.

Detailed plans for special bond-selling events, procedures for complete campaigns by individual theatres, trailers, accessories, press books and all the essentials of a successful showman's endeavor have been prepared to aid the rank-and-file exhibitor in making his Fifth War Loan effort a success.

**'Five Big Guns'**

Five fundamental activities are stressed by the national committee in its conduct of the Fighting Fifth campaign. Known as "The Five Big Guns of the Fighting Fifth," they are: regular and children's bond premieres in the theatres; a national Free Movie Day for bond purchasers on July 6th; the use of Honor Rolls, space allocated according to individual theatre's seats wherein the names of servicemen may be inscribed by bond purchasers, and the use of the best bond-selling stunts of the "Honored Hundred" exhibitors in the Fourth Loan drive.

O'Donnell described the drive as "the greatest and most difficult assignment ever given to an industry. It is," he said, "a mandate from our Government in the nation's hour of crisis. This time, our achievements must be 20 per cent better than they have been before. It is a task that will take much toil. But we showmen have accomplished our basic training. We are veterans of previous campaigns, and successful completion of the task is not an impossibility."

**Hollywood Bond Sales $55,966,059 So Far**

HOLLYWOOD, May 28.—The motion picture War Finance Committee, which conducts Hollywood war bond sales, will continue its efforts unflaggingly during the forthcoming Fifth War Loan drive, June 12-July 8.

The group, composed of 400 enthusiastic volunteer workers in studios, allied industries and among guilds, unions, agents, business managers and publicists, has sold $55,996,059 worth of bonds in 25 months of activity. Over 16,500 of the 20,000 regular film employes here are subscribers to the payroll savings plan and an average of 10.3 per cent of the industry payroll goes into bond purchases.

The executive committee of the WFC includes: Henry Ginsberg, chairman; John McCormick, vice-chairman; David Butler, Dorothy Lamour, Ralph Byrd, James Murfin, Frank Carothers, Carl Cooper, Herbert Sorrell, Fred Othman, Fred Beetson, Perry Lieber, J. H. Rosenberg and Teet Carle.

**FWC Studio Chairmen**

Studio chairmen for the WFC are: Benjamin Kahane, Hy Glick, William Dozier, Wilson R. Stone, W. K. Craig, Fred Metzler, A. H. McCausland, E. L. de Patie, Sol Lesser, Trem Carr, I. E. Chadwick, Tom Baily and Al Ruben.

On the production side, the one-reeler. "Road to Victory," produced by Jack Warner, is already released. Other scripts prepared by the Hollywood Writers' Mobilization include a newsreel bulletin by Isobel Lennart and three trailers, "What Did You Do Today?" "The Dawn of D-Day" and "Our Enemies."

**'Homecoming' Rally For O'Donnell Today**

DALLAS, May 28.—A rousing "homecoming" Fifth War Loan rally for national chairman R. J. O'Donnell has been prepared here for tomorrow by John Q. Adams, exhibitor state chairman, and his committee.

O'Donnell, who is vice-president and general manager of the Interstate Circuit of Texas, will be greeted by several hundred showmen from Texas, Oklahoma, Arkansas, Louisiana, Mississippi and Tennessee. The meeting, including a luncheon, will be held in the Adolphus Hotel.

Ray Beall, national publicity director of the campaign, who is associate advertising and publicity manager of Interstate, will also be honored.

**Nassau Managers Meet**

More than 40 theatre managers will attend a breakfast at the Garden City Hotel in Garden City, L. I., Thursday at 10 A.M. when plans for the Fifth War Loan campaign will be presented by WAC co-chairmen Jack Harris and Fred J. Schwartz. Judge Leone D. Howell, War Finance chairman of Nassau, is sponsoring the breakfast.

## OWI Film Unit to Follow Troops

WASHINGTON, May 28.—The Office of War Information disclosed Friday an ambitious program for rushing motion pictures into liberated areas on the heels of American occupation. The overseas motion picture unit of the OWI has prepared films in 23 languages, including German. As American troops take over each new town, mobile film-projection units will immediately rush in to commandeer the local theatre, or set one up, Robert Riskin, head of the overseas film bureau, revealed.

"They will then proceed to entertain and enlighten the liberated natives," Riskin said.

## Cincinnati Houses Lower Admissions

CINCINNATI, May 28.—A recent Bureau of Internal Revenue ruling, stating that admission prices involving a fraction of one cent may now be shown on tickets, has led exhibitors in this area to reduce children's admissions from 12 to 10 cents, making the actual admission nine and seven-tenths cents, with the additional three-tenths of one cent being state tax.

The new ruling will also affect 40-cent admissions on which a seven-cent tax was previously levied. The new tax becomes six cents, since the established admission is below 32.5 cents.

# Wallis Signs Up Lillian Hellman

Hal Wallis Prod. has signed Lillian Hellman, well known playwright, to an exclusive screen writing contract, it was announced at the weekend by Paramount, which will distribute the Wallis productions.

In addition, it was learned that Miss Hellman and Herman Shumlin, producer of her current Broadway success, "The Searching Wind," are planning to set up their own producing company for the screen version of the play, for which Wallis had been negotiating. Wallis, however, may be executive producer for the team under this plan and Paramount would distribute. Shumlin's earlier plans to produce one picture for Warners this Summer have been postponed for a year, he stated recently.

*"Join the Fighting Fifth"*

## Films Put Red Cross Over Top in Nation

(Continued from page 1)

chairman of the Red Cross, stated here at the weekend.

He credited the industry with visually informing the public of Red Cross activities, conducting Red Cross Motion Picture Week, and generously contributing to the fund.

More theatres participated than ever took part in any similar appeal in the history of the industry. A total of 15,130 made audience collections which, added to the industry's contributions, netted the Red Cross nearly $7,000,000.

The leadership of Joseph Bernhard, chairman of the industry's Red Cross Week, was credited with making motion picture participation in the campaign outstanding. Trade publication and newspaper critics prominently carried stories of the Red Cross and of the industry's participation, and were commended for this by the chairman, who said their wholehearted support was vital to the campaign's success.

*"Join the Fighting Fifth"*

## RKO's 13-Week Net Is $1,577,404

(Continued from page 1)

provision of $2,831,000 for Federal taxes and other charges, generally confirming the estimate published in MOTION PICTURE DAILY on May 23. For the first 13 weeks of last year RKO's net was $1,925,819 after provision of $1,406,454 for Federal taxes and other charges.

Gross operating profit for the first quarter of 1944 was $4,400,628, compared to $3,345,274 for the similar period in 1943.

*"Join the Fighting Fifth"*

## 4 Circuits Book 'Penn'

The Century, Rugoff & Becker, Skouras and Charles Moses circuits have booked "The Courageous Mr. Penn," British production, for a total of 57 theatres. J. H. Hoffberg is distributing. First run houses in these circuits will play the film, beginning Thursday.

*"Join the Fighting Fifth"*

## Para. Host to Seamen

The Paramount Theatre will be host today to 100 members of the Maritime Service at a screening of Paramount's "Going My Way."

# WARNER BROS.' TRADE SHOWINGS OF

# "*The MASK of* DIMITRIOS"

## MONDAY, JUNE 5th, 1944

| CITY | PLACE OF SHOWING | ADDRESS | TIME |
|---|---|---|---|
| | | | Time |
| Albany | Warner Screening Room | 79 N. Pearl St. | 12:30 P.M. |
| Atlanta | RKO Screening Room | 191 Walton St. N.W. | 2:00 P.M. |
| Boston | RKO Screening Room | 122 Arlington St. | 2:00 P.M. |
| Buffalo | Paramount Sc. Room | 464 Franklin St. | 2:00 P.M. |
| Charlotte | 20th Century-Fox Sc. Rm. | 308 S. Church St. | 10:00 A.M. |
| Chicago | Warner Screening Room | 1307 So. Wabash Ave. | 1:30 P.M. |
| Cincinnati | RKO Screening Room | Palace Th. Bldg. E. 6th | 2:00 P.M. |
| Cleveland | Warner Screening Room | 2300 Payne Ave. | 8:00 P.M. |
| Dallas | Paramount Sc. Room | 412 S. Harwood | 2:00 P.M. |
| Denver | 20th Century-Fox Sc. Rm. | 2101 Champa St. | 2:30 P.M. |
| Des Moines | 20th Century-Fox Sc. Rm. | 1300 High St. | 12:45 P.M. |
| Detroit | Film Exchange Bldg. | 2310 Cass Ave. | 1:30 P.M. |
| Indianapolis | Paramount Sc. Room | 116 W. Michigan | 10:30 A.M. |
| Kansas City | 20th Century-Fox Sc. Rm. | 1720 Wyandotte St. | 1:30 P.M. |
| Los Angeles | Vitagraph Sc. Room | 2025 S. Vermont Ave. | 2:00 P.M. |
| Memphis | 20th Century-Fox Sc. Rm. | 151 Vance Ave. | 10:00 A.M. |
| Milwaukee | Warner Th. Sc. Rm. | 212 W. Wisconsin Ave. | 2:00 P.M. |
| Minneapolis | 20th Century-Fox Sc. Rm. | 1015 Currie Ave. | 2:00 P.M. |
| New Haven | Warner Th. Proj. Room | 70 College St. | 11:00 A.M. |
| New Orleans | 20th Century-Fox Sc. Rm. | 200 S. Liberty St. | 10:00 A.M. |
| New York | Home Office | 321 W. 44th St. | 2:30 P.M. |
| Oklahoma | 20th Century-Fox Sc. Rm. | 10 North Lee Ave. | 2:00 P.M. |
| Omaha | 20th Century-Fox Sc. Rm. | 1502 Davenport St. | 1:00 P.M. |
| Philadelphia | Vine St. Sc. Room | 1220 Vine St. | 11:00 A.M. |
| Pittsburgh | 20th Century-Fox Sc. Rm. | 1715 Blvd. of Allies | 2:00 P.M. |
| Portland | Star Screening Room | 925 N. W. 19th Ave. | 2:00 P.M. |
| Salt Lake | 20th Century-Fox Sc. Rm. | 216 East 1st South | 2:00 P.M. |
| San Francisco | Republic Sc. Room | 221 Golden Gate Ave. | 1:30 P.M. |
| Seattle | Jewel Box Sc. Rm. | 2318 Second Ave. | 2:00 P.M. |
| St. Louis | S'renco Sc. Room | 3143 Olive St. | 1:00 P.M. |
| Washington | Earle Th. Bldg. | 13th & E Sts. N.W. | 10:30 A.M. |

*Fighting Showmen: Join the Fighting Fifth War Loan June 12!*

# A Career is Born!



## Alan Reed

RADIO: Falstaff Openshaw of Fred Allen Show . . . Solomon Levy in "Abie's Irish Rose".

STAGE: A Broadway regular . . . Title role in "The Pirate" with Lunt and Fontanne . . .

SCREEN: *First role launches his third great career!*



# DAYS OF GLORY

*A* CASEY ROBINSON *Production Introducing a Brilliant Cast of Broadway Stage Personalities . . .*

AN RKO-RADIO PICTURE

*starring*

TAMARA TOUMANOVA • GREGORY PECK

5th WAR LOAN DRIVE

# MOTION PICTURE DAILY

Join the Fighting Fifth!

VOL. 55. NO. 105 NEW YORK, U. S. A., MONDAY, MAY 29, 1944 TEN CENTS

# INDUSTRY ANSWERS FIFTH WAR BOND DRIVE CALL

## Production of Projectors Is Halted Again

### *WPB Officials Fear to Hamper Military*

WASHINGTON, May 28.—The production of a large number of projectors, recently authorized by the War Production Board to carry out a plan developed by Allen Smith, chief of the theatre equipment section, to meet the steadily increasing deterioration of booth equipment in use when we entered the war, has been temporarily suspended, it was learned at the weekend.

Smith explained that the bottlenecks in the production of these projectors lie in the procurement of motors, ball bearings and electronic equipment. The WPB feels it would be inappropriate at this time to attempt to divert anything needed for the success of the impending invasion.

*"Join the Fighting Fifth"*

### *Films Put Red Cross Over Top in Nation*

WASHINGTON, May 28.—"Without the assistance of the War Activities Committee, its associated theatres, studios, and the motion picture industry as a whole, the American Red Cross would not have succeeded in its $200,000,000 goal in the 1944 War Fund drive." Norman H. Davis,

(*Continued on page 22*)

### *No Paper Tomorrow*

***Motion Picture Daily*** **will not be published tomorrow, May 30, Memorial Day and a legal holiday.**

## *'16,000 Theatre Owners Can Not Be Licked'*

**By R. J. O'DONNELL, Chairman**
***National Motion Picture Industry Fifth War Loan Committee***

The emotional climax of the war is upon us. No one can deny the fact that all indications point to invasion. Invasion multiplies astronomically our obligations to our boys, to our Government and to our home.

In the second and third War Loans the showmen of America were rookies and untried salesmen. The Fourth War Loan proved that they had made rapid strides in War Bond salesmanship, and now with the Fighting Fifth upon us they are tried and true veterans, with a great record to maintain, and a greater responsibility in the future. Nothing short of death and destruction can stand in the way of the mightiest effort we have ever put forth.

Today our duty is first, to finance this invasion, second, to foster every patriotic effort, third, to stand behind our Government and be good citizens, and somewhere in the deep distant background is your obligation to your business.

Words are futile. Read the headlines, listen to the stories of your relatives and friends as to what is happening to their boys, to further strengthen your obligation to the Fifth War Loan.

Every showman putting forth his best effort can speed the decision—16,000 showmen can't be licked!

The command is:

***"Join The Fighting Fifth!" "Invade Their Pocketbooks!" "Fight By His Side!"***

### *RKO's 13-Week Net Is $1,577,404*

Radio-Keith-Orpheum reported at the weekend a net profit of $1,577,404 for the 13 weeks ended April 1, after

(*Continued on page 22*)



## Col. 39-Week Net Is Up $458,000

Columbia's net profit for the 39-week period ended March 25, after Federal taxes, amounted to $1,490,000, an increase of $458,000 over the previous year's net of $1,032,000, Harry Cohn, president, announced at the weekend.

The company's operating profit for 39 weeks this year increased to $4,685,000 from the $3,320,000 recorded last year, Cohn reported. Provision for Federal taxes, including the excess profits tax, was $3,195,000 this year, against $2,288,000 for a similar period last year.

## *Goal Is Up 20 Percent; Seek Sales of 12,000,000 Bonds*

By SHERWIN KANE

Once again the industry mobilizes along its nationwide 16,000-theatre front, this time to sell Invasion Bonds in the nation's Fifth War Loan drive. Again, as in the four previous drives, the job will be done effectively, successfully and with pride in being a vital part of the nation's Victory effort.

During the period of the drive, from June 12 to July 8, the industry will endeavor to sell 12,000,000 individual war bonds, a bond for every American in uniform, a bond for every theatre seat in the United States. As before, the success of the drive will depend in greatest measure on the rank-and-file exhibitor within whose theatres the sales must be made. Their magnificent records in the previous drives must be exceeded if the goal in this is to be attained.

"The national committee is but a service station," said Robert J. O'Donnell, national chairman of the industry campaign. "The credit belongs to the valiant men and women who, day and night, contribute their time and energies and talents toward putting a drive over the top. To them belong the praise and the glory."

National committee members emphasize that the smallest exhibitor doing his utmost to achieve his maximum bond sales possibilities is as

(*Continued on page 22*)

### *In This Edition*

**Fifteen pages of special Fifth War Loan inaugural material and advertising messages appear on pages 3-to-17, this issue.**

*Let's ALL back the Invasion!*

# Personal Mention

NED E. DEPINET is expected here from the Coast today.

•

ALFRED W. SCHWALBERG, International Pictures Eastern sales representative, and ROBERT GOLDSTEIN, New York manager, are expected back from the Coast today.

•

NAT LEFTON, PRC Cleveland and Cincinnati franchise holder, left for Cleveland over the weekend after a New York visit.

•

IRVING A. MAAS, 20th Century-Fox assistant director of foreign distribution, returned to New York over the weekend from a Latin American tour.

•

ARNOLD ALBERT, Warner short subject producer, is in New York from the Coast.

•

JOHN HERTZ, JR., board chairman of Buchanan and Co., is due back in New York from the Coast today.

•

S. BARRET MCCORMICK, RKO Radio advertising-publicity director, is scheduled to arrive from the Coast today.

•

LOUIS GOLDSTEIN, supervisor of Columbia's St. Louis territory, arrived in New York at the weekend.

•

RUBE JACKTER, assistant general sales manager for Columbia, will leave today for Philadelphia.

•

WALTER GOULD, United Artists foreign manager, left for Mexico City at the weekend.

•

W. E. BANFORD, M-G-M Chicago branch manager, is in Minneapolis on vacation.

*"Join the Fighting Fifth"*

## Over 1,000 Expected At Loan Rally Here

Over 1,000 industry executives, theatre managers, film exchange workers and New York Finance Committee members are expected at the "mobilization" Fifth War Loan breakfast scheduled for this Friday, at 9:30 A. M., at which plans will be mapped out for the local campaign, under the supervision of Charles C. Moskowitz, Loew executive.

To date, the meeting place is a secret. With the tickets, which began to go out at the weekend, are instructions as to rendezvous spots, from which the showmen will march to the meeting.

Delegates will be on hand from the Bronx, Brooklyn, Manhattan, and Queens, Nassau, Westchester, Suffolk, Richmond, Dutchess, Putnam, Orange, Sullivan, Rockland and Ulster counties.

Speakers at the rally will include Robert J. O'Donnell, national industry chairman for the drive, and members of his "Fighting Fifth" caravan.

# Tradewise . . .

By SHERWIN KANE

ALLIED STATE'S action last week in declining to participate in the proposed Round Table Conference of Exhibitor Associations on Taxation has imperiled the future of that joint effort of the MPTOA, the PCCITO, affiliated circuits and others to achieve a uniform policy and defense on national tax legislation affecting exhibition. The tax organization was an outgrowth of exhibition's costly experience in Washington last Fall when the Federal admission tax was increased to 30 per cent and no unified exhibitor opposition was in existence to oppose it. Moreover, there were outright declarations from official Washington sources that an admission tax of 40 per cent would be desirable and may be asked when the next revenue bill is prepared.

•

If that happens, exhibition presumably will be left to oppose the increased tax in its present split-camp and ineffectual status. The Round Table Conference on Taxation was designed to be built upon the participation, first of all, of the two national exhibitor organizations, Allied States and MPTOA. Without Allied, an organization such as that planned may be neither practicable nor advisable. The resultant situation also is a blow to all those who have held out hope for some form of unity within the exhibition branch of the industry. If exhibition cannot achieve unity in the defense of the box office, how can it be expected to achieve even a semblance of unity on the many more controversial issues on which exhibitor classifications divide?

However, Allied did leave the door open to some form of collaboration with the rest of exhibition on taxation in authorizing the appointment of a committee to "confer and cooperate with other groups" on a finding that an "emergency" has risen. If the finding recognizes an emergency in time, that may be a useful procedure.

• •

Spyros Skouras, 20th Century-Fox president, advanced the opinion last week that the British industry, in five years, will be in a position to compete with ours.

Oh, well, in five years, they tell us, we'll all be working for television, anyhow.

Steve Broidy, Monogram general sales manager, is believed to have obtained the highest terms for a picture on record in the industry. He once sold a Monogram release at 125 per cent. The picture was sold for a rental of $50. It grossed $40.

That was in the old days. Now, Broidy says, when he smiles he can really mean it. He is confident that Monogram is and will continue selling pictures that the customers want, because the sales department consults its customers on their needs and wishes and the studio, in turn, consults the sales department.

•

"Our conviction," he said, "is that we must contribute something to the industry out of our current business increase. The company will endeavor to build for the future. It wants to establish its name as one that will mean something when the good times are ended. We are spending much more on production than ever before. Exhibitors are making more on the new product than they did on the old. To be able to continue our policy we must have a fair return, and I say the exhibitor is doing his part in that respect. Exhibitors, by and large, are fair. Only one complaint about new terms has come to our attention. That complaint subsequently was retracted."

• •

Reports have it that Charles Schwartz, Charlie Chaplin's New York counsel, will be disqualified as a director for the new United Artists board under the new bylaw prohibiting "competitive" affiliations. Schwartz is a director of Columbia Pictures.

• •

William Fox confirms reports of his continuing interest in the development of educational films. It is quite likely to be one of his avenues of future activity. He has always wanted to see the day when most of the instruction in schools would be by films, he says. He expects to see that aim advanced.

• •

Grad Sears, trailed to the barber shop at 21 Club late last week and apprised of all those rumors in circulation concerning United Artists, denied them all, categorically and emphatically, for the steenth time.

# Coast Flashes

*Hollywood, May 28*

GEORGE WHITE has been signed by RKO as a producer. His first assignment will be "George White's Scandals of 1945."

•

Constance Bennett is scheduled to arrive here tomorrow from New York, where she formed a new producing company. Her first picture will be a screen version of "Paris Underground," by Etta Shiber, to be directed by Julien Duvivier.

•

Nancy Porter, 18-year-old Los Angeles girl who understudied Ethel Merman in "Something for the Boys," and had a role in that production, has been signed by Paramount to a long-term contract.

•

Monogram franchise holders George B. West of St. Louis and Herman Rifkin of Boston arrived here at the weekend and will remain for the company's convention, June 12-15.

•

H. J. Yates and James R. Grainger will arrive here Monday, June 5, for conferences with studio executives prior to the start of Republic's 1944-45 production schedule.

•

Charles A. Midelburg, M-G-M's "20-Year Showman," and his wife left here at the weekend for Charleston, W. Va., after a two-week visit.

•

Sigmund Neufeld will produce six features and eight westerns for PRC's 1944-45 program, Leon Fromkess revealed at the weekend.

•

Bob Hope's next film for Paramount will be "Girls Town," with E. D. Leshin producing.

•

M-G-M has announced "Dr. Red Adams" as the next picture in the "Gillespie" series.

*"Join the Fighting Fifth"*

## 3 More Branches Now 100% for 'MGM Week'

Three more exchanges have reported complete representation for the showing of Leo the Lion in every theatre in their territories during the M-G-M 20-year anniversary week, June 22-28, making a total of 12 branches to date in the 100% class.

The latest branches to fall in line are Cincinnati, under the management of E. M. Booth; Chicago, W. E. "Doc" Banford, manager, and Des Moines, D. C. Kennedy, manager. Exchanges previously checked in on the 100 per cent list include Albany, Charlotte, Cleveland, Detroit, New Haven, St. Louis, Kansas City, Oklahoma City and San Francisco.

## Mrs. Quick Rites Today

Funeral services will be held this morning for Mrs. Emma Quick, wife of Charles E. Quick, head of M-G-M's accounting department, from the Quick residence in Brooklyn. Mrs. Quick died suddenly last Friday.

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# 'A Bigger Bond for Every Seat'

## Treasury Views This as Goal For 5th Drive

By BERTRAM F. LINZ

WASHINGTON, May 28.—*"A Bigger Bond for Every Seat"* has been set for motion picture exhibitors by the Treasury as the objective of its 'Fighting Fifth' War Loan campaign, and Treasury officials who earlier this month personally met the industry's 'Honored Hundred' of the Fourth War Loan drive declare that objective will be attained.

The $16,000,000,000 Fifth War Loan campaign, from June 12 to July 8, will be the most important drive of the war to date, designed to provide the guns, munitions and equipment which will crush the Axis in Europe and free the Allies to concentrate on the Japs, the Treasury points out.

Sixteen thousand screens, the resources of the producers, and 200,000 workers are being lined up for the job of selling the industry's share—and more—of the $6,000,000,000 in 'E' bonds which the Treasury has earmarked for the campaign—one of the industry's ways of backing up its many thousands of men and women in service and remembering the hundreds who already have given, not their money but their lives.

**"To America's millions-strong Army in the field this is zero hour," Secretary Henry Morgenthau, jr., declared. "It's zero hour, too, for War Bond's millions-strong army of Victory Volunteers," he added.**

"Our troops will soon go over-the-top in the greatest invasion in the history of the world. And it's our job to back them up in the greatest war loan in the history of the world."

As in previous campaigns, the film industry will run its own show—and the fact that it is the only field of participation not headed by a Treasury representative demonstrates the confidence of official Washington in the ability, ingenuity, perseverance and patriotism of the people who make, distribute and show the Nation's films.

### *Claude Lee to Interlock U. S.-Industry Policies*

Claude Lee, Paramount public relations head, who served as liaison between the industry and the Treasury in the last drive, to the great satisfaction and appreciation of both, will again assume the responsibilities of that post. His job is to see that industry activities and Treasury policies coincide, to secure for the industry such help from the Government as it may need in securing official speakers and in other matters, and to get for the Treasury the assistance it will require from the industry in support of the efforts of other participating groups.

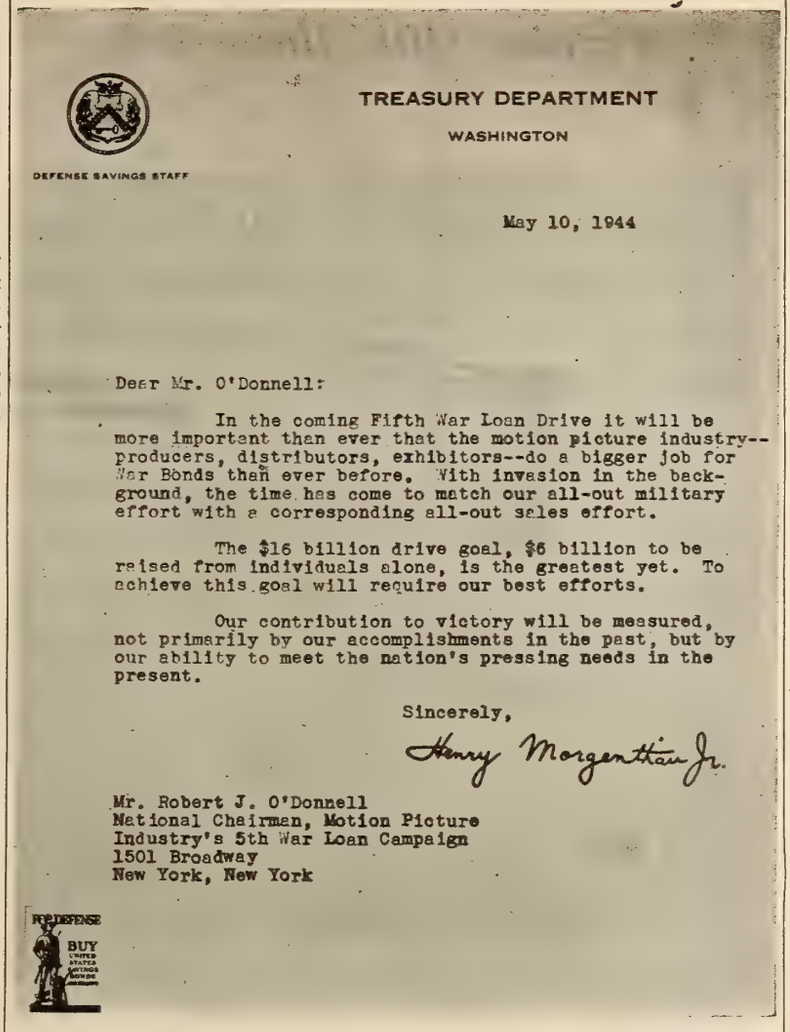
Spearhead of the industry organization will be Robert J. O'Donnell, Texas circuit owner and National Chief Barker of the Variety Clubs, with a general staff topped by John J. Friedl, president of Minnesota Amusement Co.; Richard M. Kennedy, Southern theatre operator, and Ray Beall, of Interstate Theatres. Blanketing the country will be motion picture committees composed of local exhibitors—the men who will wield "the pick and shovel" on theatregoers' pockets.

That, briefly and in most general terms, is the set-up the Treasury is depending upon for hundreds of millions of dollars in direct sales of bonds and other hundreds of millions of sales influenced by the selling barrage which the film industry will lay down over the four-week Fifth War Loan.

"As in the fourth campaign, the Treasury is giving the industry a free hand to sell its 80,000,000 patrons. Eight thousand theatres with some 8,000,000 seats have been appointed issuing agents; as many more theatres will back them up with the full support of their screens," said a Treasury spokesman.

"The 80,000,000 theatregoers of America—most of them potential 'E' bond buyers—are the objectives of this army," it was explained. "In token of surrender they are expected not to throw up their hands, but to dig into their pockets and bank accounts and 'Buy Another Bond for Every Seat.'"

All of the projects which worked out well in the last drive—including the 'bond for every seat' campaign and the bond premieres—will be employed again and expanded, and some new ideas will be added.



TREASURY DEPARTMENT
WASHINGTON

DEFENSE SAVINGS STAFF

May 10, 1944

Dear Mr. O'Donnell:

In the coming Fifth War Loan Drive it will be more important than ever that the motion picture industry--producers, distributors, exhibitors--do a bigger job for War Bonds than ever before. With invasion in the background, the time has come to match our all-out military effort with a corresponding all-out sales effort.

The $16 billion drive goal, $6 billion to be raised from individuals alone, is the greatest yet. To achieve this goal will require our best efforts.

Our contribution to victory will be measured, not primarily by our accomplishments in the past, but by our ability to meet the nation's pressing needs in the present.

Sincerely,

Henry Morgenthau Jr.

Mr. Robert J. O'Donnell
National Chairman, Motion Picture
Industry's 5th War Loan Campaign
1501 Broadway
New York, New York




## Many Facets of Theatre Bond Aid for U. S.

As in past bond campaigns, the actual selling of bonds will be only part of the job which has been assigned the film industry. Again the Treasury is emphasizing upon state, county and city War Finance Committees the necessity of establishing close contact with motion picture bond committees and availing themselves of the willingness of the film industry to cooperate in all activities that will stimulate the sale of 'E' bonds.

The industry also is assisting in the training of bond-selling solicitors with a training film which it has made to be shown to volunteer workers, the use of theatres for instruction meetings and showings of the film, and the production of three films with Hollywood stars making bond-selling pleas, which, with newsreel and other material, will be shown in all theatres.

### *Crisis With Germany Is Seen Within Few Months*

Stars of Hollywood will appear on the radio and make tours of the country to participate in bond "rallies" and other events.

Treasury officials are anxious that the men and women in the industry who are being called upon to exert every effort to put the bond drive over should know just why every ounce of pressure should be put into the 'Fighting Fifth' campaign.

**"With each succeeding war bond drive, the film people have gained experience, have become more closely integrated with the Treasury's activities," said one official.**

"In all likelihood the next three or four months will see the crisis of the war with Germany," it was explained. "For us this will probably entail the supreme military effort of the war. As far as bond selling goes, the Treasury feels that the Fifth War Loan will be the most urgent, the most vitally important financial effort yet—perhaps the most important of the whole conflict.

"War expenditures have never been greater than they are today. From January through June, 1944, direct war costs will be in the neighborhood of $48,000,000,000, an average of $8,000,000,000 a month. Fifth War Loan goals were set high because the Nation's Treasury must borrow a great deal of money this year to keep the war going. Borrowings will be twice as much as can be expected to be raised from taxes."

*"Beat the Fourth!"*

# Five Big Guns of the Fifth Campaign

## BondPremiere Will Be the TopPromotion

"SIXTEEN THOUSAND SHOWMEN can speed the Decision!"—the Decision of Victory. That is the incentive to spur every theatre owner in the country to a Victorious Fifth War Loan in the drive that will start on June 12 and run through July 8, to sell $6,000,000,000 in 'E' bonds in the Nation's overall bond quota of $16,000,000,000.

**Available to all exhibitors in their drive over the top, fighting right behind our Invaders-at-the-Front, are five 'Big Guns' for promoting the sale of 'Bigger Bonds for Every Seat.' These campaigns are: *Bond Premieres, School's Out Premieres, Free Movie Day,* the *Fighting Fifth Honor Roll* and the *Honored Hundred* stunts of the Fourth War Loan.**

In addition, there has been made available to exhibitors by the industry's Fifth War Loan committee, an arsenal of ammunition and equipment to win the campaign for the Fighting Fifth. Ready and waiting for exhibitors are two newsreel bulletins—one from General Eisenhower—four special trailers, "Road to Victory," a WAC release, advertisements with special attention to Bond Premieres and Free Movie Day, plus National Screen Accessories, publicity stories and spot announcements and platters for the air, all beamed to bond buyers.

### A 16-Inch Gun

The Bond Premiere is the 16-inch gun of the campaign. It helped 3,169 exhibitors sell 2,449,314 bonds worth $360,500,000 during the Fourth War Loan. Distributor cooperation makes this bond selling effort possible.

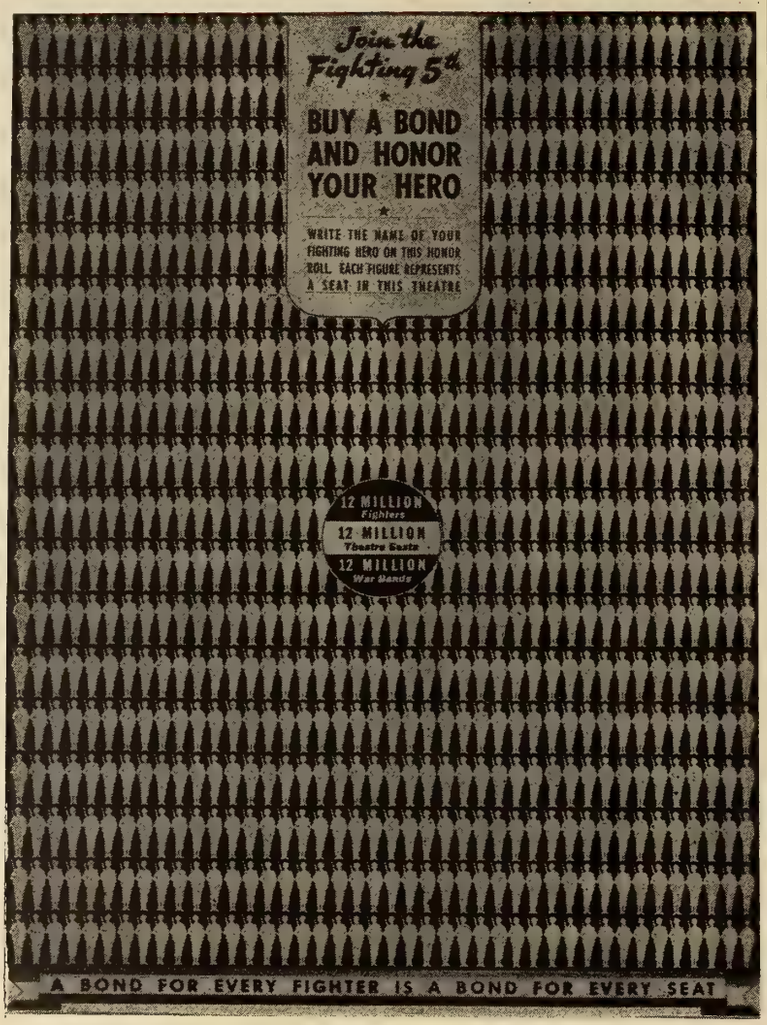
During the Fifth War Loan there will be two kinds of premieres. The first is expected to have the greatest adult appeal because of the availability of new productions. And the second, the application of the same box office principle for the children through a new bond selling angle: the School's Out bond premiere. The industry's committee urges every first run theatre to present both types of premieres.

### Honored Hundred

There will be no Honored Hundred contest *per se* in the Fifth War Loan. But the 100 showmen who, out of 16,500 exhibitors in the United States, sold more bonds than any other, were polled by the Fighting Fifth for the description of the stunts that sold the most bonds for them, and these are presented in the industry's Fifth War Loan pressbook. (Highlights appear on page 17 of this issue).

The stunts have been combined to make up a complete bond selling campaign. "The combination of showmanship, taken from the campaigns of the 100 champions, is proved, tested, sure-fire material that will set bond sales records," the industry's bond committee declares.

### 'Fighting Fifth' Honor Roll




***THE Fighting Fifth Honor Roll* is a follow-through on the Fourth War Loan's Bond-for-Every-Seat plan. It is a 40-by-60-inch chart containing 750 soldier figures representing the capacity of a 750-seat theatre. It is adjustable to larger capacities by applying additional charts. The soldier-figure is the key. Patrons will buy bonds in the names of sons, husbands, brothers, sisters or sweethearts in service, writing-in their names within the figures when they purchase bonds. It's a bond-selling range-finder to show at a glance how many 'E' bonds a theatre sells. A chart is contained in each Fifth War Loan accessories kit; additional copies can be secured, without charge, from National Screen Service exchanges.**

## School Shows, Movie Day to Back Invasion

FREE MOVIE-DAY in the Fifth War Loan, set for July 6, has been set up for the "mop-up battalion" of the Fighting Fifth—the bond grenade of the Fifth Brigade. The School's-Out Premiere is described as "the boniest part of the bond campaign," when the youngsters are turned loose selling bonds for their folks in the Armed forces.

**Exhibitors are urged, wherever possible, to let schools know what is planned before the end of the school term so that school bulletin boards, assembly halls and classroom campaigns can lay the groundwork for an enthusiastic participation of pupils in the Fighting Fifth.**

The School's-Out Premiere literally "mopped up" when first used in the Midwest and on the West Coast during the Fourth War Loan. Its success caused the industry's national Fifth War Loan Committee to adopt it nationally for the drive coming up.

### Free Movie Day

Free Movie Day in the fifth campaign will again be a simultaneous, day-and-date, nationwide bond selling effort, set this time for July 6.

The best possible result will be obtained if all theatres in a town line up together on this date, campaign leaders point out. If July 6 is an inconvenient date, an exhibitor can observe it on a day of his own choosing. However, it must be near the end of the drive. The exhibitor does not "give" his whole house away. Free Movie Day is just a regular performance with free seats to bond buyers only.

The exhibitor will admit, free of charge, all those persons who can present proof at the boxoffice that on July 6 they have purchased a Series E War Savings Bond of any denomination between whatever hours are specified by the exhibitor. The bonds must, of course, have been purchased either at the theatre or through a bona fide issuing agent.

Free Movie Day gives the exhibitor a chance of not only expressing appreciation to townspeople for their support in the Fifth War Loan Drive but also to tie-in with other bond issuing agencies (stores, banks, etc.) for cooperative advertising, window displays, posters, etc. The keynote to be emphasized is: "Buy a Bond Today and See a Free Movie!"

Join The Fighting Fifth!

# 5th War Loan Geared to Precision Mark

THE MOTION PICTURE industry's participation in Uncle Sam's 'Fighting Fifth' War Loan campaign has been organized for precision operation as never before, the organizers giving full effect of the experiences of industry leaders and workers in previous campaigns.

The industry's Fifth War Loan will, of course, be conducted by leaders and workers alike, with the efforts of the Army of industry workers guided by: The National Motion Picture Industry Fifth War Loan Committee, Committee of State Exhibitor Leaders, State Chairmen of Publicity, Chairmen of Distribution and the Hollywood Motion Picture Finance Committee, with each chairman and committee aided by scores of aides from each of the respective branches. Two hundred and one national, state and local film leaders comprise the various committees which will marshall industry forces of the Fifth War Loan drive. The national committee follows:

ROBERT J. O'DONNELL, National Chairman

R. M. KENNEDY, National Vice-chairman

JOHN J. FRIEDL, National Campaign Director

NED E. DEPINET, Distributor Chairman

LEON J. BAMBERGER, Assistant Distributor Chairman

RAY BEALL, National Publicity Director

CLAUDE LEE, Motion Picture Consultant to the U. S. Treasury

JOSEPH KINSKY, Campaign Coordinator

LEONARD GOLDENSON, Director of Industry Sales

HENRY GINSBERG, Director of Industry Sales, Hollywood

## *Red Tape Cut To Minimum*

**EXHIBITORS are not being asked by the industry's national Fifth War Loan committee to sign a pledge of participation in the industry drive starting on June 12 and running through July 12. The committee feels that the original pledge signed by theatre operators is sufficient.**

**Nor are exhibitors to be asked to make "a lot of reports" during the drive; one short report at the drive's conclusion will suffice. Also, it will not be necessary to apply for drive trailers; they will be sent without formal order.**

# *State Theatre Chairmen, The 'Hub' of 5th Drive*

★ ★ ★

**SIXTY-FOUR theatre operators, all leaders in their communities, will serve as state or territorial chairmen for the motion picture industry's Fifth War Loan drive, June 12-July 8. Many have repeatedly filled similar posts in previous drives; some are newly appointed for this campaign. Designated by Robert O'Donnell's national industry bond committee as 'The Fighting Fifth Showmen,' the state exhibitor committee leaders represent the hub around which most field activity will revolve in the film business during the campaign. The committee of field chairmen and co-chairmen follows:**

*Alabama*—Mack Jackson, Strand Theatre, Alexander City.

*Arizona*—Harry Nace, Orpheum Theatre Bldg., Phoenix.

*Arkansas*—Co-chairmen: M. S. McCord, Little Rock; Claude Mundo, Arkansas Theatre, Little Rock.

*California (Southern)*—Dave Bershon, 1612 West Washington, Los Angeles.

*California (Northern)* — Charles M. Thall, Fox West Coast Theatres, 988 Market St., San Francisco.

*Colorado*—Rick Ricketson, Fox Inter-Mountain Amusement Co., 514 16th St., Denver.

*Connecticut* — Harry F. Shaw, Poli Theatres, New Haven.

*Florida* — J. L. Cartwright, Tampa Theatre, Tampa.

*Georgia* — Nat Williams, Williams Theatre, Thomasville.

*Idaho* — Nevin McCord, Ada Theatre, Boise.

*Illinois*—J. J. Rubens, 175 State St., Chicago.

*Indiana* — Don Rossiter, 444 North Illinois St., Indianapolis.

*Iowa* — A. H. Blank, Paramount Bldg., Des Moines.

*Kansas*—Howard E. Jameyson, Miller Theatre, Wichita.

*Kentucky*—Lew Hensler, Ben Ali Theatre, Lexington.

*Louisiana*—E. V. Richards, 608 Canal St., New Orleans.

*Maine*—Connie Russell, Bangor.

*Maryland* — Louis A. Rome, 213 North Calvert St., Baltimore.

*Massachusetts* — Sam Pinanski, 60 Scollay Sq., Boston.

*Michigan* — Co-chairmen: Martin Thomas (Peninsula Territory), Braumort Theatre, Iron Mountain; Earl Hudson, United Detroit Theatres, Detroit; Lew Wisper, Fox Theatre Bldg., Detroit.

*Minnesota*—Al Steffes, World Theatre, Minneapolis.

*Mississippi*—Co-chairmen: Burgess Waltman, Princess Theatre, Columbus; Arthur Lehmann, Booker T. Theatre, Jackson.

*Missouri* (East)—Harry Arthur, Fox Theatre Bldg., St. Louis.

*Missouri* (West)—Elmer Rhoden, Uptown Theatre Bldg., Kansas City.

*Montana*—J. A. English, Washoe Theatre Bldg., Anaconda.

*Nebraska*—William Miskell, Orpheum Theatre Bldg., Omaha.

*Nevada*—N. Dow Johnson, T. and D. Enterprises, Reno.

*New Hampshire*—Edward J. Fahey, 1118 Elm St., Manchester.

*New Jersey (Southern)*—Ben Amsterdam, 1505 Race St., Philadelphia.

*New Jersey (Northern)*—Co-chairmen: H. H. Lowenstein, 24 Walnut St., Newark; Don Jacocks, 17 Academy St., Newark.

*New Mexico*—George Tucker, Kimo Theatre, Albuquerque.

*New York (Metropolitan)*—Charles Moskowitz, Loew's, 1540 Broadway, New York.

*New York (Upstate)*—Lou Golding, Palace Theatre, Albany.

*North Carolina*—H. F. Kincey, 120 East 3rd St., Charlotte.

*North Dakota (West)*—Mike Cooper, Forx Theatre, Grand Forks.

*North Dakota (East)*—Ed Kraus, Fargo Theatre, Fargo.

*Ohio*—Martin G. Smith, 519 Main St., Toledo.

*Oklahoma*—C. B. Akers, 11½ North Lee Ave., Oklahoma City.

*Oregon* — Co-chairmen: Al Finke, Evergreen Theatres Corp., 303 Orpheum Theatre Bldg., Portland; Bob White, White Theatres, 309 Northeast 47th Ave., Portland.

*Pennsylvania (Eastern)*—Lou Finske, State Theatre Bldg., Scranton.

*Pennsylvania (Western)*—Moe Silver, Warner Brothers Theatres, Clark Bldg., Pittsburgh.

*Rhode Island*—Ed Fay, Fay's Theatre, Providence.

*South Carolina*—Warren Irwin, Palmetto Theatre, Columbia.

*South Dakota*—Fred Larkin, State Theatre, Sioux Falls.

*Tennessee (Eastern)*—E. W. Street, Tennessee Theatre, Knoxville.

*Tennessee (Western)*—M. A. Lightman, Malco Theatres, 138 South Main St., Memphis.

*Texas*—John Q. Adams, Inter-State Circuit, 501 Majestic Bldg., Dallas.

*Utah*—Samuel Gillette, Strand Theatre, Tooele.

*Vermont*—Frank Vennett, Paramount Theatre, Rutland.

*Virginia* — Co-chairmen: William Crockett, Bayne Theatre, Virginia Beach; Morton G. Thalheimer, Neighborhood Theatres, Richmond.

*Washington, D. C.*—Sidney Lust, Thomas Circle, Washington.

*Washington* — Frank Newman, Sr., Skinner Bldg., Seattle.

*West Virginia*—Milton Levine, Lyric Theatre, Williamson.

*Wisconsin*—Harold Fitzgerald, 1324 West Wisconsin Ave., Milwaukee.

*Wyoming* — Co-chairmen: E. J. Schulte, Rialto Theatre, Casper; Tom Berta, Rialto Theatre, Rock Springs.

# Field Men At Work Before "E" Sales Start

FIFTY-SEVEN chairmen or co-chairmen in exhibition promotional activities will spearhead the pre-campaign launching of the message: 'Bigger Bonds for Every Seat' for the 'Fighting Fifth' War Loan drive, under the direction of Ray Beall, national publicity chairman, directing all publicity forces from headquarters in New York. The state publicity chairmen for the Fifth War Loan follow—each standing ready to cooperate with exhibitors in their respective states:

*Alabama*—William Wolfson, Wilby-Kincey Theatres, Montgomery.

*Arizona*—A. G. Pickett, Orpheum Theatre Bldg., Phoenix.

*Arkansas*—Sam Kirby, Malco Bldg., North Little Rock.

*California (Southern)*—Seymour Peiser, Fox West Coast Theatres, 1609 West Washington Blvd., Los Angeles. Co-chairman, Mort Goodman, 6433 Hollywood Blvd.

*California (Northern)*—Fay Reeder, 988 Market St., San Francisco.

*Colorado*—Harold E. Rice, Paramount Theatre, Denver.

*Connecticut*—Lou Brown, Loew's Poli Theatre, New Haven.

*Delaware*—Edgar J. Doob, Loew's Aldine Theatre, Wilmington.

*Florida*—J. L. Cartwright, Tampa Theatre, Tampa.

*Georgia*—Spence Pierce, 20th Century-Fox Exchange, Atlanta.

*Idaho*—Hall Baltz, Chief Theatre, Pocatello.

*Illinois*—Bill Bishop, Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer, 1307 South Wabash Ave., Chicago.

*Indiana*—Ken Collins, Circle Theatre, Indianapolis.

(Continued on page 16)

## *7,000 Bookings For 'Victory'*

**SEVEN THOUSAND bookings before the Fifth War Loan campaign officially begins is the goal set for the War Activities Committee one-reeler, "The Road to Victory," Norman H. Moray of Warner Bros., has informed R. J. O'Donnell, national drive chairman. Warners produced the short as a 'Fighting Fifth' War Loan special and is distributing.**

**Bing Crosby and Frank Sinatra are co-starred, supported by Cary Grant, Dennis Morgan, Irene Manning, Jack Carson, Charles Ruggles, Jimmy Lydon, Olive Blakeney.**



# Seats Still the Bond-Sale Yardstick

## Bigger, Better Job Needed to Back Invasion

By TED R. GAMBLE,
*National Director,*
*U. S. War Finance Division*

THE MOTION PICTURE industry has done a magnificent job in behalf of war bonds. During the Fifth War Loan campaign the industry will again concentrate on the sale of 'E' bonds through theatre 'Bond Premieres', 'Children's Bond Premieres', 'Free Movie Day', and other activities. The theatre seat will again be the yardstick to measure bond sales of individual theatres.



Ted R. Gamble

Motion picture exhibitors have a highly important role to play in this drive. Every week 85,000,000 Americans frequent theaters. Whether or not these people buy their share of extra bonds will depend in large part on what exhibitors do as showmen to make the drive a success.

There are many things exhibitors can do to put the drive over. They can put on 'War Bond Premieres.' They can employ the screen for war bond short subjects and lobbies of theatres for attractive bond booths, make auditoriums available for war bond meetings, and publicize the drive on marquee, billboards, and elsewhere.

### *Don't Run Out of Ammunition!*

**METROPOLITAN New York Fifth War Loan chairman Charles C. Moskowitz, Loew executive, reminds exhibitors whose theatres are war bond issuing agents to make certain they have on hand an ample stock of bond application blanks to meet an anticipated Fifth War Loan 'E' bond-buying rush during June 12-July 8.**

**"Don't run out of bond blanks over weekends! Don't be caught short if 'D-Day' hits your bond booth!", warned Moskowitz.**

## *Bond Chiefs Seek to Ease Handicaps of Operation*

By R. M. KENNEDY,
Vice-Chairman,
*National Motion Picture Industry*
*Fifth War Loan Committee*

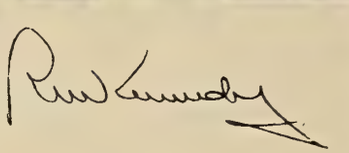
The Fifth War Loan campaign comes as a challenge to the showmen of America, for at no time in the history of show business have exhibitors operated their theatres under such great handicaps.

**In full realization of the many problems the showman has at this time, the industry's national war bond commiteee has attempted in every way to simplify the campaign; to make it as easy as possible for the exhibitor to participate so that he and his theatre may sell more War Bonds in the fifth campaign than ever before.**

In all war bond campaigns, Red Cross activities, salvage drives and other worthwhile war activities the exhibitor has taken an active and enthusiastic part. He has offered the full facilities of his theatre, contributed much of his time and made generous financial contributions.

More than ever before the exhibitors are faced with their greatest manpower problem. Theatres are bereft of the fine personnel they enjoyed before the war and much more of a manager's time is required in the operation of his theatre due to this labor shortage and inexperienced help. In spite of the extra hours the exhibitor is spending at his theatre and in spite of the many hardships under which he operates, he still wants to take a fighting part in this campaign for it is his only way of killing Germans.





*"Join the Fighting Fifth"*

## Studio Committee Is Set for the 5th

FIFTEEN executive members of the Hollywood Motion Picture War Finance Committee and an additional 13 studio chairmen and chairmen of other groups will marshall Hollywood's forces for participation in the fifth drive. On the general committee are the following:

*Executive Committee, Hollywood Motion Picture War Finance Committee* — Henry Ginsberg, chairman; John McCormick, vice-chairman; Don Rowland, secretary; and David Butler, Dorothy Lamour, Ralph Byrd, Jane Murfin, Frank Carothers, Carl C. Cooper, Herbert Sorrell, Fred Othman, Fred Beetson, Perry Leiber, J. H. Rosenberg, Teet Carle.

## Para., 20th Cited For Press Book

PARAMOUNT Pictures, 20th Century-Fox, Richard Condon, Inc., and others, were cited at the weekend by the industry's national Fifth War Loan committee for their efforts in behalf of a 24-page special pressbook prepared to aid exhibitors in conducting drive campaigns.

Ray Beall, national campaign advertising-publicity director, who coordinated pressbook details, declared that the book was made possible through the cooperation of Paramount and the counsel of Robert Gillham, Paramount advertising-publicity director, and Stanley Shuford, Paramount advertising manager.

John Hertz, Jr., chairman of the board of Buchanan & Co., advertising agency representing Paramount, turned over his art department under John Van Orman's direction to do all layout and art work for the book. L. A. Mezger, of the Buchanan agency, supervised this work. Beall also gave credit to Agnes Mengel and John Cicero, both of Paramount.

The advertising department of 20th Century-Fox and Lee Gustavson were cited for special art work. Richard Condon, Inc., was retained by Paramount to handle the collation and physical preparation of material.

## Procedure for Obtaining New PremiereFilms

AVAILABILITY of rental-free films expressly for Bond Premieres has been extended by distributors for the Fifth War Loan drive, June 12-July 8, in order to increase the number of bond premieres in small towns.

**An exhibitor in a town of less than 7,500 population can obtain a new picture without cost from any exchange regardless of whether he is a customer; heretofore exhibitors in such places were required to be a regular customer of a distributor.**

In larger towns, a regular customer can obtain a new picture, rental-free, provided he has the picture under contract.

The booking is for one Bond Premiere performance only, but distributors will also provide pictures for repeat showings at repeat Bond Premieres.

***How exhibitors can secure a 'Premiere' picture:***

1. Contact any of the exchanges with which you do business for a picture under the rules outlined in the Bond Premiere Agreement.

2. If your theatre is in a town with a population of not over 7,500, and if no picture is available, contact the WAC distribution chairman in your territory for a list of available Bond Premiere pictures.

3. From this list, select and submit to the distribution chairman in your territory a list of several pictures to allow a choice of selection. A booking will then be made for you.

### *'Leaders Shall Serve Exhibitors'*

**"THE LEADERS of the industry's Fifth War Loan campaign have made it clear that they are serving in this drive as representatives of each and every exhibitor," Si H. Fabian, exhibitor chairman of the War Activities Committee, declared here at the weekend in a message to 'The Fighting Fifth Showmen of America.'**

**"In this campaign, as never before, the emphasis is upon team-work. We are not interested in credit. We *are interested* in doing a job to back up our fighting men," Fabian added.**

*Join The Fighting Fifth!*

## ARMY DEAD

ASHINGTON, May (AP).—The Department announced today names of 399 soldiers killed in n, among them the following:

**NEW YORK**

**Asiatic**

Elme . jr., staf sgt.; father, Elmer A. 134 av., St. George, S. I.
NG od L.; wife, Mrs. Delma L.

nopea
P., sta gt.; f her, Frank
d st Manha an.
gt.; ther, Mrs
19th , Corona
rris Ba
other, Roch

## ARMY WOUNDED

*From the Herald Tribune Bureau*

WASHINGTON, May —The War Department made public today the names of 770 United States soldiers wounded in action, among them the following:

**NEW YORK**

**Europe**

DePIETRO, Salvatore A., staff sgt.; mother, Mrs. Lillian Bufano, Schenectady.
ISAACS, Leslie P., sgt.; wife, Mrs. Lydia M. saacs, Buffalo.
OSNIESKI, Stanley L., tech. sgt.; wife, Mrs. oetty D. Lesnieski, Rochester.
RUSH, Joseph A., 2d lt.; wife, Mrs. Helen Petrush, 53-52 64th st., Maspeth, Queens.

**Mediterranean**

IONE, Joseph, pfc.; father, Luigi Buffone, E. 161st st., Bronx.
RELLI, Joseph J., pvt.; father, Anthony orelli, New Windsor.
e, George, pvt.; mother, Mrs. Amelia 263 Clinton st., Brooklyn.
erence L., pfc.; mother, Mrs. Marorabb, Watertown.
Donald H., tech. 4th gr.; mother, Cran ll, Broadalbin.
m T., vt.; mother, Mrs. Kather- 36-1 Steinway av., Long Island ns.
egen P., 2d lt.; mother, Mrs. evany, 3906 Colonial rd.,
nes J., cpl.; mother, Mrs. Niagara Falls.
fc.; mother, Mrs. Fannie h st., Brooklyn.
pvt.; mother, Mrs. Central , Brooklyn.
el, Abr am Finger,
m pvt wife, Mrs.
fat , William S.
other, Mrs.
Thelma
blo an.
noods Jones,
blor, Mrs. Middle
y Kauf-

O'BYRNE, Harold, pvt.; mother, Mrs. Florence O'Byrne, 512 W. 169th st., Manhattan.
PATINELLA, Andrew, pvt.; mother, Mrs. Angelina Patinella, 314 E. 112th st., Manhattan.
PROSCIA, Vito, pvt.; uncle, Carlo Lopopolo, 210 Greengrove av., East Hempstead, L. I.
RICKLES, Jack W., pfc.; wife, Mrs. Anne Rickles, 80-20 Broadway, Elmhurst, Queens.
RORK, James R., pvt.; mother, Mrs. Margaret Rork, Gabriels.
RUSSO, Louis, pvt.; mother, Mrs. Mary Russo, 2120 Mapes av., Bronx.
RYAN, William G., pvt.; mother, Mrs, Mary V. Ryan, Niagara Falls.
SABATELLA, Louis J., pvt.; father, Frank Sabatella, 546 Pine st., Manhattan.
SANTANGELO, William V., pvt.; wife, Mrs. Elizabeth D. Santangelo, Railroad av., Center Moriches, L. I.
SORBERO, Anthony S., pfc.; mother, Mrs. Rubino Sorbero, Amsterdam.
SPENCER, Lawrence A., pfc.; mother, Mrs. Lillian A. Spencer, Utica.
STANTON, Eldon R., sgt.; father, Clarence E. Stanton, Schenectady.
STEIN, Gilbert B., pfc.; father, Julius Stein, 804 W. 180th st., Manhattan.
SURIANO, John, pvt.; father, Antonio Suriano, 409 E. 63d st., Manhattan.
TADDONIS, Thomas, pvt.; mother, Mrs. Angela Taddonis, 676 E. 143d st., Bronx.
TAMASI, Joseph J., maj.; wife, Mrs. Velma W. Tamasi, 1 Euston rd., South, Garden City, L. I.
TOOLAN, Edward M., pfc.; father, Michael J. Toolan, 111 E. 117th st., Manhattan.
TRAJANOWSKI, Henry J., staff sgt.; father, Walter J. Trajanowski, 166 Monitor st., Brooklyn.
VAN SICKLE, Gilbert, pvt.; wife, Mrs. Emily Van Sickle, 1228 Webster av., Bronx.
WINTER, Kenneth M., pvt.; mother, Mrs. Molly Winter, 1661 Dahill rd., Brooklyn.
WRIGHT, Arthur A., pfc.; sister, Mrs. Alberta Bauer, Ransomville.
ZICCARELLI, Jack, pfc.; father, Philomena Ziccarelli, Lackawanna.

**Central Pacific**

POLLAK, Edward, cpl.; mother, Mrs. Rosa Pollak, 57-12 71st st., Maspeth, Queens.

**Southwest Pacific**

BEAVER, Thomas, pvt.; grandmother, Mrs. Mary Mergenthaler, Rensselaer.
CHETTA, Salvatore J., tech. 5th gr.; mother, Mrs. Lilly Chetta, 2572 Wallace av., Bronx.
DI MAGGIO, James M., pvt.; father, Salvatore Di Maggio, 66 Ash st., Yonkers.
KARALIS, Milton, cpl.; mother, Mrs. Alexander Karalis, 532 W. 133d st., Manhattan.

**NEW JERSEY**

**Europa**

Scull, 5311 Ventnor av., Ventnor City.
SCURA, Sunday, pvt.; mother, Mrs. Anna Scura, 164 Scotland rd., Orange.
THOMPSON, Chester E., pfc.; mother, Mrs. Olga Thompson, Fords.
VANDERGRIFT, Arthur E., pvt.; mother, Mrs. Ella M. Vandergrift, 1022 Line st., Camden.
VEIGA, John R., cpl.; sister, Mrs. Caroline Costa, 139 3d st., Elizabeth.

**Southwest Pacific**

BURGER, Henry J., pvt.; mother, Mrs. Ida May Burger, 698 S. 14th st., Newark.
MICKENS, Lester L., pfc.; mother, Mrs. Wilmina Mickens, Wharton.
WEBER, William R., pfc.; mother, Mrs. Helen Weber, 683 Summer av., Newark.

**CONNECTICUT**

**Mediterranean**

CREEM, John J., pvt.; father, John P. Creem, Bristol.
CUNNINGHAM, John L., tech. 4th gr.; mother, Mrs. Mary G. Cunningham, 196 Ridgefield av., Bridgeport.
GOSS, Albert A., pfc.; mother, Mrs. Catherine Goss, Squth Meriden.
HARRINGTON, Charles J., cpl.; wife, Mrs. Shirley Harrington, 286 South st., Hartford.
HENION, Edwin W., sgt.; father, Edwin S. Henion, 15 Franklin st., Danbury.
KUBIT, Leon, s/sgt.; wife, Mrs. Leon Kubit, Colchester.
MIKOS, Paul, pvt.; mother, Mrs. Lena Mikos, 16 Taylor st., Danbury.
MILLARD, Harvey H., pvt.; sister, Mrs. Florence Head, Winsted.
MURATORI, Attilio J., pfc.; father, Clito Muratori, 122 Penn av., Bridgeport.
PIERCE, Bernard P., pfc.; sister, Mrs. Tina P. Fortin, Thompsonville.
RYAN, Francis J., pvt.; mother, Mrs. Julia Ryan, Plymouth.
RYBAKIEWICZ, Joseph J., pfc.; father, Peter Rybakiewicz, 128 Hickory st., Norwich.

**Southwest Pacific**

HOFF, Warren L., tech. 4th gr.; mother, Mrs. Warren I. Hoff, Training School, Southbury.
MOURA, Georgs W., pvt.; mother, Mrs. Mary Moura, Wethersfield.

## NAVY CASUALTIES

*From the Herald Tribune Bureau*

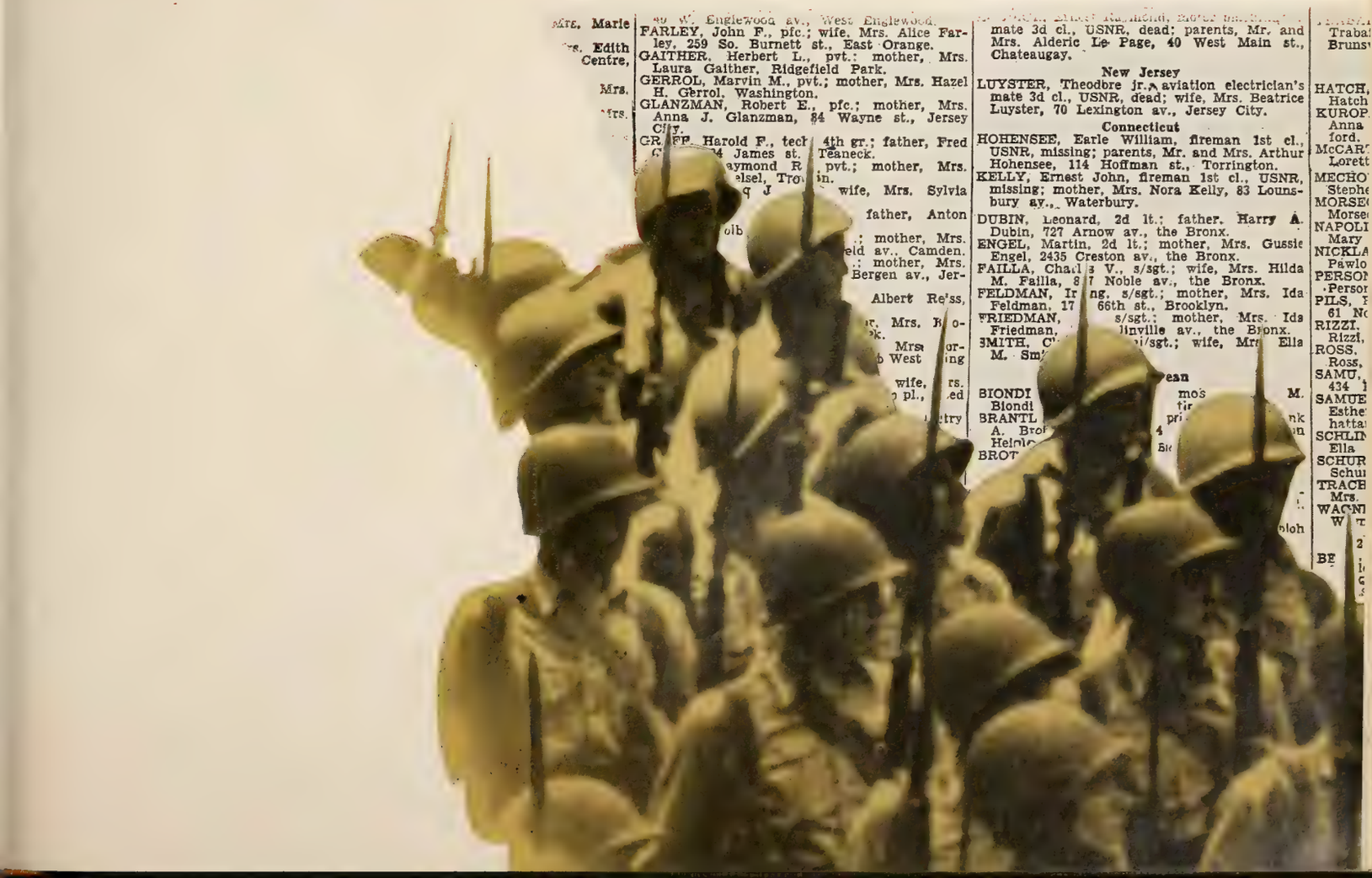
WASHINGTON, May —The Navy Department announced yesterday in two lists a total of fifty-eight casualties of the Navy, Marine Corps and Coast Guard,

ANDRUS Andrus
BABBEY Babbey
BEATTY, Beatty,
CIACCIO Ciaccio
CLARK, garet (
GALLAG Lillian Village
GREENW Greenw
KATZMA Katzm
KELLY, Kelly,
ROSSI, Minnie
SHEEHA Sheeha
SPANNE Spanne
SROKA, Sroka,

BIESPEI Biespei
CIACCIC Ciaccic
DARDIS Dardis
GIPPER Gipper
GRAU, Grau,
MILLER A. Mil
ODOMS, 548 Sa
RAUSCE N. Ra
WEISS, Weiss,
WISKEF Helens Plains

BOLSOV Evelyn
BURGO, Rose
DOUGH Ruth stadt,
GAC, E Gac,
JESCHK

...THAT THEY WHO CARRY ON THE FIGHT MAY CONTINUE TO BE PROUD OF YOU, AMERICA'S MOTION PICTURE THEATRE MEN, WHO SERVED THEM SO NOBLY BEFORE...



Mrs. Marie
s. Edith Centre,
Mrs.
Mrs.

ay M., Englewood av., West Englewood.
FARLEY, John F., pfc.; wife, Mrs. Alice Farley, 259 So. Burnett st., East Orange.
GAITHER, Herbert L., pvt.; mother, Mrs. Laura Gaither, Ridgefield Park.
GERROL, Marvin M., pvt.; mother, Mrs. Hazel H. Gerrol, Washington.
GLANZMAN, Robert E., pfc.; mother, Mrs. Anna J. Glanzman, 84 Wayne st., Jersey City.
GR FF, Harold F., tech 4th gr.; father, Fred 4 James st. Teaneck.
aymond R pvt.; mother, Mrs.
elsel, Tro n.
q J wife, Mrs. Sylvia
father, Anton
olb
; mother, Mrs.
eld av., Camden.
; mother, Mrs.
Bergen av., Jer-
Albert Re'ss,
r. Mrs. B o-
k.
Mrs or-
b West ing
wife, rs.
pl., ed
try

mate 3d cl., USNR, dead; parents, Mr. and Mrs. Alderic Le Page, 40 West Main st., Chateaugay.

**New Jersey**

LUYSTER, Theodore jr., aviation electrician's mate 3d cl., USNR, dead; wife, Mrs. Beatrice Luyster, 70 Lexington av., Jersey City.

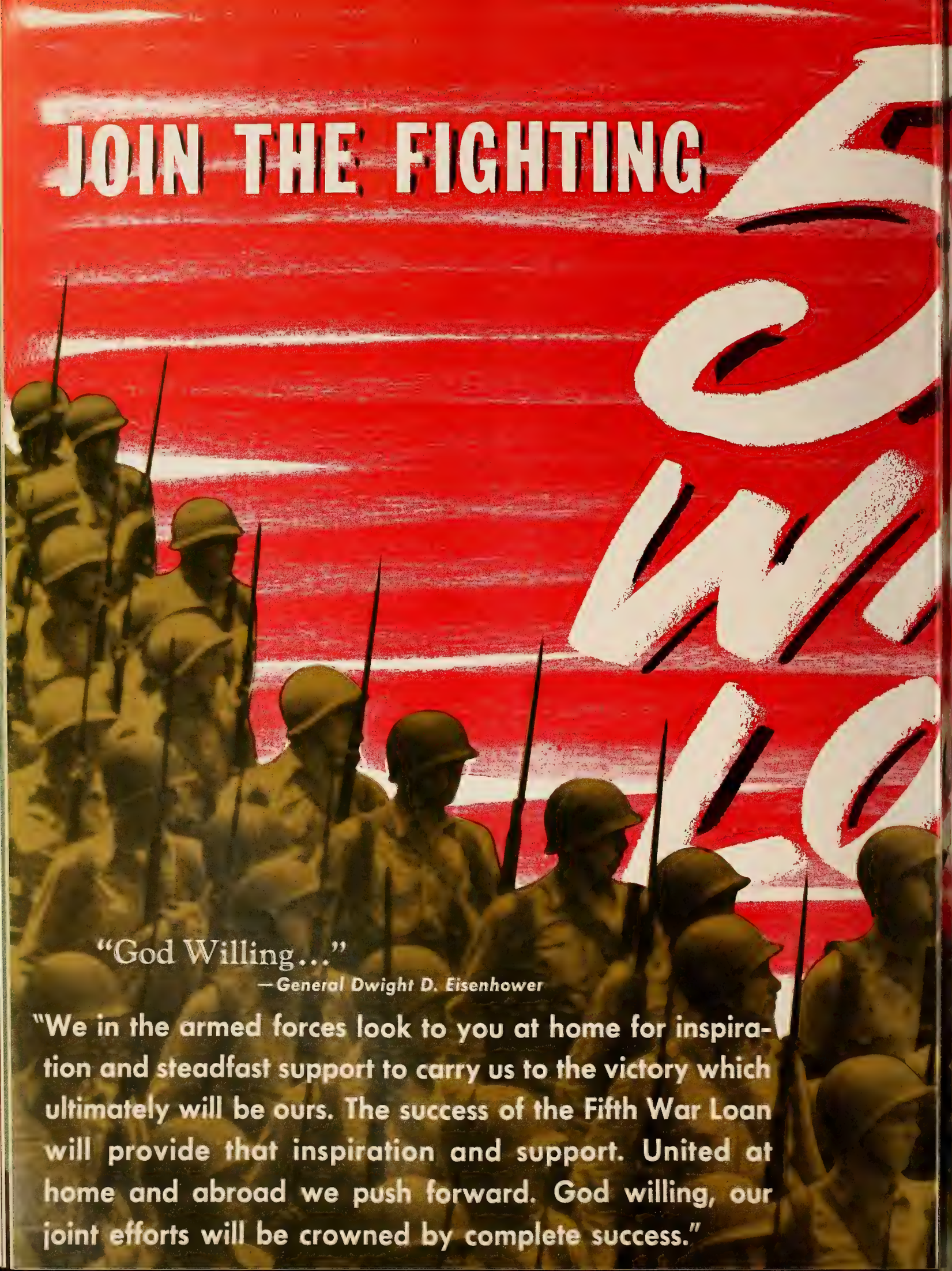
**Connecticut**

HOHENSEE, Earle William, fireman 1st cl., USNR, missing; parents, Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Hohensee, 114 Hoffman st., Torrington.
KELLY, Ernest John, fireman 1st cl., USNR, missing; mother, Mrs. Nora Kelly, 83 Lounsbury av., Waterbury.
DUBIN, Leonard, 2d lt.; father, Harry A. Dubin, 727 Arnow av., the Bronx.
ENGEL, Martin, 2d lt.; mother, Mrs. Gussie Engel, 2435 Creston av., the Bronx.
FAILLA, Chad s V., s/sgt.; wife, Mrs. Hilda M. Failla, 8 7 Noble av., the Bronx.
FELDMAN, Ir ng, s/sgt.; mother, Mrs. Ida Feldman, 17 66th st., Brooklyn.
FRIEDMAN, s/sgt.; mother, Mrs. Ida Friedman, linville av., the Bronx.
SMITH, C i/sgt.; wife, Mrs Ella M. Sm
ean
BIONDI mos M.
Biondi tir
BRANTL pri nk
A. Bro 4 n
Helgic Bi
BROT

Traba Bruns

HATCH, Hatch
KUROP Anna ford,
McCAR Loret
MECHO Stephe
MORSE Morse
NAPOLI Mary
NICKLA Pawlo
PERSON Perso
PILS, 61 N
RIZZI, Rizzi,
ROSS, Ross,
SAMU, 434
SAMUE Esthe hatta
SCHLIN Ella
SCHUR Schu
TRACH Mrs.
WAGNI W
oloh
BE

# JOIN THE FIGHTING



"God Willing..."

*—General Dwight D. Eisenhower*

"We in the armed forces look to you at home for inspiration and steadfast support to carry us to the victory which ultimately will be ours. The success of the Fifth War Loan will provide that inspiration and support. United at home and abroad we push forward. God willing, our joint efforts will be crowned by complete success."




OBJECTIVE NO. 1

# INVASION SHOWMANSHIP

Ammunition to back up your enthusiastic patriotism for the most crucial undertaking of our country's life. You will have a more complete line of campaign aids than ever before. Four trailers. Watch for your press book that talks your language for every type of high-powered promotion—press, lobby, radio—for small towns and large. And theatre accessories that are the battle-dress of your Campaign.

# YOUR BIG PREMIERES

OBJECTIVE NO.2



OBJECTIVE NO.3

YOUR STAGE

# BOND

**Bond Premieres are the bond *fire* of the campaign! Every theatre in all the land can have one, with full cooperation of the distributors. There are two handlings; one, with appeal to your regular audiences. The other, a "School's Out" Premiere with appeal aimed at juveniles. Either way it's the big way to sell your country's Bonds!**



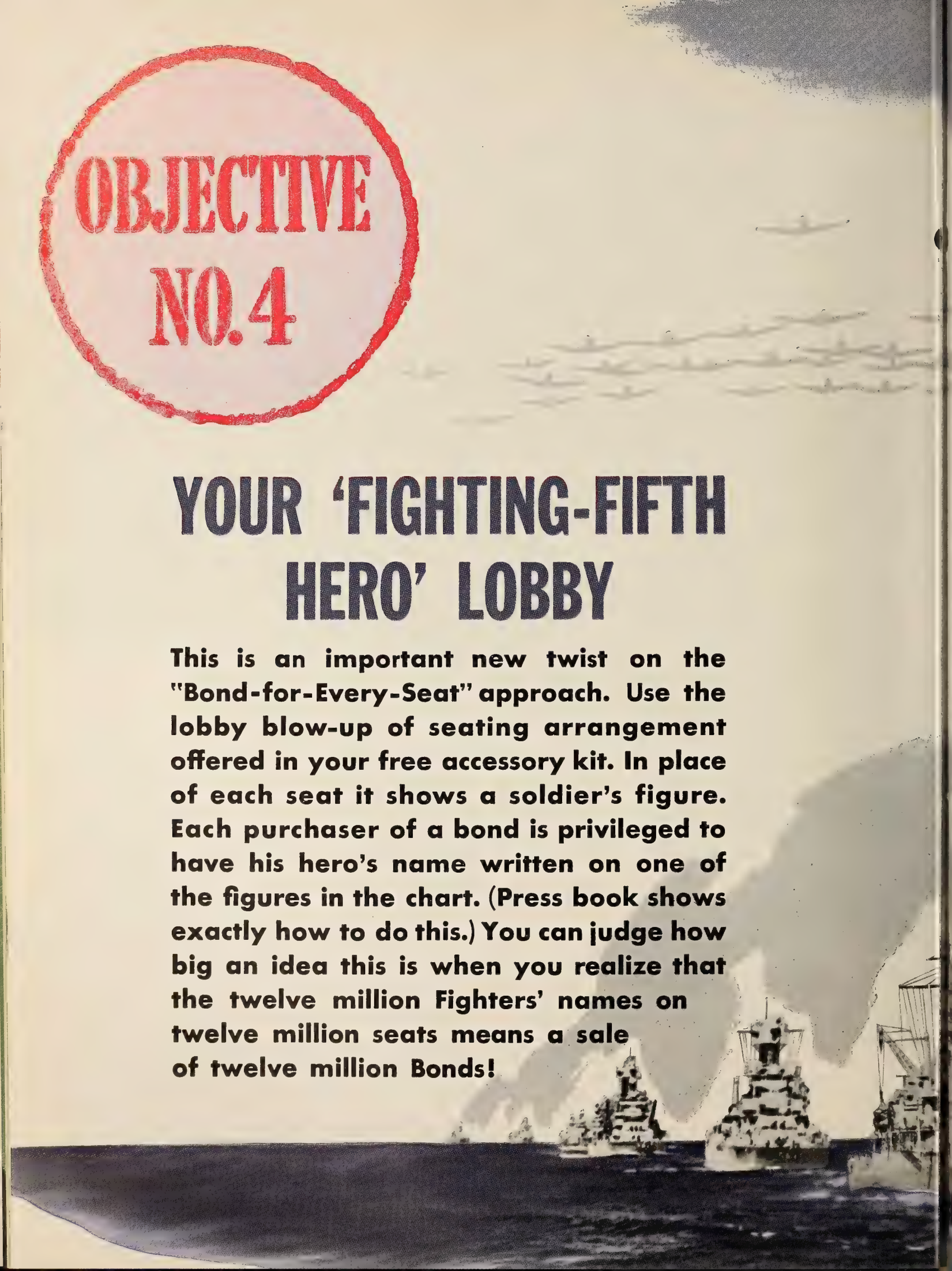
# BOND SHOW

**A big Bond Night with a Service show on stage! Using service men (made available by Camp or Service Organization), or radio personalities, or local band. This idea has been a big asset in previous drives. It might be your feature of Flag Day (June 14), or during the week ahead of July 4th. Also may include talk by a disabled Vet, if there is hospital locally. To make matters simpler, scripts on entire presentation are available in the press book.**

OBJECTIVE NO. 4

# YOUR 'FIGHTING-FIFTH HERO' LOBBY

**This is an important new twist on the "Bond-for-Every-Seat" approach. Use the lobby blow-up of seating arrangement offered in your free accessory kit. In place of each seat it shows a soldier's figure. Each purchaser of a bond is privileged to have his hero's name written on one of the figures in the chart. (Press book shows exactly how to do this.) You can judge how big an idea this is when you realize that the twelve million Fighters' names on twelve million seats means a sale of twelve million Bonds!**



# YOUR FREE-MOVIE DAY

**Where possible, the Industry is driving for a simultaneous nation-wide bond-selling effort on Thursday, July 6th. The plan is, on this day, to allow a ticket for each bond purchaser. (Where policy prevents, another day may be used.) With every theatre cooperating this cannot help but be a tremendous purchasing urge and a way to wind up the Drive in a blaze of showmanship.**



THE FIGURE BEHIND THIS FIGURE
IS YOU, THE EXHIBITOR!

# 1 2 3 4 5TH WAR LOAN




*You – and the Invasion...*

The undersigned companies take this opportunity to acknowledge with grateful hearts the job that has been done by you, the exhibitors of America. You are at the forefront of the home front, the most direct contact with the public. We join hands with you in this greatest undertaking our industry has ever faced. May God be with our boys on all the fronts of danger. Let us each do our part, with all our energies, giving to this effort day and night our fighting hearts.

THIS MESSAGE WAS PREPARED AND INSERTED IN THE TRADE PRESS BY: COLUMBIA PICTURES CORP., METRO-GOLDWYN-MAYER PICTURES
PARAMOUNT PICTURES INC., RKO-RADIO PICTURES, INC., TWENTIETH CENTURY-FOX FILM CORP., UNITED ARTISTS CORP

# New Interest Evident in Smaller Towns

By JOHN J. FRIEDL, Director
*National Motion Picture Industry Fifth War Loan Committee*

THAT the Industry's campaign in the Fifth War Loan is headed for success is evident in the interest and cooperation developing on the part of both exhibitors and distributors. It is apparent that theatre owners are quick to see the added opportunities now available as a result of the new basis upon which distributors have made pictures available for 'Bond Premieres.'

**Great new interest is particularly evident in the small towns which are so important to the success of the drive. Far-reaching plans are also under way for 'Children's Bond Shows,' which are now being formally introduced as one of the features of the campaign.**

The exhibitor-distributor partnership plan to contact all theatres is set and already functioning nationally.

*"Join the Fighting Fifth"*

# *Ammunition For 'Vets'*

By RAY BEALL
*Publicity Director,*
*National Motion Picture Industry Fifth War Loan Committee*

IN the 'Fighting Fifth' War Loan campaign, we are all veterans, no longer novices — this applies to exhibition, distribution and production — and, therefore, we will not attempt to tell the showmen who are on the firing line how to fight this war bond selling battle, but rather we will provide bond - selling ammunition as follows:



Ray Beall

**A practical showmanship campaign book; bond-selling trailers and accessories; the combined showmanship of the 'Honored Hundred;' and, last but not least, the counsel, advice and showmanship of the Fifth Loan publicity chairmen.**

This ammunition, if properly used, will result in a bond selling victory for the 'Fighting Fifth' War Loan.



*John J. Friedl*

# *'B' Day Set for 'D' Day*

By NED E. DEPINET,
Distributor Chairman, War Activities Committee

WITH our armed forces on the alert, awaiting the signal for 'D Day,' we fighters on the motion picture industry's home front are poised to go over the top on 'B Day.'

'B Day', or Bond Day, will be *every day* during the Fighting Fifth War Loan.

**Never before has every branch of our business been so well prepared and with such farsightedness as for this campaign. Distribution will play a greater role than ever before. Each territory has been subdivided to insure that every exhibitor will be called on, no matter how small or remote his town.**

The distributors are offering unusual opportunities to theatres for 'Bond Premieres' and 'Children's Matinee Premieres.' They do not want any exhibitor to say that he wanted to hold a premiere but could not obtain a picture.

To national drive chairman Bob O'Donnell we pledge the exhaustless efforts of all members of the distributors' division, including every man in the field, to make our share toward raising the Fighting Fifth War Loan an achievement.

*"Join the Fighting Fifth"*

### WFC Offers Flags For Bond Drive

The New York State War Finance Committee has offered flags to Broadway Theatres for display during the Fifth War Loan, according to Quentin J. Smith of the local WFC office.

# U. S. Calls for More Theatre Issuing Agents

BECAUSE of the motion picture theatre's unique place in the community, the Treasury Department is desirous of having as many of the nation's 16,500 theatres as possible serve as issuing agents or sub-agents for the sale of 'E' bonds during, and after, the 'Fighting Fifth' War Loan campaign, according to Robert W. Coyne, assistant national director of the Treasury's War Finance Division.

**To date, Coyne said, several thousand theatres are authorized agents, but that many more are needed to effectively carry through the job of war financing.**

"It naturally assists in the war bond program for theatres to be authorized issuing agents," said Coyne. In towns where this was not feasible, he added, banks have been requested to make exhibitors their sub-agents. Issuing agents are directly authorized by the district Federal Reserve Bank and are responsible to the bank for bond stock, whereas sub-agents are not controlled by the Federal Bank but are authorized by local banks.

### 'More Agents, More Bonds'

Coyne gave four reasons why a theatre should become an issuing agent or sub-agent: The more authorized agents there are, the greater the opportunity for the sale of 'E' bonds; Post offices, banks and department stores are usually closed evenings, thus affording theatres the opportunity to sell bonds at a time when traffic in the theatre sector is heaviest; Exhibitors would probably be able to do a big job selling bonds Sundays when practically all other agencies are closed; Exhibitors as a rule are the most promotion-minded people in town, having had experience with many types of special events, and would therefore be able to promote and publicize their own sale of bonds to the fullest extent.

Coyne said that exhibitors are requested by the Treasury to sell only 'E' bonds, with maturity values from $25 to $5,000, although orders could be taken for 'F' and 'G' bonds and then referred to the local War Finance Committee or district Federal Reserve Bank.

*"Join the Fighting Fifth"*

### Hensler Kentucky Chairman

Lew Hensler of the Ben Ali Theatre, Lexington, Ky., has been appointed exhibitor state chairman of the industry's Fifth War Loan drive for the state of Kentucky by R. J. O'Donnell, national industry chairman, according to announcement from War Activities Committee headquarters here.

## *O'Donnell, Blank Bet Ham on Bonds*

**INDUSTRY Fifth War Loan chairman Robert J. O'Donnell anticipates an Iowa ham dinner at the conclusion of the fifth bond drive, while A. H. Blank, Iowa state exhibitor chairman, is counting heavily on a Texas plank steak.**

**Blank wagered a prize Iowa hog against a Texas Hereford shorthorn that Iowa would show a greater percentage of increase in bond sales for the fifth drive over the last than would Texas, which is O'Donnell's home state.**

# *Little People 'Our Heroes'*

By JOE KINSKY, Coordinator
*National Motion Picture Industry Fifth War Loan Campaign*

WE of the national industry Fifth War Loan campaign committee wish to specially salute each worker of our industry. As the roll call is heard, the names of countless numbers of workers will symbolize not an usher in Oklahoma, not a cashier in Washington, not a projectionist in Kentucky, but actually a soldier fighting in his own way for final Victory. We of the industry have a right to be proud of our fighters, in uniform and out, the men and women fighting the grim war on foreign shores and the vast army of those who tackle drive after drive with relentless zeal and renewed vigor.



Joe Kinsky

**In this great home army of war drive workers we have big names and little names, leaders and doers, all joined together as seasoned servers of a blitz of countless drives and national campaigns.**

It is the unknown soldiers of our ranks who deserve the salute of today —the so-called "little people" who finish the big jobs. The cashiers of thousands of theatres staying after hours to lend an accounting hand to extra books, the ushers all over the country serving as volunteers at bond booths, the projectionists lingering in hundreds of booths to put over a bond premiere.

*"Join the Fighting Fifth"*

### Sgt. Grimm Gets DFC

Tech. Sgt. Ben E. Grimm, son of Ben Grimm, RKO advertising manager, has been awarded the Distinguished Flying Cross.

Fifth War Loan Drive!

# 5th Drive Chiefs—*on the Industry's Firing Line*



**NED E. DEPINET**
**Chairman of Distribution**



**SI H. FABIAN**
**Chairman WAC Theatres Division**



**L. GOLDENSON**
**Director of Industry Sales**



**H. GINSBERG**
**Director of Industry Sales, Hollywood**



**S. F. SEADLER**
**Consultant on Advertising**



**L. BAMBERGER**
**Assistant Distribution Chairman**

## *Distributor Chairmen*

THIRTY-TWO local exchange managers, under 10 district managers—representing the standing War Activities Committee's distributor division — will again work with state exhibitor committee chairmen and the Treasury's War Finance Division in selling bonds to the public in the Fifth War Loan drive. The field WAC distributor chairmen for the drive follow:

### *Metropolitan New York*

*District Manager,* Jack Bowen, M-G-M Exchange, New York.
*New York City*—Ralph Pielow, M-G-M, 630 Ninth Ave., New York
*New Jersey*—B. Abner, M-G-M, 630 Ninth Ave., New York.

### *Northeast*

*District Manager,* William Erbb, Paramount Exchange, 58 Berkeley St., Boston.
*Boston*—A. M. Kane, Paramount.
*New Haven*—Edward W. Ruff, Paramount, 82 State St.
*Albany*—C. G. Eastman, Paramount.
*Buffalo*—M. A. Brown, Paramount.

### *East*

*District Manager,* R. J. Folliard, RKO Exchange, Philadelphia.
*Philadelphia*—Sam Gross, 20th Century-Fox, 302 North 13th St.
*Pittsburgh*—H. H. Greenblatt, RKO.
*Washington*—J. B. Brecheen, RKO.

### *East Central*

*District Manager,* Jack Goldhar, United Artists Exchange, 2310 Cass Ave., Detroit.
*Cincinnati*—Harris Dudelson, United Artists, 1634 Central Parkway Blvd.
*Cleveland*—Maury Orr, United Artists, 1745 East 23rd St.
*Detroit*—M. Dudelson, United Artists.

### *Indiana-Kentucky*

*Indianapolis*—William Marriott, Republic Pictures, 408 North Illinois.

### *Prairie*

*District Manager,* J. E. Garrison, Universal Exchange, 214 West 18th St., Kansas City.
*St. Louis*—Harry Hynes, Universal.
*Kansas City*—Jack Langan, Universal.
*Des Moines*—Lou Levy, Universal.
*Omaha*—H. B. Johnson, Universal,

### *Rocky Mountain*

*District Manager,* Len Gruenberg, RKO, Denver.
*Denver* — Tom Bailey, RKO Radio
*Salt Lake City*—G. Davidson, RKO.

### *West Coast*

*District Manager,* Henry Herbel, Warner Exchange, 2025 South Vermont Ave., Los Angeles.
*Seattle*—Vete Stewart, Warners, 2405 Second Ave.
*Portland*—Al Oxtoby, Warners, 935 Northwest 19th Ave.
*San Francisco*—Al Shmitken, Warners, 215 Golden Gate Ave.
*Los Angeles*—Fred Greenberg, Warners, 2025 South Vermont Ave.

### *Southeast*

*District Manager,* Paul Wilson, 20th Century-Fox, 197 Walton St., N.W., Atlanta.
*Atlanta*—Fred R. Dodson, 20th Century-Fox, 197 Walton St., N.W.
*Charlotte* — John E. Holston, 20th Century-Fox, 308 South Church St.
*New Orleans*—E. V. Landaiche, 20th Century-Fox, 200 South Liberty St.

### *Southwest*

*Dallas*—J. B. Underwood, Columbia.
*Memphis*—J. J. Rogers, Columbia.
*Oklahoma City*—C. A. Gibbs, Columbia, 702 West Grand Ave.

### *Midwest*

*District Manager,* Sam Shirley, M-G-M Exchange, 1307 South Wabash Ave.
*Chicago*—W. E. Banford, M-G-M.
*Minneapolis* — W. H. Workman, M-G-M, 1104 Currie Ave.
*Milwaukee*—Don Woods, Warners.

## *Publicity Chairmen*

(*Continued from page 5*)

*Iowa*—Dale McFarland, Paramount Bldg., Des Moines.
*Kansas*—Woody Barritt, Fox Wichita Theatres, Wichita.
*Kentucky*—Lew Hensler, Ben Ali Theatre, Lexington.
*Louisiana*—Maurice F. Barr, 608 Canal St., New Orleans.
*Maine*—C. J. Russell, Opera House, Bangor.
*Maryland*—Louis E. Schecter, Oldtown Bank Bldg., Baltimore.
*Massachusetts*—Harry Browning, 60 Scollay Sq., Boston.
*Michigan*—Alice Gorham, United Detroit Theatres, Detroit.
*Minnesota* — Norman Pyle, Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer, Minneapolis.
*Mississippi*—Burgess Waltman, Princess Theatre, Columbus. Co-chairman: Arthur Lehmann, Booker T Theatre, Jackson.
*Missouri* (East)—Les Kaufman, Fox Theatre Bldg., St. Louis.
*Missouri* (West) — Jerry Zigmond, Newman Theatre, Kansas City.
*Montana* — Jack Edwards, Marlow Theatre, Helena.
*Nebraska*—Eric Matthews, Orpheum Theatre Bldg., Omaha.
*Nevada*—Harry Hunsaker, Granada Theatre, Reno.
*New Hampshire*—Frank K. Eldridge, Capitol Theatre, Concord.
*New Jersey (Southern)*—Isidor Epstein, 1505 Race St., Philadelphia.
*New Jersey (Northern)*—Robert Paskow, 17 Academy St., Newark.
*New Mexico*—George Tucker, Kimo Theatre, Albuquerque.
*New York (Upstate)*—Charles Smakwitz, Palace Theatre, Albany.
*New York (Buffalo Area)*—Charles Taylor, Buffalo Theatres, Inc., Buffalo.
*New York (Metropolitan)* — Ernest Emerling, Loew's State Theatre Bldg., New York City.
*North Carolina*—Roy L. Smart, 120 East Third St., Charlotte.
*North Dakota* — Ed Kraus, Fargo Theatre, Fargo.
*Ohio (Cincinnati Territory)*—J. E. Watson, Loew's, 1625 Central Parkway Blvd., Cincinnati.
*Ohio (Cleveland Territory)*—Charles Deardourff, Loew's, 2346 Payne Ave., Cleveland.
*Oklahoma* — Robert Busch, Uptown Theatre, Oklahoma City.
*Oregon* — Earl R. Hunt, Orpheum Bldg., Portland.
*Pennsylvania (Eastern)*—William F. Brooker, Paramount Pictures, 248 North 12th St., Philadelphia.
*Pennsylvania (Western)*—James M. Totman, Warner Brothers Theatres, Clark Bldg., Pittsburgh.
*Rhode Island*—John Carroll, Fay's Theatre, Providence.
*South Carolina* — Sam Suggs, Palmetto Theatre, Columbia.
*South Dakota*—Joe Floyd, Hollywood Theatre, Sioux Falls.
*Tennessee (Eastern)*—E. W. Street, Tennessee Theatre, Knoxville.
*Tennessee (Western)* — J. R. McEachron, Paramount Theatre, Jackson.
*Texas*—Bob Kelly, Interstate Circuit, 501 Majestic Bldg., Dallas.
*Utah*—Helen Garrity, Intermountain Theatre, Salt Lake City.
*Vermont*—Eugene C. Keenan, Burns Theatre, Newport.
*Virginia*—Jack Foxe, Loew's Theatre, Richmond.
*Washington, D. C.*—Frank LaFalce, Warner Brothers Theatre, Earle Theatre Bldg.
*Washington* — Vic Gauntlett, Evergreen Theatres, Seattle.
*West Virginia*—James M. Totman, Warner Brothers Theatres, Clark Bldg., Pittsburgh.
*Wisconsin*—William V. Geehan, 1324 West Wisconsin Ave., Milwaukee.
*Wyoming* — Les Newkirk, Lincoln Theatre, Cheyenne.

*Join The Fighting Fifth!*

First in Film and Radio News Brief, Accurate and Impartial

# MOTION PICTURE DAILY

Alert, Intelligent and Indispensable to the Motion Picture Industry

VOL. 55. NO. 106 NEW YORK, U. S. A., WEDNESDAY, MAY 31, 1944 TEN CENTS

## RKO'S Annual Sales Meet July 24 to 26

### *Releases for '44-45 Will Total 42, Says Rathvon*

Plans of RKO-Radio Pictures call for release of about 34 films for 1944-45, with seven or eight additional "top budget" features to be made by Samuel Goldwyn, International Pictures and Walt Disney, according to N. Peter Rathvon, RKO president, reiterating a total of 42 releases for next season, previously reported by Ned E. Depinet, RKO-Radio president. Rathvon returned from the Coast late last week after conferences with studio officials and participation in the negotiation of a new contract with the American Federation of Musicians.

**The company will hold its annual sales convention in New**

(*Continued on page 6*)

## *Holiday Aids N.Y. Grosses*

The long holiday weekend moved downtown New York first-runs to substantially higher grosses this week. With the influx of thousands of visitors, Monday's grosses were generally at capacity.

"The White Cliffs of Dover" and a stage show at Radio City Music Hall went above grosses of the first two weeks with $125,000 expected for the third week.

"Going My Way" and a stage show

(*Continued on page 7*)

## Kreisler Quits Sales Post at Universal

B. Bernard Kreisler, for the past four years Universal's short subject and newsreel sales manager, has resigned, effective tomorrow. After a vacation in June, he will announce a new affiliation.

It is understood that Kreisler's duties will be taken over by the Universal home office sales department. A successor may be appointed at some later date.

Kreisler joined Universal in 1937. Before his promotion to the home office, he was manager of the Washington, D. C., exchange for two years.

### *See Warner Earnings At 60c per Share*

**Warner Bros. earnings for the second quarter, to be announced shortly, are expected to be the best since 1930, according to Wall Street estimates which figure the net at better than 60 cents per share for the three months and approximately $1.20 per share for the first six months. Last year the company reported $1.06 a share on the common stock for the first half, after dividends on preferred stock, all of which has since been retired.**

## Agree on New Scales for 3,000 Workers

Labor representatives of distributors and the IATSE have agreed upon 18 job classifications with minimum and maximum wage scales for some 3,000 IATSE-represented film exchange "white collar" workers in all exchange centers of the country. Separate applications will be filed shortly with the Regional War Labor Board in each center for approval of the classifications and wage scales, it is understood.

The classifications range from gen-

(*Continued on page 7*)

## Pollock Is Named Advertising Head Of United Artists

Louis Pollock has been named director of advertising and publicity of United Artists, it was disclosed here Monday by Gradwell L. Sears, U. A. vice - president. Pollack had been temporarily in charge of the department since Paul N. Lazarus, Jr., left for the armed services two months ago.



Louis Pollock

Pollock was formerly Eastern advertising-publicity director of Universal, during which association he was identified promotionally with the rise

(*Continued on page 7*)

## Films' Bond Plans Please Morgenthau

DALLAS, May 30.—"It is reassuring to know that so much good planning is going forward to meet this great challenge," Secretary of the Treasury Henry Morgenthau stated in a wire received today by R. J. O'Donnell, national chairman of the "Fighting Fifth" War Loan campaign. This

(*Continued on page 6*)

## *Films Will Help Radio Sell Bonds for the 5th*

By MILTON LIVINGSTON

Radio's participation in the Fifth War Loan drive will be highlighted by a special day of broadcasts for each network. In addition, the radio division of the U. S. War Finance Committee has arranged three special Coast-to-Coast programs for the networks with the opening set for Monday night, June 12, and originating from Texarkana, Texas.

Screen stars will figure importantly in radio's contribution to the war loan effort. Present plans call for the second program to originate from Hollywood on June 14 and the final program from Chicago on June 19.

(*Continued on page 6*)

### *Wallis to Hollywood To Pick Associates*

**Hal Wallis left Monday for the Coast, where he will continue organizing his new Hal Wallis Prod., which will work at the Paramount lot and release through that company. He will select associates following his arrival in Hollywood.**

**Joseph H. Hazen, who will head the organization here, will leave for the Coast at the weekend.**

## 3 Divisions in Paramount Sales Set-up

### *General Sales Manager Post Is Eliminated*

In a realignment of the Paramount executive sales staff following the resignation several weeks ago of Neil Agnew and Hugh Owen to join Vanguard Films, the post of general sales manager is to be eliminated and a third sales division will be set up by Charles M. Reagan, vice-president in charge of distribution, it is learned.

J. M. Donohue, now manager of the Dallas district, will leave there June 5 for New York, to become manager of a newly created Central division, comprised of the Dallas, Kansas City and Chicago districts, which were heretofore part of the

(*Continued on page 6*)

## *16mm Output Tops 35mm*

HOLLYWOOD, May 30.—The Research Council of the Academy met here yesterday to discuss technical advances in the 16mm. field and drew the conclusion that current improvements will bear importantly on the post-war period as well as make an immediate improvement in entertainment films shown to the armed forces overseas.

Films in 16mm. have assumed such

(*Continued on page 6*)

### *E.M.Loew Percentage Suits Are Settled*

BOSTON, May 30.—Stipulations discontinuing and settling the eight suits brought against the E. M. Loew circuit here by eight distributors were filed in U. S. District court here yesterday. Under the settlement, Loew is to pay an undisclosed amount to the distribution companies, said to represent sums, plus interest, indicated to be due the distributors on percentage engagements in Loew theatres as a result of audits of the circuit's books covering a six-year period and made in the course of the litigation. Jacob Kaplan of Nutter, McClennen & Fish of this city was attorney for the plaintiffs.

# Canada Gross Up 13% in '43; War Areas Gain Most

TORONTO, May 30.—The Dominion government today released its report on the 1943 operation of 1,270 theatres in Canada, showing an aggregate gross, exclusive of federal and provincial amusement taxes, of $52,475,570, a 13 per cent increase over the previous year's receipts, while the number of patrons was in excess of 205,000,000, compared with 183,000,000 in 1942.

Amusement taxes, including the federal 20 per cent levy, totalled $13,326,478, which was a $1,613,313 increase. Including admission taxes, Canadians spent $65,802,048 at film theatres, easily an all-time high for the business.

The Province of Ontario, with the highest net receipts of $22,674,035 for an 87,000,000 patronage, showed an increase over the 1942 period of only 9.3 per cent, but such Provinces as New Brunswick, Alberta, Saskatchewan, British Columbia and Nova Scotia had increases ranging from 17 to 20 per cent, reflecting wartime conditions, including the influx of population to coastal areas and garrisons.

**Only 19 New Houses**

The wartime stabilization of the construction industry limited new theatres to 19 for last year, of which nine opened in the Province of Quebec, where 223 theatres had a net gross of $10,689,611, an increase of four per cent over the previous year.

The additional amusement tax total for Quebec was $3,739,119, or more than one-third of all theatre grosses, because of a notoriously high provincial ticket impost. A breakdown reveals that amusement taxes in Ontario totalled $4,546,711, although the total net gross of 412 theatres there exceeded $22,000,000, or more than double the Quebec gross.

## *Managers' Affiliation To IATSE Today*

ST. LOUIS, May 30.—Applications for charters for film salesmen and theatre managers are expected to be presented to the IATSE annual convention here tomorrow.

The convention opened yesterday at the Hotel Jefferson, with 1,000 delegates in attendance. Speakers at the opening session included Leroy Upton, president of Local No. 6, St. Louis; Mayor A. P. Kaufmann; Joseph P. Clark, president of the St. Louis Central Trades Council, and Reuben Wood, president of the Missouri State Federation of Labor. IATSE president Richard F. Walsh also spoke. The session was adjourned until this morning when a war memorial service was held.

## *Bosworth Joins Filmack*

CHICAGO, May 30.—Grace Louise Bosworth, song writer and advertising writer, has been named head of Filmack's copy writing section of its exhibitors' service department.

# *Personal Mention*

J. CHEEVER COWDIN, Universal board chairman, is scheduled to leave for the Coast tomorrow.

•

NAT WOLF, Warners' Cleveland zone manager, has been named chairman of the local Stage Door Canteen finance committee.

•

M. A. LIGHTMAN, head of Malco Theatres, Memphis, has been elected president of the Memphis Jewish Welfare League.

•

JAMES WEST, operator of the Holwood, Memphis, has been elected vice-president of the Memphis Civitan Club.

•

ED HINCHY, head of Warners' playdate department, will leave for Cleveland today.

•

MRS. HERMAN ROBBINS, wife of the president of National Screen Service, will leave for the Coast in a few days.

•

MRS. LEON GOLDBERG, wife of the RKO studio executive, will arrive here on Friday from Hollywood, preceding her husband by three weeks.

WALT DISNEY arrived here yesterday with MRS. DISNEY for a 10-day vacation.

•

VINCENT TROTTA, National Screen art director, left yesterday for Memphil to attend the graduation of his son, ELLIOTT, from the Navy Aviation Training Technical Center on Saturday.

•

EDWARD C. RAFTERY, president of United Artists, left yesterday for Hollywood and will return to New York June 13.

•

RALPH B. AUSTRIAN, RKO television consultant, has returned from the Coast.

•

JACK CONWAY, M-G-M director, and AL SHENBERG, cameraman, arrived from the Coast yesterday.

•

CHARLES REPEC, M-G-M salesman in Boston, has completed his 25th year in the industry.

•

ERICH WOLFGANG KORNGOLD, Warner composer, left yesterday for the Coast.

## *See Eberson Staying Out of OCR Setup*

WASHINGTON, May 30.—Return of John Eberson to the Office of Civilian Requirements post of theatre consultant from which he resigned May 19 is not expected as a result of his plans to open a branch of his New York office in Washington.

With settlement last week of the difficulties in which the recreation section had been involved, an invitation was extended to Eberson to withdraw his resignation or accept a new appointment. George W. McMurphey, chief of the section, said today that no formal response has yet been received from the architect.

Si Fabian, chairman of the theatre division of the War Activities Committee, is reported to be coming to Washington this week to discuss the OCR situation with officials, including possibly the question of a successor to Eberson.

Following a series of conferences among OCR officials last week, the administration and program of the recreation section were endorsed and it was announced that no changes would be made in either at this time. As a result, McMurphey, who had been reported preparing to leave the agency, will remain with it as head of the section and today denied a report that his program and policies having been vindicated, he planned to resign.

## *Lodge Installs Tonight*

Cinema Lodge of B'nai B'rith will install its officers at an inaugural meeting at the Hotel Edison here tonight. William S. Gailmor, radio news analyst of station WHN, New York, will be the principal speaker

## *B. S. Moss Chairman At UJA Lucheon*

B. S. Moss, local exhibitor, has been named chairman of the sixth annual United Jewish Appeal New York amusement division fund-raising luncheon to be held at the Hotel Astor on June 20. Moss was asked to accept the chairmanship by a film industry committee headed by Barney Balaban, David Bernstein and Major Albert Warner.

Dr. Abba Hillel Silver, Cleveland rabbi, will again be guest of honor. A number of stars are also expected to attend. UJA is seeking to raise $32,000,000 this year for the relief and rehabilitation of Jewish refugees.

## *AFM Convention Will Start on June 4*

CHICAGO, May 30.—The American Federation of Musicians' annual national convention will open at the Stevens Hotel here on Sunday and run through June 9. Several hundred delegates will attend, with AFM president James C. Petrillo presiding.

The long battle between Petrillo and the recording companies is expected to be a principal topic of discussion.

## *UA Sets Release Dates on Next 5*

Five United Artists' features will be released in the next two months, according to Carl Leserman, general sales manager.

The national releases are: "Song of the Open Road," June 2; "The Hairy Ape," June 16; "Sensations of 1945," July 1; "Summer Storm," July 15, and "Abroad with Two Yanks," Aug. 1.

# Resurrection of Ky. Tax Bill Expected

FRANKFORT, Ky., May 30.—The general budget bill, including a new 10 per cent state theatre admission tax to finance construction of a tuberculosis hospital, passed by the Sen... at the last regular session, only to defeated by one vote in the House on the day of adjournment last March 15, may be resurrected at the special session recently called by Governor Simeon Willis, at which only a school-financing program was to be considered, it is learned here.

Despite partisan friction, members of both legislative branches have petitioned Governor Willis to extend the session to include the general budget. Although the Governor is non-committal, authoritative sources declare that he is favorable to amending the special session call to include the general budget provided the school-financing measure is passed promptly.

## *United Reelects Cousins*

MONTREAL, May 30.—Ernest A. Cousins was reelected president of United Amusements here at the organization's recent annual meeting. Others reelected were: D. A. Murray, vice-president-comptroller; George Ganetakos, managing director; W. H. Mannard, secretary-treasurer, and W. Deveault, assistant secretary-treasurer.


NEW YORK THEATRES

RADIO CITY MUSIC HALL
Showplace of the Nation Rockefeller Center
HELD OVER 3rd WEEK
A Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer's Picture
"THE WHITE CLIFFS OF DOVER"
Starring IRENE DUNNE
with ALAN MARSHAL
SPECTACULAR STAGE PRESENTATION
First Mezzanine Seats Reserved. Circle 6-4600

LOEW'S STATE B'WAY & 45
ON SCREEN
FIRST N. Y. SHOWING
'THREE MEN IN WHITE'
LIONEL BARRYMORE
VAN JOHNSON
IN PERSON
BILLY ROSE'S DIAMOND HORSESHOE REVUE

RKO PALACE B'WAY & 47th St.
"SHOW BUSINESS"
Eddie Cantor — George Murphy
Joan Davis — Nancy Kelly

PARAMOUNT'S
"GOING MY WAY"
with BING CROSBY
In Person
CHARLIE SPIVAK and His Orch.
PARAMOUNT Times Square


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# Allied of N. J. Will Hear Sales Heads

The agenda for the silver jubilee convention of Allied of New Jersey, scheduled for the Hotel Chelsea, Atlantic City, June 20-22, will be highlighted on the final day by a special session given over to sales managers of the distributing companies.

The convention program has been completed, with Tuesday, June 20, designated as 'New Jersey Allied Day' and the 21st as 'National Allied Day.' Tuesday morning will be given over to registering delegates and reviewing exhibits, followed in the early afternoon by meetings of the New Jersey directors. First general session, at 2:30, will feature committee reports, guest speakers on postwar topics and the selection of a nominating committee. Exhibitors will go into executive session in the late afternoon, and there will be a social get-together at night.

For Wednesday morning an Eastern regional conference is scheduled, followed by a luncheon of the regional director. A general business meeting in the afternoon will be climaxed by election of officers, and the program calls for entertainment in the evening.

Thursday will start with a golf tournament in the morning and end with an evening banquet. Addresses by company sales managers are scheduled for 2:30 p.m.

In addition to celebrating its own 25th anniversary, Allied will commemorate the 50th anniversary of commercial motion pictures at the convention.

# First Break Seen On Ticket Taxes

WASHINGTON, May 30.—The first break in the recently increased amusement taxes may come Thursday when the Senate, taking up the measure to increase the permissible public debt, is expected to consider an amendment proposed by Senator Pat McCarran of Nevada to reduce the cabaret and night club levy from 30 to 10 per cent.

The heavy tax has been the subject of much complaint from cabaret operators—many of whom are reported to have been forced out of business, but a reduction in the rate is opposed by Treasury officials who contend the tax has not been in effect long enough for its effect to be clearly gauged.

While adoption of the McCarran amendment would bring the night club tax below that charged on admissions to theatres, no effort has been made to secure any reduction in the latter. Reports from various cities indicate that the admission tax increase has had little or no effect on audiences, but a more definite analysis of the situation will be possible three weeks hence when the Internal Revenue Bureau makes known the increase in collections in the first month of its application.

## *De Lucia Bail Held Up*

The U. S. Circuit Court of Appeals here last weekend reserved decision on a motion by Theodore Rein, attorney, for the release in bail of Paul De Lucia, one of the members of the Capone mob in Chicago who were recently convicted of extorting more than $1,000,000 from the film industry.

## *Chicago Youth Group To Produce Film*

**Chicago, May 30.—Kenneth Saunders, 17, head of the Chicago Youth Conference committee which will produce a film documentation of youth's progress in the battle against delinquency, disclosed yesterday that his group will undertake the project without assistance, in the event that negotiations with local film row representatives should fail.**

**Saunders, a senior in Main Township High School, stated here that the group, now studying production procedure, has sufficient funds to undertake the job without financial aid from the outside.**

## *20th-Fox Sets '45 Short Subjects*

The 1944-'45 20th Century-Fox short subjects program will include 20 single-reel subjects and 20 Technicolor cartoons.

The Movietone program, under producer Edmund Reek, will include 12 Movietone Adventures, twice the number produced during the current season; six Ed Thorgersen Sport Reviews, four in color, and two Lew Lehr comedies. The Terrytoon program, produced by Paul Terry, will include a series of eight 'Mighty Mouse' specials and 12 regular cartoons. All 12 of the Movietone Adventures will be in color, with commentaries by Lowell Thomas and Hugh James.

Reek announced that 13 of next season's 20 releases have already been completed. Ten have been edited and are ready for screening. Terry disclosed that half of his 1944-45 program is finished.

## *Balaban & Katz Gets TBA Membership*

Application by Balaban & Katz, owner and operator of television station WBKB, Chicago, for membership in Television Broadcasters Association, has been approved by the TBA board of directors.

The application of WGN, the Chicago *Tribune* station, was also accepted and an affiliate membership was granted the electronics department of General Electric, bringing the total TBA membership to 27.

## *Honor Mary M. McBride*

Some 22,000 are expected to be on hand at Madison Square Garden today to help Mary Margaret McBride, NBC woman commentator, celebrate her 10th year in radio. About 140 newspaper, magazine and radio trade press editors gathered at the Hotel Waldorf Astoria on Monday at a luncheon given in her honor by NBC. William S. Hedges, NBC vice-president, and Miss McBride were the speakers.

## *Rites for Ryan's Father*

HOLLYWOOD, May 30.—Funeral services were held here yesterday for John P. Ryan, 77, father of Phil Ryan, president of Terneen Productions, who suffered a heart attack last Saturday. Ryan is also survived by his widow.

# Studios to Make 12 OWI Documentaries

HOLLYWOOD, May 30.—Prior to his Eastward departure from here today, Robert Riskin, head of the Office of War Information's overseas division, divulged a major studio hookup effected for the production at cost of 12 documentaries, averaging two reels each, stressing the OWI's psychological warfare program and illustrating American democracy at work.

The Hollywood Writers Mobilization has agreed to name a three-man committee to follow through on script ideas originating with the OWI. Thus far unnamed, the committeemen will make New York and Washington trips alternately for indoctrination on the script.

The OWI plans to designate a producer or director at the studio which will produce each subject as a fountainhead to pursue the job to completion, working collaboratively with Mobilization committeemen and the studio head. The production schedule is as yet undetermined, but the plan provides that each major studio will participate.

### Will Return in 6 Weeks

Riskin will return here in six weeks, and Philip Dunne, in charge of the OWI's New York production, is expected to come here to implement an agreement which will limit the distribution to overseas.

Riskin also divulged that the original 40 features from all major production sources for OWI handling in liberated countries will be followed by others now being selected. There will be no changes, however, in the fixed policy of withdrawing from liberated areas in favor of commercial distribution as conditions allow.

## *Clearance Award and Appeal at Buffalo*

A clearance award has been entered and a notice of appeal has been filed at the Buffalo tribunal, the American Arbitration Association reports here.

In the clearance complaint of Basil Bros., operating the Varsity, Niagara Falls, against the five consenting companies, Louis B. Dorr, arbitrator, ruled that present clearance of from four to 10 days against the Varsity in favor of the Granada is unreasonable and declared that the maximum clearance of the Granada over the Varsity shall be five days.

The complainant, also operating the Apollo, Niagara Falls, has filed a notice of appeal from a clearance award rendered in its favor by Roland H. Tills, arbitrator, against the decree companies.

## *Lord Upheld in Cole Plagiarism Appeal*

ALBANY, N. Y., May 30.—The N. Y. Court of Appeals has unanimously denied the appeal by Alonzo Deen Cole in his suit against Philip H. Lord, Inc., for alleged appropriation of the formula of the radio program, "Mr. District Attorney," sustaining a previous decision by Supreme Court Justice Ferdinand Pecora. The action was tried three times. Louis Nizer of Phillips, Nizer, Benjamin and Krim represented Lord, while Cole was represented by Martin J. Desmoni and Jay Leo Rothschild.

# *Coast Flashes*

*Hollywood, May 30*

JACK WARNER, Warner Bros. vice-president in charge of production, arrived here yesterday from New York.

•

Monogram has signed Jack Dietz and Sam Katzman to produce three of that company's "Three of a Kind" series on the 1944-1945 schedule. Billy Gilbert, Maxie Rosenbloom and Shemp Howard will be featured.

•

Charles Marion will complete the screenplay for the Pine-Thomas production, "Dangerous Passage," on board ship. Arrangements have been completed for his passage on a tramp freighter bound for Costa Rica.

•

Columbia has purchased "Come to Me, My Honey," the new song by Joan Whitney, Alex Kramer and Mack David, for Bob Crosby, who will be featured in Columbia's forthcoming "Meet Miss Bobby Socks."

•

George Brent will star in the screen version of Gwen Bristow's novel, "Tomorrow Is Forever," which Fritz Lang will direct for International Pictures. The novel was purchased for $60,000.

•

Columbia has renewed its contract with Jules White, short subjects producer, for the 12th consecutive year. He will make 14 two-reelers for the 1944-'45 program.

•

Carey Wilson will produce "Nor All Your Tears," drama of industrial America, for M-G-M. Charles Jackson, author of "The Lost Weekend," is preparing the script.

•

Marion Hutton, sister to Betty, and formerly a singer with the Glen Gray and Freddie Slack bands, was signed to an exclusive Universal contract recently.

•

Phil Harris and Rochester have been signed for the Columbia musical, "I Love a Band Leader," which Michel Kraike will produce.

•

M-G-M has purchased "Diamond Rock" by Alec Waugh, for an all star production, which Edwin Knopf will produce.

•

Leo McCarey, director, accompanied by Dave Epstein, will leave here June 9 for New York.

•

Y. Frank Freeman, Paramount vice-president, and Hal B. Wallis will arrive here from New York tomorrow.

•

RKO has bought "Lady Not Alone" by Katherine Brush. Jack Gross will produce.

•

Francis Harmon, War Activities Committee vice-chairman, will leave tomorrow for the East.

## *Blackburn's Son Dies*

PORTERVILLE, Calif., May 30.—Funeral services were held here yesterday for Edward F. Blackburn, 13, son of Edward O. Blackburn, Coast vice-president and general manager for Jules E. Brulatour, Inc. The boy died from illness which physicians stated developed from rabies.

# CLEAN SWEEP




"CLIFFS" PACES
SPOTTY BROADWAY!
SPECTACULAR!
M-G-M's "White Cliffs of Dover" wo
—*Varie*

CINCY MILDISH BUT
"GASLIGHT" FANCY
Hot spell wilting biz but M-G-M's
"Gaslight" hefty. —*Variety*

"HARDY'S BLONDE"
BRIGHT, K. C.
Despite rise in mercury M-G-M
"Andy Hardy's Blonde Trouble
robust. —*Variety*

FIGHTING SHOWMEN
JOIN THE FIGHTING
5th WAR LOAN!

# FOR M-G-M!

*(The Lion's share of Variety's headlines, as usual)*

## CHI BLAMES HEAT BUT "RHYTHM" FAST!

M-G-M's "Broadway Rhythm" dandy in Chicago.—*Variety*

## "HARGROVE" SOCKO IN 2 HUB SPOTS!

M-G-M's "See here, Private Hargrove" is Boston wow. —*Variety*

## BALTO DULL BUT "HARDY" FAT

Summer nicked list but M-G-M's "Andy Hardy's Blonde Trouble" top filmer.
—*Variety*

## "GASLIGHT" GREAT! RIDING LIST PROV.

M-G-M's "Gaslight" is packing them in Providence.—*Variety*

## "HEAVENLY" STOUT IN LOUISVILLE

Weather not helping biz but M-G-M's "Heavenly Body" robust.—*Variety*

## DENVER WAY OFF BUT "JOE" TRIM, 2nd

M-G-M's "Guy Named Joe" leads city for 2nd week holdover.—*Variety*

## PHILLY DOG DAYS BUT "HARGROVE" HUSKY

M-G-M's "See Here, Private Hargrove" 3rd week holding up nicely.—*Variety*

## "GASLIGHT" BRISK LEADS WASH.

"Warm weather but M-G-M's "Gaslight" standout. "Hargrove" lusty. —*Variety*



# 3 Divisions in Paramount Sales Set-up

(*Continued from page* 1)

Western division, and the Cleveland district, which was in the Eastern division. Duke Clark, who has been acting district manager at Cleveland during the illness of Harry Goldstein, will replace Donohue at Dallas. Goldstein has recovered and will return to his former post.

The now eliminated position of general sales manager was made vacant when Reagan moved up to his new post, succeeding Agnew, now distribution vice-president of Vanguard Films. George Smith will continue as Western division manager.

Paramount's Eastern division, which was managed by Owen until he resigned to follow Agnew to Vanguard as general sales manager, will soon be taken over by William S. Erbb, heretofore head of the New England district. A. M. Kane, Boston branch manager, will move up to succeed Erbb. Ed M. Ruff, New Haven branch manager, will replace Kane. And John Moore, Boston sales manager, will be given charge of the New Haven branch.

The new set-up will become effective in the very near future. Meanwhile, Owen, who was scheduled to assume his new duties at Vanguard tomorrow, has agreed to remain with Paramount another week until the revamped organization is completed.

# *Films Will Help Radio Sell Bonds for the 5th*

(*Continued from page* 1)

Details of the "kick-off" program from Texarkana have not been set but it is understood that should President Roosevelt participate, all four networks would presumably carry the program. Orson Welles is doing the script for the June 12 program. Secretary of the Treasury Henry Morgenthau Jr., Walter Huston, Joseph Cotton, Jimmy Durante, Agnes Moorehead and others will broadcast. The June 14 program will be broadcast from the Hollywood Bowl where a rally of 25,000 studio campaign workers and film representatives and others will be held. Secretary Morgenthau will also address that gathering. The Chicago program on June 19 will be from Soldiers' Field.

NBC will lead off the special network bond-selling days on June 13. Special features will be devoted to the 5,000,000 volunteer workers who will be ringing door-bells during the drive, concentrating on that civilian army instead of attempting to roll up sales.

Mutual has been assigned June 17 for its special war-bond day. Special features are now being arranged.

CBS' bond day will be June 20. A special show, produced and directed by William N. Robson, will be broadcast between 10:30 and 11:30 P.M. EWT. The network plans a second show in the following week, running half-an-hour, to be broadcast in conjunction with the American Hotel Association with whom CBS tied-up

The Blue Network's bond day will be Saturday, June 24. In addition to special programs, a special one-hour show, called "Bonds Away," will be presented at two P.M. EWT.

On June 12, opening day of the drive, all programs on the Blue will carry a promotion for the drive, and a special show will be aired from four to 4:30 P.M. EWT.

Through the cooperation of the radio division of the WFC and the Hollywood Victory Committee, there will be shipped to all radio stations a special 'Treasury Star Parade' Fifth War Loan recording which will feature Hollywood names and carry a message from Secretary Morgenthau.

## *Variety Honors Anger*

WASHINGTON, May 30.—Local Variety last night honored Harry Anger, managing director of Warners' Earle here who was recently awarded the Catholic University Americana Award for "outstanding contribution to the entertainment world."




# Films' Bond Plans Please Morgenthau

(*Continued from page* 1)

message and another from Governor Coke Stevenson of Texas were read at the Dallas regional Fifth War Loan meeting here today by John Q. Adams, Texas' exhibitor state chairman. "Texas must be first in the Fifth," the Governor declared.

Texas gave a stirring "homecoming" to O'Donnell. Some 750 showmen gathered in the largest rally to date on the national committee's tour and the largest industry meeting ever held in this state. There were large delegations from Texas, Oklahoma, Arkansas, Louisiana, Mississippi and Tennessee.

It was a "homecoming," too, for Ray Beall, national publicity director, John J. Friedl, campaign director, and Ned E. Depinet, national distributor chairman.

### John Adams Presides

John Q. Adams, Texas exhibitor chairman, presided. Jack Underwood, area distributor chairman, made the surprise announcement that more than 300 bond premieres had already been lined up for Texas. It was also revealed that the first nationwide broadcast of the drive would be made June 12 from the Paramount Theatre, Texarkana, Tex., with Secretary Morgenthau and Ted Gamble, national director, War Finance Division, as speakers.

Among the guests were Claude F. Lee, industry consultant to the U. S. Treasury; Major Allen V. Martini, who is a native of Texarkana; and Fred Florence of the State War Finance Advisory Committee. O'Donnell, who is national chief barker of the Variety Clubs of America, presented gold life membership cards to Depinet, Lee, and Major Martini.

Phil Isley, Southwest showman and father of Jennifer Jones, discussed a "Stars Over Texas" talent tour in connection with the drive.

# RKO'S Annual Sales Meet July 24 to 26

(*Continued from page* 1)

**York, Rathvon disclosed, during an interview on Monday. Elsewhere it was learned that the convention has tentatively been set for July 24-26 at the Hotel Waldorf Astoria.**

"Production costs," Rathvon said, "are still climbing with delays reflected in longer producing schedules."

Discussing RKO's position in Mexico in view of the company's purchase of an interest in studios to be built there in the near future, Rathvon explained that at present RKO does not contemplate any production of its own. He also disclosed that RKO is studying the possibility of entering Mexican exhibition but that no decision has been made on acquisition of theatre interests or sites.

Rathvon explained that the recent sale of a large block of RKO preferred stock by Floyd Odlum's Atlas Corp. is simply a routine profit-taking move now that the stock has appreciated in value. He denied that it portends Atlas' withdrawing from RKO.

### Three in Color

Rathvon said RKO will make two features in color, in addition to "The Gibson Girl," for 1944-45. Frank Ross' "The Robe" will also be in color. "Every studio in Hollywood is testing the new Agfa color process and RKO officials are encouraged by the results," he said.

The new RKO radio program, "Hollywood Star Time," which had its premiere on Monday on 177 stations of the Blue Network from coast-to-coast is on a yearly basis, according to Rathvon. "Radio has definite value for the promotion of motion pictures," he said.

While on the Coast, Rathvon saw "Casanova Brown," the initial production from International, which RKO will release. He described it as one of the finest comedies in the RKO program. Rathvon also was impressed by what he had seen of Edward A. Golden's new film, "The Master Race," which is now in work.

## *16mm Now Running Ahead of 35mm Films*

(*Continued from page* 1)

military importance that today laboratories are processing as many linear feet of the narrow-gauge film as they are of standard 35mm. used in theatres, the council stated. It is also reported that, at the request of the military services, the War Production Board has approved formation of an Armed Forces War Standards Committee to determine "what should be done, and an industrial committee to tackle the tasks selected." The latter group includes Army and Navy men, representatives of manufacturers of photographic equipment and films, representatives of the WPB, the National Bureau of Standards, the SMPE and the Research Council.

There are about 35 different technical problems, involving standard and still photography and 16mm. motion pictures which are engaging the attention of subcommittees on which serve about 100 industry technicians.

# Holiday Aids N.Y. Grosses

(Continued from page 1)

headed by Charlie Spivak and his band are proving to be excellent money getters at the Paramount, with almost $86,000 taken in on their fourth week. The combination will continue "Pin-Up Girl" and a stage show gave the Roxy about $65,000 on the final six days of a third week, which is moderate business. "The Eve of St. Mark" opened at the Roxy yesterday with a stage bill featuring Barry Wood, Eddie Garr, the Berry Brothers and others.

### 'Gaslight' Closing

The fourth and final week of "Gaslight" and a stage bill featuring Phil Spitalny's orchestra is expected to bring the Capitol a satisfactory $50,000 on the basis of $33,000 recorded up to Sunday night. RKO's "Tender Comrade" will open at the Capitol tomorrow with the Spitalny show continuing on the stage. "Make Your Own Bed" and a stage bill featuring Cab Calloway and band will give the Strand a profitable initial week, with $52,000 expected on the basis of a weekend business of $24,000. The combination will hold.

"Mr. Skeffington" is registering substantially at the Hollywood, where $42,000 is expected on the first week ending tonight. The first four days ending Sunday night gave the theatre $24,300. The film will continue. "Show Business" ended a third week at the Palace last night with almost $19,000 and a profit. "The Song of Bernadette" is holding up well at the Rivoli as it nears the end of its run, with almost $18,500 taken in on the 18th week. The film will start its final five days today. "See Here, Private Hargrove," another long-run, brought the Astor $15,000 on its 10th week and will continue.

### 'Tomorrow' Profitable

The Gotham expects a profitable $14,500 with "It Happened Tomorrow" on the basis of weekend business of $5,500. "The Hitler Gang" is expected to give the Globe a moderate $12,000 on a fourth and final week; "Roger Touhy, Gangster" will open there on Saturday. The revival of "Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs" is nearing the end of its run at the Manhattan, with $7,500 recorded on the eighth week. The film is now in its ninth. "Scarlet Claw" will do no better than $6,000 on its second and final week at the Rialto, where RKO's "A Night of Adventure" will take over on Friday.

## Du Mont to St. Louis

Allen B. Du Mont, president of Television Broadcasters Association will address the Academy of Science in St. Louis on June 7 on the topic: "The Development of Television." Du Mont is head of the Du Mont Laboratories.

## Lt. Buxbaum Feted

Lt. (jg) Harry S. Buxbaum, son of H. H. Buxbaum of 20th-Fox, was given a farewell dinner recently at the home of his father. Lt. Buxbaum left for overseas duty with the Naval Air Corps.


Paramount NEWS

AND NOTHING BUT THE NEWS



NEW "LOOK" ISSUE OUT YESTERDAY FEATURES **"THE HITLER GANG"** ON 3 PAGES, CALLS IT "A FACTUAL HAIR-RAISER.... A BLOODY, CHILLING TALE.... AN ICY, CALCULATING SAGA OF THE RISE OF THESE RUTHLESS MONSTERS TO POWER." B. G. DE SYLVA HIT TOPPED "MORGAN'S CREEK" AND "NO TIME FOR LOVE" IN FIRST SMALL-CITY OPENING LAST WEEK AT WATERBURY, CONN. STATE THEATRE.


# Agree on New Scales for 3,000 Workers

(Continued from page 1)

eral file clerks, messengers and typists, with a minimum of $23 a week and maximums of $33, to chief bookers, with a range of $65 to $85 agreed upon. Most of the workers have already received increases of about 13 per cent, as permitted under the "Little Steel Formula," but will benefit by further increases when the new job classification system is effected.

IATSE film exchange "white collar" workers' locals represent all organized workers in the 18 categories except in New York, where the Screen Office and Professional Employes Guild, Local 109, CIO, represents over 100 office workers in the exchanges of M-G-M, 20th Century-Fox, Columbia and United Artists. SOPEG has been in negotiation with those companies for some time on a more elaborate system of job classifications and the case is now pending before the WLB in Washington on the basis of an appeal taken to the WLB by the companies after a regional WLB ruling.

### Study Goes On

As reported in MOTION PICTURE DAILY on May 23 film exchange labor representatives and the IATSE are studying possible courses of action to secure approval of a 10 per cent increase for additional thousands of film exchange shippers, inspectors and poster clerks who are represented by different IATSE locals in each exchange center and are not covered by the job classification system being instituted for the office workers.

The WLB here has approved a system of job classifications with minimum and maximum wage scales for over 600 office workers employed in the Warner Bros. home office and subsidiary companies, similar to the system worked out by the companies and the IATSE to cover exchange office workers.

## Pollock Named UA Advertising Head

(Continued from page 1)

of Deanna Durbin, and the launching of Abbott and Costello as a film team.

Pollock began as a newspaperman in Chicago, working on the old *Herald and Examiner* under the tutelage of the late Frank Carson. Later he spent a number of years in the film promotional field with RKO and Balaban and Katz theatres. In 1932 he publicized the candidacy of the late Mayor A. J. Cermak of Chicago for U. S. Senator from Illinois, and, in 1933, represented the Mexican government under President Obregon at the Chicago World's Fair.

## Louis Goldstein Here

Louis Goldstein, supervisor of Columbia's South American territory, rather than the St. Louis area as erroneously stated in MOTION PICTURE DAILY, has arrived for conferences with home office executives. Goldstein has headquarters in Buenos Aires.

# A Career is Born!

## Maria Palmer

Hidden fires smoulder through the blue eyes of th
blonde Viennese. European triumphs in Max Reinhard
plays . . . then Broadway acclaim for her role in "Th
Moon Is Down"!



# DAYS OF GLORY

*A* CASEY ROBINSON *Production*

*Introducing a Brilliant Cast of Broadway Stage Personalities*

*starring* TAMARA TOUMANOVA • GREGORY PECK

*An RKO-Radio Picture*

First in Film and Radio News Brief, Accurate and Impartial

# MOTION PICTURE DAILY

Alert, Intelligent and Indispensable to the Motion Picture Industry

VOL. 55. NO. 107 NEW YORK, U.S.A., THURSDAY, JUNE 1, 1944 TEN CENTS

## Scollard Made C. M. Reagan's Exec. Assistant

### *New Staff Appointments Effective June 12*

The appointment of C. J. ("Pat") Scollard as executive assistant to Charles M. Reagan, Paramount vice-president in charge of distribution, was announced by the latter yesterday. Simultaneously, Reagan confirmed MOTION PICTURE DAILY's exclusive story of yesterday in announcing the creation of a third sales division to be headed by James J. Donahue, at present the company's district manager at Dallas.



C. J. Scollard

Scollard will be in charge of ad-

(*Continued on page* 10)

## Delay Rather Than Suspend Projectors

WASHINGTON, May 31.—War Production Board officials explained today that the suspension of projector production disclosed last week did not involve any change in the Government's program to produce additional equipment as quickly as possible but was the effect entirely of the inability of manufacturers to secure any sizable volume of motors. ball bearings, or electronic components at present.

They said that the proper term for

(*Continued on page* 10)

## Columbia Meeting Opens Tomorrow

Columbia home office executives left New York yesterday for Chicago, where the first of a series of three sales meetings will be held starting tomorrow, and running through June 5, at the Drake Hotel. In the group were Jack Cohn, A. Montague, A. Schneider, Rube Jackter, Lou Wein-

(*Continued on page* 10)

## Uncontrolled Newsreels in Europe Asked

Seeking to clear up an apparent misunderstanding in British industry and official circles as to the status of American newsreels in Europe after the liberation, Murray Silverstone, United Newsreel president and 20th-Fox foreign distribution vice-president, acting for the U. S. industry, has cabled London officials that American companies want the right to distribute newsreels on the continent as soon as they are allowed to resume commercial distribution of entertainment features.

**A resolution unanimously passed by the five companies which participate in the non-**

(*Continued on page* 7)

## N. Y. Bond Drive Opens June 9

Final plans were mapped yesterday for the opening of the industry's "Fighting Fifth" War Bond drive in the Metropolitan New York area on Friday, June 9. Present at the meeting, held here, were Frederick Gehle, executive manager, New York War Finance Committee Frank Kiv-

(*Continued on page* 7)

### *RKO 6% Preferred Offered at $91.25*

**A block of 57,337 shares of RKO six percent preferred stock of $100 par value, representing the holdings of Floyd Odlum's Atlas Corp., will be placed on the market today by a banking group headed by Lehman Brothers and Goldman, Sachs & Co., at $91.25 a share. The prospective sale of the stock was reported in *Motion Picture Daily* on May 18.**

## Jurisdiction of Television Is Claimed by IATSE

ST. LOUIS, May 31.—Six resolutions claiming jurisdiction of television for IATSE have been introduced at the union's convention at the Hotel Jefferson here. No action has been taken on them, but the television resolutions are expected to be adopted. The convention today adopted a resolution praising President Roosevelt's labor stand and urging his reelection.

Nominations for officers will be made tomorrow with William C. Bennett, Washington, D. C., Stagehands Local No. 22, looming as the principal threat

(*Continued on page* 7)

## *Hollywood-Made Films for Television Prohibitive*

### *$6,400,000 in Cuts For Servicemen*

**Soldier attendance at Warner theatres since the inauguration of cut prices for servicemen in 1940 has passed 16,000,000, of which more than 520,000 represents free admissions through allocations of tickets to service organizations. On the basis of an average reduction of about 40 cents per ticket, the total charges for servicemen run about $6,400,000 under normal income possibilities.**

**In New York, the two Warner Broadway houses, the Strand and Hollywood, have been attended by approximately 1,800,000 servicemen.**

Any widespread steady use of films produced directly for television under present Hollywood standards of negative costs would be financially prohibitive to telecasters in the opinion of Worthington Miner, CBS manager of television. Miner was one of the speakers along with Paul W. Kesten, CBS executive vice-president and Dr. Peter Goldmark, CBS chief television engineer at a luncheon of the Television Press Club of New York here yesterday.

Miner estimates that 5,400 feet of negative required for an hour's television program would cost $941, and that film for telecasting ten hours per day by a single television station would cost $9,410 for raw stock alone, or $3,285,000 for a year's supply of raw stock.

Hollywood could not produce all the films needed for television, Miner said.

(*Continued on page* 10)

## Schine Trial Starts After Five Years

### *Emerson Long of Ohio Is First Witness*

BUFFALO, May 31.—A story of visiting every film exchange in Cleveland and Columbus, O., in a search for product that proved fruitless because, allegedly, all available films had been sold to Schine Chain Theatres, Inc., was told in Federal Court here today by the Government's first witness in the trial of its five-year-old anti-trust suit against the circuit, which opened this morning after a defense motion for postponement had been denied by Judge John Knight.

The witness was Emerson W. Long, operator of the Community Theatre, Cadiz, O., and former operator of the Memorial, Mt. Vernon, O. He testified that Schine operated the Vine Theatre in Mt. Vernon and reopened the Lyric there after he took over the Memorial in 1934. "We asked for consideration on first run product in Mt.

(*Continued on page* 10)

## Decree Meeting Seen For Next Week

WASHINGTON, May 31.—The long-delayed meeting between Department of Justice officials and consent decree distributor company representatives, at which a final decision on whether there is to be a new consent decree is expected to be reached, may take place next week, but neither Department nor company men were making any definite statements today. From New York, Joseph H. Hazen, acting as

(*Continued on page* 10)

## Para. Again Sets 64 Short Subjects

Paramount will produce 64 short subjects and 104 issues of Paramount News during 1944-45, duplicating the current season's schedule, Oscar A. Morgan, short subject sales manager, announced here yesterday.

Morgan stated that the increased budget for 1943-44 had been justified and the same combination has been set for the coming season.

The new shorts are in nine series

(*Continued on page* 7)

# Personal Mention

J. R. GRAINGER, president of Republic Pictures, is expected back from Washington today.

•

HARRY THOMAS, Monogram Eastern division manager, and MRS. THOMAS are celebrating their 25th wedding anniversary today. THOMAS will leave for the Coast tomorrow, stopping en route at Buffalo, Cleveland and Chicago.

•

CHARLES HESINGTON, assistant manager of Warner's Collingswood, Collingswood, N. J., recently became the father of a baby girl, BONNIE SHARON, born to MRS. HESINGTON in that city.

•

MARTIN MOSKOWITZ, assistant to WILLIAM KUPPER, 20th Century-Fox general sales manager; L. J. SCHLAIFER, Central sales manager, and his assistant, JACK BLOOM, left yesterday for Boston.

•

HENRY BRASH, ARNOLD PRESSBURGER'S Eastern representative, became the father of a baby son, ANTHONY PETER, born to MRS. BRASH recently, at the LeRoy Hospital.

•

EDWARD SCHNITZER, United Artists sales executive, left last night for a week's tour of the Canadian exchanges.

•

MISS SYLVIA RUBIN, formerly a Republic Philadelphia exchange employee, and ISO BRISSELLI FELS, will be married June 15.

•

CHARLES WOLCOTT, musical director for Walt Disney Productions, has arrived in New York from the Coast.

•

JACOB WILK, Warners' Eastern production manager, will leave for New Haven tomorrow.

•

ANDREW STONE, United Artists producer, will leave here for Hollywood tomorrow.

• •

ZELMA BROOKOV of Warners' Eastern talent bureau, is in Philadelphia for the weekend.

•

MARJORIE MORROW, Warners' Eastern talent head, will leave tomorrow on a trip through New England.

## Full Sales Personnel To Attend RKO Meet

All RKO Radio district managers, branch managers and salesmen, as well as home office officials, will attend the company's 13th annual sales meeting here next month, according to an announcement by president Ned E. Depinet, who said the sessions will be held at the Waldorf-Astoria Hotel on July 24-26, as reported yesterday in MOTION PICTURE DAILY.

The delegates are scheduled to arrive in New York Sunday, July 23, and will return to their homes on the 27th.

# Insider's Outlook

By RED KANN

*Hollywood, May 31*

"ON anything and everything we ever ask for, we get a quick 'yes' from Charlie Skouras," said Dave Bershon, state chairman for Southern California in the impending Fifth War Loan drive, at the long, but well-handled, pre-campaign luncheon at the Ambassador in Los Angeles, well-known suburb of Hollywood.

"Charlie may say 'yes' very readily to Dave, but he doesn't do it so easily for me," retorted Ned E. Depinet, national drive chairman of the distributors' division, when it came his turn.

■

"This is proving an interesting experience. We of the committee, recognizing the job Skouras and his gang did in the fourth drive, felt one of our best contributions was to tour the country by way of keeping the campaign sparked.

"It's been easy, too. All that I've had to do thus far is to explain what Charlie said to the boys last time," observed Bob O'Donnell, national chairman.

■

"I'm a small town exhibitor. I've dealt with them all my life. I don't know why the committee figured I could help, but since over 12,000 of the 16,500 theatremen in the nation are independents, it was that experience which the committee thought it could use. Coming down from San Francisco, Bob told me he intended calling on me this time. I told him I couldn't make a speech, didn't know how. This is what he told me:

" 'It's like a Texas longhorn. One point on the left. Another on the right. And in between a lot of bull.' "

This from R. M. Kennedy, Bob Wilby's long-time associate in Birmingham, Ala., and national vice-chairman of the next bond push.

■

Two yarns about Alabama "crackers" were told. One from Kennedy was about a six-footer, plus, in the last war. It was getting hot at the front. So hot, the captain ordered his men to flatten out until the excitement died. But this one soldier refused, despite three separate commands. "Joe, can't you hear me? Get down."

"I heard you all right, but I won't. Got a pint of corn whiskey on my hip and I've lost the stopper."

The other, from Claude V. Lee, the industry's consultant assigned to the Treasury Department, was about those tall Alabama claims to longevity. Someone asked an oldie, claiming to be 110, how he went about living that long and earned this reply:

"When I lay me down, I say, 'Breath, just come and go at will. You get no interference from me.' "

■

Lee also told two which hit the deck with a whale of a response. One was about a customer at a bar. He ordered a Martini, drank it, ate the rim and then the glass, finally setting down the stem carefully on the bar. Two repeats with two more cocktails finally led to this remark to the bartender:

"I suppose you think I'm nuts."

Bartender: "Think you're nuts? I know you are. The stem is the best part."

■

The other, a sort of beau geste to the Fox West Coast women managers present, was one of the series about the inspiration the gentler sex instills in its men. It dealt with a six months' old boy. Mother, in her dream world on one side of the crib, painted the future in her mind: Honors in school, honors in law, a political career and, of course, the White House. Father, on the other side of the crib, contemplating, or so the mother thought. "Are you thinking of the same wonderful things, I wonder?," she asked.

"Me?," he replied. "I was just wondering how they can turn out such a swell crib for $2.75."

■

Yet, while there was fun, serious business was in the overtones of this meeting at which representatives of the 600 theatres serviced out of Los Angeles exchanges went the whole way with their drive intentions. O'Donnell and his crew left that night for Dallas, confident this territory will kick in with plenty of enthusiasm, effort and, importantly, results.

As an onlooker, noting and recording what transpired, the impression is wholly reasonable that the confidence they carried aloft and into the air lanes is not a delusion.

■ ■

First-run grosses are off here. Last week was the worst in five, and all have not been good. One manager was asked if he thought it was the fault of the film.

"No. It's a good picture. The people simply don't like it."

## St. Louis Stagehands' Dispute to WLB

ST. LOUIS, May 31.—A panel of the Regional War Labor Board has recommended to the WLB board the following conditions for settling the dispute between the St. Louis Theatrical Brotherhood, Local No. 6 of the IATSE, and the St. Louis theatre exhibitors committee, deadlocked since August, 1943:

A 15 per cent wage increase; a week's paid vacation for one to five years' service and two weeks for more than five years; the establishment of a board of three to determine the number of stagehands to be employed hours and duties and management's right to pass on employe qualifications.

The exhibitors' committee, it is understood, does not oppose the wage increase, but insists that it be granted conditionally a reduction in the number of stagehands and that hours of work be changed.

## Lindstrom Made Film Head of U. S. Bureau

WASHINGTON, May 31.—Chester A. Lindstrom has been named head of the motion picture service of the U. S. Department of Agriculture, succeeding Raymond Evans, who retired recently. Lindstrom has been associate chief of the service, which is part of the Department's office of information. It produces and distributes films based on the results of agricultural research and wartime agricultural programs.

Lindstrom has been in film work in the Department for over 30 years.

## Stoltz Resigns as UA Exploitation Head

Arnold T. Stoltz resigned yesterday as director of exploitation for United Artists, effective June 16 when he will leave New York on a short vacation and announce his future plans upon his return. His successor at U. A. has not been disclosed.

Stoltz was winner of the *Motion Picture Herald-Quigley Publications* silver grand showmanship award in 1941. He formerly managed Warner Brothers' Avon Theatre in Utica, N. Y.

## Lee Named Hal Wallis Story, Talent Scout

Irene Lee, formerly Eastern story editor for Samuel Goldwyn Productions, has been appointed Eastern story editor and talent scout for Hal Wallis Productions. Prior to her association with Goldwyn she was Warners' West Coast story editor for eight years.

## Harley to Meet Press

Francis L. Harley, managing director of 20th-Fox in London, will be host to the trade press here at a luncheon tomorrow at the Hotel Plaza.

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# Seidelman, Schimel Sell 'U' Stock, Wolf Sells Some Mono.

PHILADELPHIA, May 31.—Officials of only two companies traded in securities of their corporations in April, it was reported tonight by the Securities and Exchange Commission in its monthly summary.

The sale of 1,317 shares of Monogram common stock was reported by Sam Wolf, Los Angeles, who, with the sale of 1,100 shares in March, was left with 1,000 shares at the end of April.

Loew's, Inc., acquired another 114 shares of Loew's Boston Theatres common stock, increasing its holdings to 121,096 shares.

Joseph H. Seidelman of Universal Pictures, disposed of 3,000 common voting trust certificate warrants, his entire interest, by gift, and a report showed that Adolph Schimel disposed of 500 Universal warrants by gift last December, leaving him with 500.

Reports showed that Charles M. Reagan, New York, held no Paramount securities when he became a director April 6, but that Harry Brandt, New York, held 31,500 shares of Trans Lux common when he became a director April 12 and William M. Girden, New York, held 5,000 shares when he joined the board April 15.

## 10% Cabaret Tax Cut Approved by Senate

WASHINGTON, May 31.—Reduction of the cabaret tax from 30 to 20 per cent with an exemption for servicemen and service women was voted today by the Senate as a rider to legislation increasing the permissible national debt limit.

The 20 per cent was a compromise reached when, after Senator Downey of California proposed to reduce the tax to 10 per cent, Senator Bilbo of Mississippi demanded the same rate should be extended to theatre admissions.

Senator Bilbo's amendment to halve the admission tax was withdrawn when an agreement was reached to keep the cabaret levy at 20 per cent.

The change in rate has still to secured House approval, but it is believed it will be accepted without any concerted opposition.

## RKO Sets Trade Shows on Five

Trade showings of five RKO features have been set for the company's exchanges on June 19-21. "Gildersleeve's Ghost" will be shown on Monday, June 19. There will be no screening in San Francisco. "Marine Raiders" will also be shown June 19. "A Night of Adventure" will be shown June 20. No screenings of this will be held in Los Angeles or New York. "Step Lively" will also be shown on June 20. "Look to Your Children" will be shown June 21. Screenings of all five will be held a day later in St. Louis.

## Danson Back at Para.

Hal Danson has rejoined the Paramount home office publicity staff here after three months at the studios where he was in charge of trailers.

# Review

## "Ghost Catchers"

*(Universal)*

CHIC JOHNSON and Ole Olsen prance through this happy combination of murder, mystery and musical comedy in their zany fashion, running the show pretty much their own way with apparently little interference from director Edward Cline. The film is in the hit-and-miss style of "Hellzapoppin'" and others like it, and will appeal to the followers of Chic and Ole, who are given adequate support by Gloria Jean, Martha O'Driscoll and Walter Catlett.

The basis for ghostly shenanigans at a mansion wherein dwells Miss Jean, an aspiring concert artist, with her father, Catlett, and her sister, Miss O'Driscoll, is an illegal liquor business operated from the cellar by Leo Carrillo. Chic and Ole, performing at a neighboring nightclub, come to the rescue of the damsels in distress at the mansion, who are routed from their beds by sounds of galloping horses and shrieks from upper stories. Chic and Ole go through the process of tracking down the "ghosts," with the scene of the action shifting between the house and the nightclub, taking in jive sessions, with Ella Mae Morse, Kirby Grant and Morton Downey, and murders and apparitions with Carillo, Andy Devine and Lon Chaney participating. It's all in good fun.

Credit for hilarious floorshow sequences goes to Louis Da Pron, who devised and staged the numbers, and to Edward Ward, music director. Edmund T. Hartmann, who wrote the story, also produced.

Running time, 68 mins. "G."* Release date, June 16.

HELEN MCNAMARA

*"G" denotes general classification.

## Barnett Pleads Guilty Of Concealing Assets

Roger Barnett, president of Color Classics, pleaded guilty yesterday in Federal Court here of concealing assets of about $20,000 from a trustee in bankruptcy. He will be sentenced today by Federal Judge William Bondy.

Barnett filed a voluntary petition in bankruptcy in Federal Court on Oct. 28, 1942, listing assets of $300 and liabilities of $57,400, chief creditors being H. Sewall Bradley, with a claim for $5,000, and C. H. Hill, with a claim for $20,000.

## Committee Submits '4A' Merger Plan

A general merger committee representing the 4-A actor unions has authorized the submission of a preliminary draft of a merger plan to the unions involved: the Screen Actors Guild, Actors' Equity, American Federation of Radio Artists, American Guild of Variety Artists and the American Guild of Musical Artists.

The special committee has been working on a merger plan for several months.

## 'Open Road' Premiere

PORTLAND, Ore., May 31.—United Artists' "Song of the Open Road" will have its world premiere here tomorrow night at the Broadway Theatre. Jane Powell, 14-year-old star of the film and native of this city, will be guest at a war bond rally this afternoon and will make radio appearances while here. The film will open in New York June 6 at the Criterion Theatre.

## Withdraw Clearance Case

The clearance complaint of Willard Gamble, operator of the Orchard Heights Theatre, Port Orchard, Wash., against the five consenting companies has been withdrawn at the Seattle tribunal, the American Arbitration Association reported here yesterday. The withdrawal followed an agreement, the terms of which were not disclosed.

## Deny Conspiracy vs. Rosyl Amusement

Paramount, Loew's, RKO Radio, Columbia and the MPPDA, among others, filed answers yesterday in Federal Court here denying allegations that they conspired to restrain trade in the distribution of films in Hudson County, N. J.

The answers were in connection with the treble-damage suit filed by Rosyl Amusement Corp., operator of the Cameo, Jersey City, against 23 companies, consisting of eight producing companies, their distributors and five theatre circuits operating in that county. Warner Bros. had previously entered a denial.

## Wilcox Plans to Film Jane Austen's 'Emma'

LONDON, May 31.—Herbert Wilcox plans to start production in color next Fall of Jane Austen's "Emma," in which Anna Neagle is now appearing in a stage version produced and promoted by Robert Donat. The play is meeting with unusual success in a current provincial tour and is scheduled to open here in about five weeks.

Distribution arrangements for the film version were discussed with Columbia recently, but Wilcox indicated today that he will close no deal until he has had talks with other American distributors.

## Renaissance Films Formed in Montreal

MONTREAL, May 31.—Renaissance Films, Inc., a new company, has been established here to produce French pictures. Attorney Paul Lebanc is president, and Charles Phillipp, who produced several films in France before the war, is general manager.

Studios are being established at nearby St. Laurent, where "Le Pere Chopin," the first Renaissance feature, will be started June 15, with others following soon after that date. The new company will use both French and local actors.

# Coast Flashes

*Hollywood, May 31*

JOE KAUFMAN, formerly head buyer and booker for Balaban & Katz, has joined the Monogram production staff here.

•

Francis S. Harmon, executive vice-chairman of the War Activities Committee, has arranged for J. L. Beddington, director of the film division of the British Ministry of Information, to meet with WAC executives when he returns to New York from here.

•

George B. West, Monogram franchise holder in St. Louis and Cincinnati, and Herman Rifkin, owner of the New England franchise, have arrived here for the company's sales meeting, June 12-15 at the Hotel Ambassador.

•

Morton Gould, conductor-composer, has been signed by Charles R. Rogers, United Artists producer, to appear in "Reaching for the Stars," with his orchestra and to write the music for the film, which will star Jane Powell.

•

Lt. Col. Hal Rorke, former head of the CBS Hollywood press information bureau, has arrived in Hollywood to supervise public relations for the "Winged Victory" Air Force show to be filmed here by 20th-Fox.

•

M-G-M today announced for production, following publication and magazine serialization, the Booth Tarkington novel, "The Man Who Lived."

•

Glenn Cook has been named unit manager for Sol Lesser's "Three's a Family," which United Artists will release.

•

Warners has purchased "Don't Ever Leave Me," an original story, which Jesse L. Lasky will produce.

## Imhoff Resigns from M-G-M in Milwaukee

MILWAUKEE, May 31.—J. H. Imhoff, who for 20 years has been office manager at the M-G-M exchange here, has resigned, effective about June 12, to accept a position as city salesman with the local RKO exchange. Walter Bennin, booker from the Chicago M-G-M exchange, will succeed Imhoff.

## Cinema Lodge Seeks Doubled Membership

An effort to double the present membership of Cinema Lodge of B'nai B'rith was decided upon at a meeting of the organization at the Hotel Edison here last night. William S. Gailmor, news analyst for radio station WHN, was the principal speaker, and officers for the coming year were installed.

## Bricker at 'Indiana'

Gov. John W. Bricker will be guest of honor at the tri-state premiere of 20th-Fox's "Home in Indiana" at the RKO Palace June 15. June Haver, native of this city, and Jeanne Crain, two of the principals in the picture, will make personal appearances.

with
CLAUDE RAINS WALTER ABEL • RICHARD WARING • GEORGE COULOURIS • MARJORIE RIORDAN • Screen Play by Ju

MR. JOE FFING TON



**PRE-RELEASE ENGAGEMENT AT THE N. Y. HOLLYWOOD IS DRAWING THE BIGGEST BETTE DAVIS GROSS EVER!**

Epstein • From Story by "Elizabeth" • Music by Franz Waxman • Directed by VINCENT SHERMAN • Produced by JUL. J. & PHIL. G. EPSTEIN • JACK L. WARNER, Executive Producer

# MOTION PICTURE DAILY'S BOOKING CHART

| WEEK OF | COLUMBIA | M-G-M | MONO. | PARA. | PRC | REPUBLIC | RKO RADIO | 20TH-FOX | U. A. | UNIVERSAL | WARNERS |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| May 6 | ONCE UPON A TIME<br>Cary Grant<br>Janet Blair<br>James Gleason<br>89 mins. | (Sixth Block)<br>SEE HERE, PRIVATE HARGROVE<br>Robert Walker<br>Donna Reed<br>C—101 mins. (420) | LAW MAN<br>Johnny Mack Brown<br>O—55 mins. (354) | (Special)<br>LADY IN THE DARK<br>(Color)<br>Ginger Rogers<br>Ray Milland<br>M—100 mins.<br>(4336) | THE CONTENDER<br>Buster Crabbe<br>Arline Judge<br>Julie Gibson<br>O—63 mins. (418) | JAMBOREE<br>Ruth Terry<br>George Byron<br>M—71 mins. (316) | (Fifth Block)<br>THE FALCON OUT WEST<br>Tom Conway<br>Barbara Hale<br>D—64 mins. (421) | (April Releases—no definite date set)<br>BUFFALO BILL<br>(Color)<br>Maureen O'Hara<br>Joel McCrea<br>D—(424)<br>90 mins. | | SLIGHTLY TERRIFIC<br>Leon Errol<br>Anne Rooney<br>Evelyn Ankers<br>C—58 mins. (8036) | THE ADVENTURES OF MARK TWAIN<br>Fredric March<br>Alexis Smith<br>Donald Crisp<br>D—130 mins. (315) |
| May 13 | UNDERGROUND GUERILLAS<br>(British)<br>John Clements<br>Mary Morris—D<br>(5041)<br>RIDIN' WEST<br>Charles Starrett<br>Shirley Patterson<br>O—(5207) | THE HEAVENLY BODY<br>Hedy Lamarr<br>William Powell<br>D—95 mins. (421) | DETECTIVE KITTY O'DAY<br>Jean Parker<br>D—61 mins. (322) | (Fifth Block)<br>AND THE ANGELS SING<br>Dorothy Lamour<br>Fred MacMurray<br>Betty Hutton<br>M—96 mins. (4321) | | TUCSON RAIDERS<br>(Red Rider Series)<br>"Wild Bill" Elliott<br>George "Gabby" Hayes<br>Bobby Blake<br>O—55 mins. (3311) | DAYS OF GLORY<br>Tamara Touranova<br>Gregory Peck<br>D—86 mins. (422) | TAMPICO<br>Ed G. Robinson<br>D—75 mins. (425) | | COBRA WOMAN<br>(Color)<br>Maria Montez<br>Jon Hall<br>Sabu<br>(8006)—70 mins. | |
| May 20 | STARS ON PARADE<br>Lynn Merrick<br>Larry Parks<br>Judy Clark<br>M—(5023) | SWING FEVER<br>Kay Kyser<br>Marilyn Maxwell<br>M—81 mins. (423) | THE CHINESE CAT<br>Sidney Toler<br>D—64 mins. (320) | DOUBLE INDEMNITY<br>Fred MacMurray<br>Barbara Stanwyck<br>Edward G. Robinson<br>D—106 mins. (4325) | | COWBOY AND THE SENORITA<br>Roy Rogers<br>Mary Lee<br>Dale Evans<br>M—78 mins.<br>(342) | THE YELLOW CANARY<br>(British)<br>Anna Neagle<br>Richard Greene<br>D—84 mins. (423) | SHRINE OF VICTORY<br>British Documentary<br>45 mins.—(426) | | PARDON MY RHYTHM<br>Gloria Jean<br>Patric Knowles<br>M<br>(8032)—62 mins. | BETWEEN TWO WORLDS<br>John Garfield<br>Paul Henreid<br>D—112 mins. (316) |
| May 27 | ADDRESS UNKNOWN<br>Paul Lukas<br>K. T. Stevens<br>D—72 mins. (5010) | RATIONING<br>Wallace Beery<br>Marjorie Main<br>C—93 mins. (418) | | THE HITLER GANG<br>Robert Watson<br>Victor Varconi<br>D—100 mins.<br>(4323) | | MELODY TRAIL<br>(Reissue)<br>Gene Autry<br>O—(3304) | SEVEN DAYS ASHORE<br>Wally Brown<br>Gordon Oliver<br>C—74 mins. (424) | (May Releases. No definite date set)<br>PIN-UP GIRL<br>Betty Grable<br>John Harvey<br>Martha Raye<br>Joe E. Brown<br>M—83 mins. (427)<br>(Color) | SONG OF THE OPEN ROAD<br>Edgar Bergen<br>Charlie McCarthy<br>Bonita Granville<br>M | THE SCARLET CLAW<br>Basil Rathbone<br>Nigel Bruce<br>D—74 mins. (8019)<br>BOSS OF BOOMTOWN<br>Rod Cameron<br>Vivian Austin<br>O—(8085) | |
| June 3 | | BROADWAY RHYTHM<br>Ginny Simms<br>George Murphy<br>M—114 mins. (419)<br>(Color) | FOLLOW THE LEADER<br>East Side Kids<br>D | HENRY ALDRICH PLAYS CUPID<br>Jimmy Lydon<br>Diana Lynn<br>Charles Smith<br>65 mins. (4322)<br>GAMBLER'S CHOICE<br>Chester Morris<br>Nancy Kelly<br>66 mins. (4324) | SPOOK TOWN<br>(Texas Rangers)<br>O—(457)<br>James Newill<br>Tex O'Brien | SILENT PARTNER<br>Beverly Loyd<br>William Henry<br>Grant Withers<br>O—(317) | SHOW BUSINESS<br>Eddie Cantor<br>Joan Davis<br>George Murphy<br>Constance Moore<br>M—92 mins. (425) | BERMUDA MYSTERY<br>Preston Foster<br>Ann Rutherford<br>D—65 mins. (428) | | THIS IS THE LIFE<br>Donald O'Connor<br>Susanna Foster<br>C—87 mins. (8012) | |
| June 10 | THEY LIVE IN FEAR<br>Otto Kruger<br>Pat Parrish<br>Clifford Severn<br>D—65 mins. | TUNISIAN VICTORY<br>(Special Release)<br>(466)—80 mins.<br>(Documentary) | SONORA STAGE COACH<br>(Trailblazer)<br>O—(365) | (Special release)<br>MEMPHIS BELLE<br>(Color)<br>(Documentary)<br>T3-1—41 mins. | WATERFRONT<br>John Carradine<br>J. Carroll Naish<br>D—(415)<br>65 mins. | | (Sixth Block)<br>GILDER-SLEEVE'S GHOST<br>Harold Peary<br>Marian Martin<br>C | | THE HAIRY APE<br>William Bendix<br>Susan Hayward<br>D—90 mins. | THE INVISIBLE MAN'S REVENGE<br>Jon Hall<br>Evelyn Ankers<br>Alan Curtis<br>D | MAKE YOUR OWN BED<br>Jack Carson<br>Jane Wyman<br>Irene Manning<br>C—82 mins. (317) |
| June 17 | THE LAST HORSEMAN<br>Russell Hayden<br>Bob Wills<br>"Dub" Taylor<br>O | (Seventh Block)<br>ANDY HARDY'S BLONDE TROUBLE<br>Mickey Rooney<br>Lewis Stone<br>C—107 mins. (424) | RETURN OF THE APE MAN<br>Bela Lugosi<br>John Carradine<br>D | (Sixth Block)<br>HAIL THE CONQUERING HERO<br>Eddie Bracken<br>Ella Raines<br>C | | | MARINE RAIDERS<br>Pat O'Brien<br>Ruth Hussey<br>D | (June Releases—no definite date set) | | GHOST CATCHERS<br>Olsen and Johnson<br>Gloria Jean<br>C—68 mins. | |
| June 24 | SHE'S A SOLDIER, TOO<br>Beulah Bondi<br>Nina Foch<br>Jess Barber<br>D—67 mins. | GASLIGHT<br>Ingrid Bergman<br>Charles Boyer<br>D—(425) | RANGE LAW<br>Johnny Mack Brown<br>O—(355)<br>JOHNNY DOESN'T LIVE HERE ANYMORE<br>Simone Simon<br>James Ellison<br>D | TAKE IT BIG<br>Jack Haley<br>Harriet Hilliard<br>C<br>THE GREAT MOMENT<br>Joel McCrea<br>Betty Field<br>D | | YELLOW ROSE OF TEXAS<br>Roy Rogers<br>Dale Evans<br>O—(343)<br>69 mins. | A NIGHT OF ADVENTURE<br>Tom Conway<br>Audrey Long<br>D—65 mins.<br>STEP LIVELY<br>Frank Sinatra<br>George Murphy<br>M | EVE OF ST. MARK<br>Anne Baxter<br>William Eythe<br>Michael O'Shea<br>(429) D—96 mins. | | SOUTH OF DIXIE<br>Anne Gwynne<br>David Bruce<br>D—61 mins. | THIS IS THE ARMY<br>(Re-issue) (color)<br>George Murphy<br>John Leslie<br>M—(224)<br>115 mins. |
| July 1 | | MEET THE PEOPLE<br>Dick Powell<br>Lucille Ball<br>M—100 mins. (426) | CALL OF THE JUNGLE<br>Ann Corio<br>James Bush<br>D | HENRY ALDRICH'S LITTLE SECRET<br>Jimmy Lydon<br>Charlie Smith<br>C | MINSTREL MAN<br>Benny Fields<br>Gladys George<br>Roscoe Karns<br>O—(404) | CALL OF THE SOUTH SEAS<br>Janet Martin<br>Allan Lane<br>D—59 mins. (319) | LOOK TO YOUR CHILDREN<br>Kent Smith<br>Jean Brooks<br>D | LADIES OF WASHINGTON<br>Sheila Ryan<br>Trudy Marshall<br>Doris Merrick<br>(430)—D | SENSATIONS OF 1945<br>Eleanor Powell<br>Dennis O'Keefe<br>M | CHRISTMAS HOLIDAY<br>Deanna Durbin<br>Gene Kelly<br>M | THE MASK OF DIMITRIOS<br>Sidney Greenstreet<br>Zachary Scott<br>D—(318) |
| July 8 | LOUISIANA HAYRIDE<br>Judy Canova<br>Ross Hunter<br>C | THREE MEN IN WHITE<br>Lionel Barrymore<br>Van Johnson<br>D—(427) | LEAVE IT TO THE IRISH<br>James Dunn<br>Wanda McKay<br>Dick Purcell<br>D | I LOVE A SOLDIER<br>Paulette Goddard<br>Sonny Tufts<br>D | | | (Special Release)<br>GOYESCAS<br>Imperio Argentina<br>M—110 mins. (461) | (July Releases—no definite date set)<br>HOME IN INDIANA (color)<br>Walter Brennan<br>Jeanne Crain<br>(431)—D<br>103 mins. | | TRIGGER TRAIL<br>Rod Cameron<br>Fuzzy Knight<br>O—(8086) | |
| July 15 | SECRET COMMAND<br>Pat O'Brien<br>Chester Morris<br>Ruth Warrick<br>D | TWO GIRLS AND A SAILOR<br>Jimmy Durante<br>Van Johnson<br>C—(428) | OH WHAT A NIGHT<br>Edmund Lowe<br>Marjorie Rambeau<br>D | (Special Release)<br>GOING MY WAY<br>Bing Crosby<br>Barry Fitzgerald<br>Rise Stevens<br>D—130 mins. | BRAND OF THE DEVIL<br>Jim Newill<br>Dave O'Brien<br>O—(458) | | SNOW WHITE and the SEVEN DWARFS<br>(reissue)<br>83 mins. (492)<br>(Disney Feature Cartoon)<br>(Color) | ROGER TOUHY, GANGSTER<br>Preston Foster<br>Victor McLaglen<br>D—65 mins. (432) | SUMMER STORM<br>George Sanders<br>Linda Darnell<br>D—107 mins. | TWILIGHT ON THE TRAIL<br>Eddie Quillan<br>Vivian Austin<br>O | |

(Dates Are Based on National Release Schedules)

# Production in Hollywood Climbs to 57

HOLLYWOOD, May 31.—Heavier production schedules predicted at almost every studio began to evidence themselves during the week with nine new pictures placed before the cameras while seven finished to bring the total in work to 57. This is two more than the previous week. The production scene follows:

**Columbia**

*Started:* "Death Walks Alone," with Rose Hobart, William Wright, George Macready, Jim Bannon, Erik Rolf, Jeanne Bates. "Meet Miss Bobby Socks," with Bob Crosby, Lynn Merrick, Louis Jordan and orchestra, Robert White, Louise Erickson.

*Shooting:* "Beauty for Sale" (formerly "Ever Since Venus"), "Cry of the Werewolf" (formerly "Bride of the Vampire"), "Tonight and Every Night," "Under Western Skies," "Battleship Blues."

*Finished:* "Kansas City Kitty."

**M-G-M**

*Started:* "Airship Squadron 4," with Wallace Beery, James Gleason, Jan Clayton, Selena Royle, Tom Drake, Noah Beery. "Music for Millions," with Margaret O'Brien, Jose Iturbi, Donna Reed, Jimmy Durante, Marsha Hunt, Hugh Herbert, Marie Wilson.

*Shooting:* "Son of Lassie," "The Thin Man Goes Home," "Ziegfeld Follies," "Lost in a Harem," "Mrs. Parkington," "The Picture of Dorian Gray," "Thirty Seconds Over Tokyo," "Secrets in the Dark," "National Velvet."

**Monogram**

*Started:* "Marked Trails," with Hoot Gibson, Bob Steele, Veda Ann Borg. "I Married a Stranger," with Dean Jagger, Neil Hamilton, Kim Hunter, Claire Whitney, Robert Mitchum.

*Finished:* "Charlie Chan in Black Magic," "Alaska."

**PRC**

*Shooting:* "Seven Doors to Death."

*Finished:* "Rustler's Hideout."

**Paramount**

*Shooting:* "Fear," "Here Come the Waves," "Murder, He Says," "Two Years Before the Mast."

**RKO-Radio**

*Shooting:* "The Master Race (Edward A. Golden), "The Pumpkin Shell," "Farewell My Lovely," "Having Wonderful Crime," "Tall in the Saddle," "None But the Lonely Heart," "Heavenly Days," "The Woman in the Window" (International), "Princess and the Pirate" (Goldwyn).

*Finished:* "Belle of the Yukon" (International).

**Republic**

*Started:* "Sheriff of Sundown," with Allan Lane, Linda Stirling. "San Fernando Valley," with Roy Rogers, Dale Evans.

*Shooting:* "House of Terror," "Cheyenne Wildcat," "Atlantic City," "Anything for a Laugh" (Walter Colmes).

**20th Century-Fox**

*Started:* "Thunderhead, Son of Flicka," with Roddy McDowall, Preston Foster, Rita Johnson, Diana Hale.

*Shooting:* "A Tree Grows in Brooklyn," "Laura," "Something for the Boys."

*Finished:* "Keys of the Kingdom."

**United Artists**

*Shooting:* "Dark Waters" (Benedict Bogeaus), "Story of G. I. Joe" (Lester Cowan), "Guest in the House" (Hunt Stromberg), "With All My Heart" (Vanguard).

**Universal**

*Shooting:* "Trail to Gunsight," "The House of Fear," "Bowery to Broadway," "San Diego, I Love You," "Babes in Swing Street."

*Finished:* "See My Lawyer."

**Warners**

*Shooting:* "Strangers in Our Midst," "Roughly Speaking," "Objective Burma," "The Conspirators."

# *New York War Bond Drive Will Open on June 9*

(*Continued from page* 1)

lan, liaison officer between the Army and Navy; Stanley Quinn, liaison officer of the War Finance Department; Oscar A. Doob of Loew's, local campaign director; Harry Mandel, RKO, liaison officer for the film industry and Edward C. Dowden, chairman of special events.

The drive will be officially opened with a demonstration at Times Square on June 9 at 12 noon, when a "Fighting Fifth" war bond military motor patrol will take over the Square. The demonstration, which will be a tribute to the men of the U. S. Infantry, will consist of seventy pieces of Army motorized equipment, a battalion of soldiers wearing full overseas military packs, and two Army bands.

Following the Times Square demonstration, under the direction of Charles C. Moskowitz of Loew's, chairman of the New York committee, the equipment will be broken up into six units, which will visit Manhattan, Bronx, Brooklyn, Queens, Richmond and Westchester counties. Eight rallies are planned for each borough and Westchester by committees of theatre managers.

**Distributors to Attend Breakfast**

Representatives of distributing companies will attend the New York area Fifth War Loan breakfast-meeting tomorrow morning. Sales personnel of all companies are working to increase issuing agents, arrange bond premieres, and otherwise assist exhibitors in the field. At the meeting they will meet the national film drive committee and receive instructions from distributor chairman Ned Depinet for their activities in the Fifth campaign.

Representing the various companies will be: from 20th Century-Fox, Tom Connors, W. J. Kupper, Andy Smith, Jr., Wm. C. Gehring and L. J. Schlaifer; Paramount: Charles Reagan, George Smith and Hugh Owen; M-G-M: William F. Rodgers, H. H. Ritchie, Ted O'Shea and E. M. Saunders; National Screen: Herman Robbins, George Dembow, Don Velde and William Brenner; RKO: Ned E. Depinet, Leon Bamberger, Robert Mochrie, Walter Branson, Nat Levy, Harry Michalson, A. H. Shubart, M. H. Poller, William H. Clark, John Farmer, Garrett Van Wagner, S. Barret McCormick; Warners: Arthur Saxon and Jules Lapidus. Also, Walter Ament of Pathe News, and Walter Titus Jr., Republic. Owing to sales meetings in other cities, Columbia, Universal and Monogram will not be represented.

**Entertainment Industry Will Set Plans Today**

Leaders of entertainment fields will gather at Toots Shor's today at noon to discuss their part in the Fifth War Loan drive. James E. Sauter is chairman of the entertainment industry section of the War Finance Committee for New York.

More than 100 representatives from all fields of show business will be addressed by Nevil Ford and Frederick W. Gehle, state chairman and executive manager respectively of the WFC. Bert Lytell, president of Actor's Equity; Lawrence Tibbett, president of America's Guild of Musical Artists, and Paul Dullzell, president of the Association of Actors and Artistes of America, will represent the entertainment group.

**Buffalo Exhibitors Plan Bond Drive**

BUFFALO, May 31.—Local exhibitors met recently at MPTO headquarters with chairman A. Charles Hayman of Niagara Falls to lay plans for the Fifth War Loan drive Assisting Hayman are Vincent R. McFaul, co-chairman; Mannie A. Brown, distributor chairman; Ralph W. Maw, co-distributor chairman, and Charles B. Taylor, public relations chairman.

**Filmack Prepares Special Campaign Book**

CHICAGO, May 31.—Filmack Trailer has prepared and is mailing to all exhibitors a special campaign book on the Fifth War Loan drive. The book features special trailers on "Bond Premieres," "Free Movie Day," children's "School's Out" premieres, "Bonds for Every Seat," and other campaign events.

# *Claims Jurisdiction Of Television*

(*Continued from page* 1)

to the slate of incumbent officers headed by Richard F. Walsh.

No action has been taken on the convention floor to present applications for charters for film salesmen and theatre managers' unions. If the applications are rejected by the executive board, it is expected a fight will be made in the convention.

The convention heard William F. Green, president of the AFL, who praised the union's war record.

# *Para. Again Sets 64 Short Subjects*

(*Continued from page* 1)

as follows: Six two-reel "Musical Parades" in color; eight "Little Lulu," eight "Popeye" and eight "Noveltoon" cartoons, all in color; six "Puppetoons" by George Pal, in color; six "Speaking of Animals," six "Popular Science" and six "Unusual Occupations," all of the latter from Jerry Fairbanks, and 10 Grantland Rice "Sportlights," to be produced by Jack Eaton.

# Boost Atlanta War Bond Openings 40%

ATLANTA, May 31.—Exhibitors in this area have already increased their scheduled war bond premieres for the Fifth War Loan by 40 per cent over the fourth drive, national committee members were informed at a Southeastern regional meeting here today.

More than 200 industry representatives from six states, representing more than 1,000 theatres and all distributors, attended the rally at the Athletic Club. Delegations were present from North and South Carolina, Florida, Tennessee and Alabama, in addition to Georgia. Nat Williams, Georgia exhibitor chairman, presided.

Fred R. Dodson, distributor chairman, said that 167 bond premieres are already assured, compared with 120 during the entire fourth drive.

**Mayor Lauds Films**

Mayor William B. Hartsfield, another speaker, praised the industry for exerting a beneficial influence on the American home through the medium of the screen.

Over-all campaign plans and objectives were discussed by R. J. O'Donnell, R. M. Kennedy, John J. Friedl, Chairman Ned E. Depinet, Ray Beall, and Claude F. Lee. All members of the national committee also participated in a broadcast over a Mutual network hookup.

Arrangements for the meeting were handled by James Harrison, Spence Pierce and James Gillespie, publicity co-chairman.

Among those who attended were: E. W. Street, J. L. Cartwright, Mack Jackson, H. F. Kincey, Warren Irwin, R. B. Wilby, William K. Jenkins and Guy Kennemer.

# Seek Uncontrolled Europe Newsreels

(*Continued from page* 1)

**profit production of United Newsreel assured the British Ministry of Information that all their material was at the disposal of the British Government, the American Office of War Information, or the Board of Psychological Warfare.**

Silverstone disclosed here yesterday that a joint Anglo-American newsreel, using much of the United's material, as well as British films, would probably follow the Allied Armies into Europe. But when the military authorities or government film agencies return the distribution of commercial entertainment films to the industry the American companies want the right to shown their own.

The situation in North Africa, where newsreels continue to be a government monopoly under the French Committee of Liberation, was cited as an instance of the situation U. S. distributors hope to avoid in Europe.

In the meantime, Silverstone emphasized, close cooperation has been pledged to the United Nations by U.S. film companies. Projects to produce in London a joint reel for Europe, as well as a supplement to the United Newsreel, are now being worked out with the aid of U. S. film companies and their British representatives.

# HELD-OVER TO

*now in second week*

PARAMOUNT LOS ANGELES
PARAMOUNT HOLLYWOOD

•

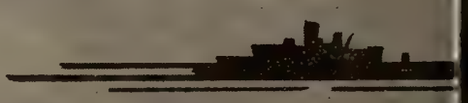
*and sensational business with*

FOUR-THEATRE WORLD PREMIERES

IN

FOX WEST COAST DE LUXE THEATRES

PARAMOUNT • SAN FRANCISCO
PARAMOUNT • OAKLAND
COSTA AND FOX • RICHMOND



# BIG BUSINESS..!

# Man from Frisco

## MICHAEL O'SHEA • ANNE SHIRLEY

## GENE LOCKHART

DAN DURYEA • STEPHANIE BACHELOR • RAY WALKER • TOMMY BOND

*and a cast of 20,000*

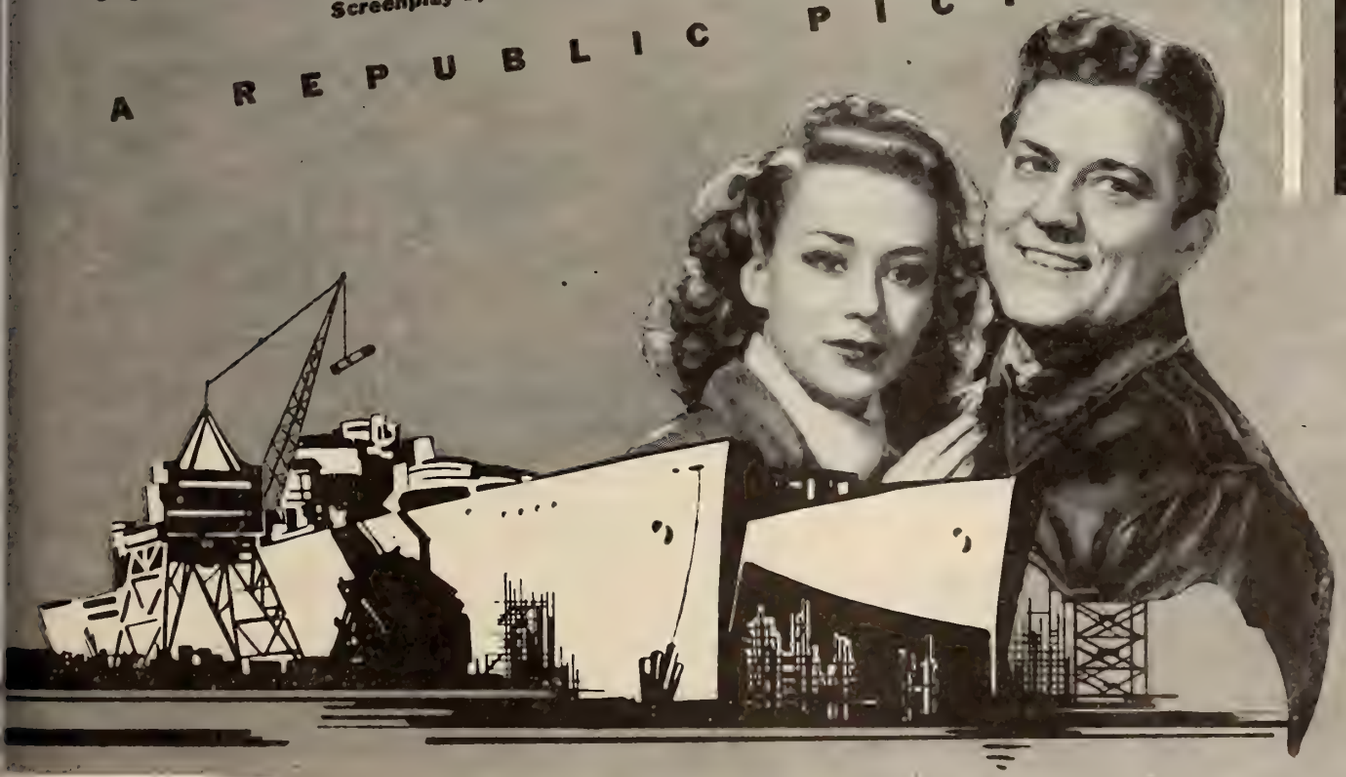
•

ROBERT FLOREY—DIRECTOR

Original Story and Adaptation: GEORGE WORTHING YATES • GEORGE CARLETON BROWN

Screenplay by ETHEL HILL • ARNOLD MANOFF

A REPUBLIC PICTURE



## Hollywood's Films High for Television

(Continued from page 1)

citing the fact that physical facilities are not available. Basing his figures on Hollywood's output of 450 features in 1943, Miner estimated that Hollywood facilities would have to be expanded six times to meet the requirements of 3,600 hours of film telecasting annually.

Miner discounted the importance of photographing actual radio broadcasts for television use, citing such use as merely performing a reporting job and not accomplishing the timely, visual entertainment function which is envisaged for television in the post-war. He reported that several film companies in Hollywood are at work testing how cheaply films can be produced for television usage. Films will be used extensively for a long time in television after the war but they will not be films made expressly for television but rather 16mm prints of existing subjects with the television stations licensing a print for about $75, in the opinion of Miner.

### Saving on High Frequencies

Discussing CBS's recent ordering of an experimental one-kilowatt transmitter from General Electric to telecast on the high frequencies of 400-500 megacycles, Dr. Goldmark disclosed that it is possible to secure the same signal strength in the higher frequencies with that much power than it would be with seven times as much power at the present frequencies. With the use of special directional receiving antenna, according to CBS' Dr. Goldmark, it will be possible in the higher frequencies to secure telecasts from more than one television station and to diminish the need of power by 10 times. Dr. Goldmark compared the average motion picture film projected as equal to 1,000-line television images. CBS, he said, is presently seeking standards of 735-line television images.

## *Schine Anti-Trust Trial Starts After 5 Years*

(Continued from page 1)

Vernon but were told it had all been sold to the Schine circuit," Long added.

He took the stand late this afternoon after lengthy introductory remarks by Robert L. Wright, for the Government, and Willard S. McKay, for the defendants. Long's direct examination, conducted by Albert Boggess, Special Assistant to the U. S. Attorney General, will continue tomorrow. The Government originally filed against Schine in August, 1939.

Also held over until tomorrow was the begining of Schine's defense, to be conducted by Seth Richardson, who today was detained in Washington by transportation difficulties.

### Some from Columbia

In today's testimony, Long said he finally obtained some pictures from Columbia but that the deal was held up two months while the branch "took it up with New York." He also told of a trip to the distributors' main office in New York and of being told there that Schine had purchased the product. He told of difficulties allegedly encountered in getting 20th-Fox and Paramount product. "We never got any from RKO," Long said, adding, however, that he obtained some second-run films from M-G-M and at a later date succeeded in arranging a "split" with Schine on M-G-M second-runs.

In 1937, according to Long, two different Schine representatives came to him with propositions. Both, he said, suggested the sale of his theatre to Schine.

McKay sought a delay in the start of the trial on the grounds that "The Little Three" had been dismissed from the case and won a court order requiring filing of an amended complaint by the Government. Wright said he would file it within 24 hours.

The much heralded pre-trial conferences, in session since May 19, apparently did little to "shorten and simplify" the trial through stipulation of facts. Wright informed the court that because the Schine counsel wanted more time to study certain issues, there were no stipulations to offer at this time.

In his opening remarks, Wright said he is prepared to prove that small operators have not been permitted to compete with Schine in the licensing of films and that they have been given the alternatives of going out of business, selling out to Schine or continuing to show pictures which Schine has rejected.

Wright said further that he intends to prove Schine had "tied up seven of the eight major distributors under franchise agreements," and that he will "seek to re-establish the freedom of opportunity to compete in the exhibition business in Schine towns."

Among the many court observers are counsel for all the major distributors. They have asked for transcripts of the court record but are taking no part in the proceedings.

## *Columbia Meeting Opens Tomorrow*

(Continued from page 1)

berg, Louis Astor, M. J. Weisfeldt, Leo Jaffe, Maurice Grad, George Josephs, Hank C. Kaufman, Vincent Borelli, William Brennan, Seth Raisler, Irving Sherman, Joseph Freiberg and Sidney Singerman. Jerry Safron, Western division supervisor, in New York for conferences, accompanied the group to Chicago.

Fifteen branches will be represented at the convention by district managers, branch managers and salesmen from Atlanta, Charlotte, Chicago, Dallas, Des Moines, Detroit, Indianapolis, Kansas City, Memphis, Milwaukee, Minneapolis, New Orleans, Oklahoma City, Omaha and St. Louis.

The Chicago meeting will be followed by a gathering in New York, June 13-15, and one in San Francisco, July 11-13.

## *Delay Rather Than Suspend Projectors*

(Continued from page 1)

the situation was 'delay' rather than 'suspension' although they admitted that the net effect was the same and no material number of new machines would come on the market until the military needs for the defeat of Germany had been fulfilled and supplies of vital components could be released for civilian use.

Practically the entire output of parts needed for the completion of projectors has been going into military equipment for some time, it was said, and it never was the intention of the WPB that its projector program should invade the military field. The primary idea back of a recent authorization of increased projector production apparently was that when the situation did improve and military requirements fell off the projector manufacturers would be able to jump in immediately and secure supplies as soon as they were released.

## Scollard Mad C. M. Reagan' Exec. Assistan

(Continued from page 1)

ministrative affairs of the Paramou distribution department. He has be with Paramount for the past six ye and served as executive assistant Neil F. Agnew, who resigned rece ly as distribution vice-president become head of international distrib tion for David O. Selznick's Va guard Films.

Donahue will head the newly crea ed Central division. As previous reported, William Erbb, New Engla district manager, will become Easte division manager, and George Smi will continue as Western divisi manager. All appointments are effe tive June 12. On that date, Hug Owen, Paramount Eastern divisi manager, will join Agnew as gener sales manager for Vanguard. T post of sales manager at Paramou is being eliminated by Reagan, w held that title prior to his advanc ment to distribution vice-president.

### Clark to Dallas

Duke Clark, acting district manage at Cleveland, will succeed Donah as district manager at Dallas, f lowing the recovery from a rece illness of Harry Goldstein, who r turns to his Cleveland post, also previously reported. Fred Larned ha been advanced from sales manager branch manager at Dallas, succee ing Charles L. Dees, and Heywo Simmons has been advanced fro salesman to sales manager at Dalla

The following exchanges are i cluded in the new Central division Chicago, Milwaukee, Minneapoli Cleveland, Detroit, Cincinnati, Indi anapolis, Dallas, Oklahoma City an Memphis. The Eastern division wi include the following: Boston, Ne Haven, Buffalo, Albany, New Yor Philadelphia, Washington, Pittsburg Atlanta, Charlotte and New Orlean The Western division will include Los Angeles, San Francisco, Seattl Portland, Denver, Salt Lake Cit Omaha, Kansas City, St. Louis an Des Moines.

### Kane Succeeds Ruff

Al Kane, Boston branch manage succeeds Erbb; Ed Ruff, New Have manager, replaces Kane, and Joh Moore, Boston sales manager, re places Ruff at New Haven.

In making the formal announce ment of the appointments Reagan em phasized that all were from the rank of Paramount men, following a com pany policy.

## *Decree Meeting Seen For Next Week*

(Continued from page 1)

liaison between the two groups, ha a telephone conversation with Assis ant U. S. Attorney General Tom C Clark earlier this week, but reporte ly no date for the conference was the agreed upon and Clark said he woul get in touch with the New York ex ecutives within the next day or tw

Reports from New York that th distributors had announced they ha reached the limit of concession whic they would make to obtain a new de cree, were not discussed by Clark.

THE WAR DEPARTMENT
*reveals*
"ATTACK"
*(The Battle For New Britain)*
at the
NEW YORK TRADE SHOWING
Wednesday, June 7, at 11:00 A. M.
RKO PROJECTION ROOM
630 NINTH AVE., NEW YORK, N. Y.
(Distributed by RKO Radio Pictures, Inc.)

# "THANK GOD IT'S NOT YOUR KID–"

**(but he came to the right industry for help, because film folk have a heart)**



Get out the check-book and remember it's only money!

But it will buy happiness for you, knowing this dough is for kids like yours, families like yours—although not so fortunate.

Every year, and this year more than ever, THE GREATER NEW YORK FUND appeals to all of us to give a thought to our own needy, the sick, the hungry, the old and lonely in our midst. It's a wonderful charity because all of us, whether Protestant, Catholic or Jew, join hands to finance 403 grand organizations. That's real democracy, a pleasure to support.

Rich man, give in proportion to your means—and you and you and you—give a day's pay. With this community spirit we show the nation the true meaning of the American way.

*Give to your company representative or direct to Motion Picture Division, GREATER NEW YORK FUND, 218 West 49th Street, New York City*

*A Career is Born!*

# DAYS OF GLORY

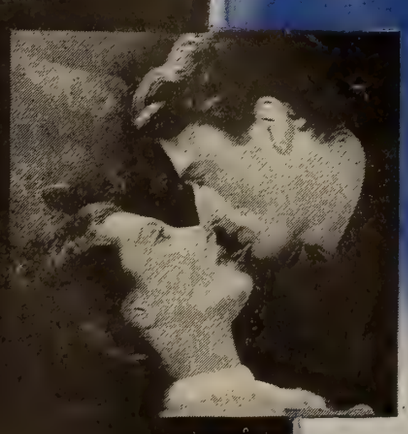
*A* CASEY ROBINSON *Production*

*Introducing a Brilliant Cast of Broadway Stage Personalities...starring*

TAMARA TOUMANOVA

GREGORY PECK

AN RKO-RADIO PICTURE





## *Lowell Gilmore*

Won over all competition in tests for this colorful role. His first picture climaxes an enviable record of major leads in many Theatre Guild plays, other Broadway hits!

First in Film and Radio News Brief, Accurate and Impartial

# MOTION PICTURE DAILY

Alert, Intelligent and Indispensable to the Motion Picture Industry

VOL. 55. NO. 108 NEW YORK, U.S.A., FRIDAY, JUNE 2, 1944 TEN CENTS

## WLB Ruling On Exchange Raises Asked

### *Appeal RWLB's Denial Of 10 Percent Boost*

Seeking to establish a precedent which would presumably be followed by regional War Labor Boards in all film exchange cities, the IATSE and representatives of M-G-M's Washington exchange have appealed to the War Labor Board for approval of a 10 per cent increase for exchange service workers. The regional board in Philadelphia, which has jurisdiction over the Washington area turned down an appeal on May 17 from a previous ruling by the Wage Stabilization Director's office denying the increase.

The case of M-G-M's Washington exchange employes is viewed by in-

(Continued on page 9)

## New Jackson Park Trial Is Denied

CHICAGO, June 1.—Federal Judge Michael Igoe today overruled motions for a new trial in the Jackson Park Theatre anti-trust case filed by Myles G. Seeley, attorney for the defendants, which include Balaban and Katz, Paramount, Warner Bros., RKO Radio, 20th Century-Fox and Loew's. Seeley will take the case to the U. S. Circuit Court of Appeals.

The case was heard by a federal jury in March, which awarded the plaintiff a judgment of $360,000. The defendants are filing an appeal bond to stay the judgment, pending a decision by the Court of Appeals, which is expected early in the Fall.

## *Special De Sylva Unit Looms at Paramount*

HOLLYWOOD, June 1.—In the face of widespread speculation over the effect of the Hal B. Wallis-Paramount deal on his status, B. G. (Buddy) De Sylva today told MOTION PICTURE DAILY that he has been anxious for some time to drop the total production load in favor of a unit of his own, making a few pictures annually. Discussions indicating such an eventuality may be launched tomorrow between De Sylva and Y. Frank Freeman, Paramount vice-president in charge of studio operations. De Sylva's current contract expires a year from next January.

## *1,000 at War Bond Rally*

At 9:30 this morning, 1,000 theatre owners, managers, assistant managers, film exchange managers and salesmen and company presidents and executives gathered at designated street corners on Central Park West here. Buglers sounded mess-call; a military band came marching up the street, leading national Fifth War Loan chairman R. J. O'Donnell and his staff in Army cars; military police then rounded up the street-corner groups and marched them into Central Park to long-held secret war-bond-rally-rendezvous—The Tavern-on-the-Green! New York's Fifth War Loan workers thus planned a martial welcome to the national industry officers of the drive, who are

(Continued on page 9)

## O'Donnell Acclaims Bond Drive Support

The nationwide enthusiasm for the Fighting Fifth War Loan campaign, as evidenced at the series of rallies during the national committee's coast-to-coast tour, "leads us to believe that the Fighting Fifth will accomplish its objective," National Chairman R. J. O'Donnell stated on Thursday.

(Continued on page 9)

### *Signal Corps Award To M. P. Academy*

**Washington, D. C., June 1.—The Research Council of the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences was disclosed today to be among the first 10 individuals and organizations to receive the Signal Corps Certificate of Appreciation.**

**The certificate is designed as a testimonial to those who perform notable services beyond the normal requirements of duty but, not being under the direct control of the War Department, are not eligible for the Army-Navy "E."**

## OCR Policy Designed To Assist Military

WASHINGTON, D. C., June 1.—No program of the Office of Civilian Requirements will be pressed that might "endanger production of a single weapon needed for the quickest possible victory," it was declared today by William Y. Elliott, taking over as War Production Board vice-chairman for the OCR.

Emphasizing that the OCR has been recognized as the claimant for the civilian economy, with a voice in WPB policy-making at the highest levels, Elliott asserted that "What we are pro-

(Continued on page 9)

## *More Entertainment Films Coming from Disney*

### *Rapid Increase in Postwar Audience*

**Washington, June 1.—Rapid expansion of civilian audiences after the war was seen here in a revised draft of the George-Murray industrial demobilization bill under which the U. S. would discharge servicemen as rapidly as the military situation permits.**

**To maintain a level of employment, expansion in civilian production would be synchronized with war production cut-backs; protection would be accorded small businesses, and unemployment compensation would be strengthened and benefits increased.**

Walt Disney will produce 18 short subjects for theatres and release "Three Caballeros," a color feature, during 1944-45, the producer announced yesterday at his offices here. This program will exceed the nine actually delivered this season although 18 were contemplated, he said. RKO Radio will continue to distribute.



Walt Disney

Failure to make full delivery of product promised to exhibitors, Disney said, was attributable to the studio's intensive produc-

(Continued on page 9)

## Bar Some U.S. Schine Trial Data in Court

### *Defense Objections to Memoranda Upheld*

BUFFALO, June 1.—An attempt by Robert L. Wright of the Justice Department to have admitted into evidence over a score of inter-office distributor letters and memoranda, and photostatic copies of communications between Emerson W. Long, Cadiz, O., exhibitor, and distributor heads was balked by defense counsel in Federal court here today as the Schine anti-trust trial completed its second day.

Attorney Saul E. Rogers described it as "the rankest kind of hearsay." He declared Wright was not properly presenting his case and virtually demanded the right to later subject the material to close scrutiny. Judge Knight sustained all of Schine counsel's objections and informed Wright the data may be stricken from the record if it is not later "connected up" with the defendants.

Government witnesses today were

(Continued on page 9)

## House Kills Senate Cabaret Tax Cut

WASHINGTON, June 1.—The Senate's amendment to cut the cabaret tax from 30 to 20 per cent and exempt servicemen from paying the levy was lost today when the House deleted it from the Public Debt Limit Bill and sent the measure in original form to a joint conference committee.

Some House leaders referred to the cabaret rider as a revenue measure and contended that it was improperly tacked on to a non-revenue act. They pointed out that the Constitution requires all fund-raising legislation to arise in the House. The bill would raise the debt ceiling from $210,000,000,000 to $260,000,000,000.

## *Thall Named to Assist Sturdivant*

SAN FRANCISCO, June 1.—Charles Thall, head film buyer and broker for Fox-West Coast Theatres in Northern California, has been promoted to assistant division manager of that territory under B. V. Sturdivant. George Milner will take over Thall's former film buying post.

# Personal Mention

BEN KALMENSON, Warners' general sales manager, is back from a two-week tour of the exchanges.

•

E. N. FERRO, Universal manager for Panama, Central America and Ecuador, arrived here yesterday for conferences with J. H. SEIDELMAN, vice-president in charge of foreign distribution.

•

REX WILLIAMS, manager of Loew's State and Orpheum Theatres, St. Louis, Mo., will leave on a two-week vacation in Chicago tomorrow.

•

SAMUEL BRONSTON, United Artists producer, has returned to Hollywood after a three-week stay in New York.

•

J. R. GRAINGER, president of Republic Pictures, will leave New York over the weekend for the Coast.

•

ARTHUR GOTTLIEB, head of Du-Art Film Laboratories, has arrived in New York from Toronto.

•

HARRY KOSINER, EDWARD SMALL'S Eastern representative, returned yesterday from Beaufort, S. C.

•

JULES LAPIDUS, Eastern division sales manager, will return today from Boston.

•

C. N. ODELL, Paramount home office publicist, will return from a vacation on Monday.

•

COL. H. A. COLE, president of the Allied Theatre Owners of Texas, is in town.

## RKO Stock Issue Is Over-Subscribed

The 57,337 shares of RKO preferred stock offered yesterday were oversubscribed, it was reported here by Lehman Brothers and Goldman, Sachs & Co., underwriters.

The block was worth $5,250,000, at $91.25 per share. The stock closed yesterday at 92. It hit a high of 107¾ earlier this year.

PHILADELPHIA, June 1.—The Securities Exchange Commission today exempted purchase of the block of 57,337 shares of RKO six per cent preferred stock from Atlas Corp. by Lehman Brothers of New York, heading a group of underwriters, from provisions of the Investment Company Act.

## England Represents RKO on WAC

Wilbur B. England has been named a member of the War Activities Committee representing RKO Theatres, and has been named treasurer of the Metropolitan New York Exchange area division of the WAC.

# Jack Cohn to Open Col. Meet Today

CHICAGO, June 1.—Columbia vice-president Jack Cohn will welcome more than 80 delegates at the opening of a four-day sales meeting in the Drake Hotel here tomorrow. He will turn the gavel over to general sales manager A. Montague, who will preside.

Among home office executives present are Rube Jackter, Lou Weinberg, Louis Astor, M. J. Weisfeldt, Leo Jaffe, Maurice Grad, George Josephs, Hank C. Kaufman, Vincent Borelli, William Brennan, Seth Raisler, Irving Sherman, Joseph Freiberg, Sidney Singerman and Jerry Safron. Western district supervisor.

Present from the field will be Carl Shalit, Central division manager, and B. C. Marcus, Midwest division manager, and the following branch managers: R. J. Ingram, George Roscoe, B. J. Lourie, Jack Underwood, Mel Evison, Joseph Gins, W. Guy Craig, Tom Baldwin, J. J. Rogers, Oscar Ruby, H. C. Chapman, Huston Duvall, Dewey Gibbs, Joe Jacobs and C. D. Hill.

## Hal Danson in New Post at Paramount

Hal Danson, recently returned to the Paramount home office after three months at the studio, has been appointed assistant advertising manager of the company, R. M. Gillham, director of advertising-publicity, announced yesterday. He will work with Stanley Shuford, manager of national, trade, newspaper, billboard and radio advertising.

While on the Coast, Danson reorganized Paramount's trailer set-up and worked out a system for advancing advertising information.

## 6 Months for Barnett For Concealed Assets

Roger Stanley Barnett, president of Color Classics, Inc., was sentenced to six months imprisonment by Federal Judge William Bondy here yesterday, following Barnett's guilty plea on Wednesday to an indictment alleging that he concealed some $20,000 from a trustee in bankruptcy in violation of the National Bankruptcy Act. After serving the sentence, Barnett will be placed on probation for one year.

## Moffat Heads Pathe, Ltd.

LONDON, June 1.—William Moffat is managing director of Pathe Pictures, Ltd., here, having replaced William J. Gill in that post some time ago. References to Gill's connection with Pathe in MOTION PICTURE DAILY on April 3, as well as the mention that he distributes PRC and Monogram films in the British market, were incorrect.

## Muriel Dollinger Resigns

Muriel Dollinger, publicity director for Film Classics for the past year, resigned yesterday.

## Not an Owner at Trade Screening

**Exhibitor attendance at consent decree trade showings of new product has been on the wane practically everywhere for months. This week the ultimate was reached when not a single exhibitor put in an appearance at the RKO trade screening of "A Night of Adventure" at the company's New York exchange.**

# Bond Premiere Week In Illinois June 23

CHICAGO, June 1.—J. J. Rubens, state chairman of the Fifth War Loan drive, announced today that the week of June 23 has been designated as "Bond Premiere Week" in Illinois, with a minimum of 50 premieres to be held in Chicago alone.

A premiere committee has been formed, comprised of Jack Kirsh, head of Illinois Allied and Chicago drive chairman; Jack Flynn, M-G-M Western sales manager, and John Balaban of the Balaban and Katz Circuit. Others attending a bond meeting here yesterday were: Edwin Silverman of Essaness Theatres; Larry Stein, Warner Theatre Chicago publicity head; Tom Gorman, RKO Chicago division manager, and Harry Balaban, president of the H. and E. Balaban Corp.

## Extend Drive Rallies To Cincinnati June 6

The 17th all-industry regional meeting for the Fifth War Loan campaign will be held at Cincinnati Tuesday at the Netherlands Plaza Hotel, it was disclosed here yesterday by national drive chairman R. J. O'Donnell.

Exhibitors and distributors from Southern Ohio, Southeast Indiana and Northern Kentucky, as well as local representatives, will attend the rally for which Martin G. Smith, Ohio exhibitor chairman, will be regional chairman, with Col. Arthur Frudenfeld in charge of arrangements.

## Ginsburg Starts New Film Buying Group

NEW HAVEN, June 1.—Lewis S. Ginsburg, for the five years a salesman for United Artists here, has resigned to form Amalgamated Theatres, Inc., a new booking and buying service for Connecticut exhibitors. Twenty-five theatres are said to be under contract thus far, with actual operations set to begin on July 1 for the new season.

## Bond Ads to Subways

Approximately 1,000 one-sheets, promoting the industry's Fifth War Loan campaign, will be posted in subways through arrangements made by Harry Mandel of the New York "Fighting Fifth" drive. The New York Subways Advertising Co. is donating the space.

# 'U' Officials Head For Coast Meeting

CHICAGO, June 1.—Universal home office executives will leave Chicago today for Los Angeles to attend a 1944-45 sales meeting at the Ambassador Hotel, June 5-10.

Fred Meyers, F. J. A. McCarthy, J. J. Scully, J. J. Jordan, Adolph Schimel, D. A. Levy, A. J. Sharick, S. E. Applegate and E. L. McEvoy left New York yesterday and were met in Chicago today by Maurice Bergman, M. M. Gottlieb, H. D. Graham, P. F. Rosian, Dave Miller and Alf Perry.

W. A. Scully, who will preside, E. T. Gomersall, A. J. O'Keefe and F. T. Murray already are on the Coast.

## World Theatre Sold

The World Theatre property at 153 W. 49th St., New York, has been sold to an investing client by Prudence-Bonds Corp., through Berk and Krumgold, theatrical real estate brokers.


NEW YORK THEATRES

RADIO CITY MUSIC HALL
Showplace of the Nation Rockefeller Center
HELD OVER 4th WEEK
A Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer's Picture
"THE WHITE CLIFFS OF DOVER"
Starring IRENE DUNNE
with ALAN MARSHAL
SPECTACULAR STAGE PRESENTATION
First Mezzanine Seats Reserved. Circle 6-4600

LOEW'S STATE B'WAY & 45
ON SCREEN
FIRST N. Y. SHOWING
EDW. G. ROBINSON
'TAMPICO'
Victor McLAGLEN
IN PERSON
Direct from Glass Hat of Belmont Plaza
The CHINESE REVUE
Added Attraction
Harry SAVOY

RKO PALACE B'WAY & 47th St.
"SHOW BUSINESS"
Eddie Cantor — George Murphy
Joan Davis — Nancy Kelly

PARAMOUNT'S
"GOING MY WAY"
with BING CROSBY
In Person
CHARLIE SPIVAK and His Orch.
PARAMOUNT Times Square

Anne Baxter - Wm. Eythe - Michael O'Shea
'THE EVE OF ST. MARK'
The War's Greatest Love Story
Plus on Stage—Mia Slavenska - Barry Wood
Eddie Garr - Berry Bros. - Radio Aces
BUY MORE BONDS ROXY 7th Ave. & 50th St.


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## Stone Setting Up N.Y. Story Dept.

Emphasizing the difficulties encountered by independent Hollywood producers in securing best-selling books for filming, Andrew Stone, independent producer, who has a five-year releasing deal with United Artists for two films a year, disclosed during an interview here yesterday that he is setting up his own story department in New York under Seymour Poe, Eastern representative.

Stone plans to film a best-seller and produce another musical review similar to his "Sensations of 1945" next season. The musical review, he explained, will probably be built around this year's annual Atlantic City beauty pageant and will be titled "Miss America."

Poe will not only scout for best-sellers for which Stone said he is prepared to pay the same top prices as those paid by the large companies, but he will also scout for acts and specialties which Stone can incorporate in future releases.

**'Sensations' Changes Sought**

Stone disclosed that the War Department is seeking to have certain alterations made in "Sensations of 1945" and Edward C. Raftery, UA president, is discussing the situation with War Department officials. The latter has taken objection, according to Stone, to sequences depicting Women's Army Corps privates fraternizing with nurse lieutenants as well as to a sequence which has Dennis O'Keefe discharged from the Army as a second lieutenant and returning in the rank of a private.

Stone hopes to make a film dealing with modern railroading of a semi-documentary nature. He reported that the studio space situation in Hollywood is critical with no space available until October.

## Peskay to Have Own Building

Edward J. Peskay Associates, representatives of independent producers, has purchased the four-story building at 45 West 45 Street, here. After alterations, the organization will occupy the entire building, about July 1.

Peskay is vice-president of Benedict Bogeaus Productions and Eastern representative for Samuel Bronston, both releasing through United Artists.

## DuMont, Beal at REC Tele. Meet

Allen B. DuMont, president of DuMont Television and Television Broadcasters Association, and Ralph Beal, assistant to the vice-president in charge of RCA Laboratories were the speakers at the third meeting of the Radio Executives Club television seminar here last night.

Both discussed present-day television images and improvements to be expected in the future.

## Increase Para. Dividend

Paramount's board of directors yesterday declared a regular quarterly dividend on the company's common stock of 50 cents, payable Sept. 30 to stockholders of record Sept. 8, thereby increasing the annual dividend rate from $1.60 to $2 per share.

# Review

## "A Night of Adventure"

*(RKO)*

"A NIGHT OF ADVENTURE" is a better-than-average courtroom melodrama featuring Tom Conway and a supporting cast which includes Edward Brophy, Audrey Long, Louis Borell, Addison Richards, Joan Brooks and Nancy Gates. It is based on Wilhelm Speyer's play, "Hat, Coat and Glove," produced on Broadway several years ago. Director Gordon Douglas sustains suspense throughout and Herman Schlom has provided an attractive production.

Crane Wilbur supplied the screen play for the telling of the story of a brilliant New York criminal lawyer who defends a well-known artist on a murder charge. The unusual aspect of the plot is that the artist is enamoured of the lawyer's estranged wife, and the murder of which he is accused is not murder at all but accidental death caused by the lawyer himself during a tussle with a former model fiancee of the artist. Conway is the lawyer who is involved in exposing some crooked politicians who try to crack down on him as a result of the accident in which he is involved. Miss Long is his neglected wife who quickly senses his more than professional interest in the case. The court-room sequences in the latter half of the film are rather convincingly handled by Conway. Brophy is Conway's sympathetic aide, Miss Long is appealing as his wife, and Jean Brooks is properly vindictive in a brief sequence which leads to her death.

Running time, 65 mins. "G."* Released in block No. 6.

MILTON LIVINGSTON

*"G" denotes general classification.

## Dismiss Monopoly Suit Against Ascap

State Supreme Court Judge Morris Eder yesterday dismissed a suit brought by William Klein on behalf of the Hotel Edison and Shubert interests which charged Ascap with violation of the Donnelly Act, the New York State anti-monopoly statute. Motion for dismissal was made by Louis D. Frohlich of Schwartz & Frohlich, Ascap counsel.

Judge Eder held that the state law is not applicable to an organization such as Ascap, dealing in intangibles.

## SMPE Plans Meeting For N.Y., Oct. 16-18

Society of Motion Picture Engineers will hold its 56th semi-annual Fall conference at the Hotel Pennsylvania, New York, Oct. 16-18, it was announced yesterday by W. C. Kunzmann, convention vice-president.

Officers for 1945, together with the names of the winners of the Progress Medal Award and the Journal Award Certificate for 1944, will be announced during the conference, Mr. Kunzmann said.

## 'Gasless Parade' to 'Road'

PORTLAND, Ore., June 1.—Conserving gas for D-Day, the mayor and other leaders of Portland arrived by saddle horses, bicycles, pushmobiles, carts and skates for tonight's world premiere of "The Song of the Open Road" at the Broadway Theatre, where a personal appearance was made by Jane Powell, 14-year-old native of this city and star of the United Artists-Charles B. Rogers production.

## Altec Signs Knutson

SEATTLE, June 1.—Barclay Ardell, district manager for Altec Service Corp. here, yesterday reported the signing of a contract for sound service, repair and replacements with Knutson Circuit of Livingston, Miles City and Harlowton in Montana and at Hailey, Idaho.

## Resume Arbitration In Para. Dispute

Formal arbitration hearings will be resumed here Monday at the Paramount home office in the job classifications dispute between the company and the Screen Office and Professional Employes Guild, Local 109, CIO, affecting some 400 "white collar" workers in the home office.

SOPEG and company officials sought to resolve their differences during the past several weeks while in recess from arbitration but could not reach an agreement. The arbitration panel consists of Aaron Horvitz and Albert G. Whaley, attorneys, and Tom Murphy of the Newspaper Guild.

## Goldwyn's Regent to Get Talent, Stories

Samuel Goldwyn's new Regent Pictures of California, and certified this week in Albany to do business in New York, will sign new talent and acquire story material and stage plays, it was disclosed here yesterday by James A. Mulvey, its president, who is also vice-president of Samuel Goldwyn, Inc.

## Lustig Suit Against 'U' Ruled Mistrial

Technical defects in the complaint filed by William Lustig against Universal, in which he demanded damages of $525,000 for alleged interference with his exclusive contract with Gloria Jean, resulted in the declaration of a mistrial yesterday by Supreme Court Justice Dennis O'Leary Cohalan. The motion for the mistrial was made by Universal's attorneys.

## Jessie Ralph Dies

GLOUCESTER, Mass., June 1.—Jessie Ralph, 79, well-known character actress of screen and stage, died here recently after a short illness. She had retired three years ago. Her only survivors are nieces and nephews.

# Coast Flashes

*Hollywood, June 1*

HAL B. WALLIS and Y. Frank Freeman, Paramount vice-president, returned here today. Wallis plans a months' vacation at Malibu before activating his recent Paramount deal.

•

The annual Paramount Coast short subject sales meeting will be held Monday at the St. Francis Hotel in San Francisco with Oscar Morgan, short subjects sales head, presiding. Morgan will spend three days at the Paramount studio after the meeting before returning East.

•

Anne del Valle, formerly with Arnold Pressburger's publicity department, has joined the Selznick-Vanguard press staff. She will work on "Since You Went Away" and "With All My Heart," to be released through United Artists.

•

Francis S. Harmon, WAC coordinator, addressed the Oklahoma City chamber of commerce today, flying East from here. He will talk in Tulsa tomorrow night, then in San Antonio, New Orleans and Indianapolis enroute East.

•

The Hal Roach studios has renewed William Bendix's contract for seven years. Since Col. Roach is engaged in Government work, there will be no production from the studio for the duration.

•

M-G-M bought "Little Bit of Heaven," an original screen story, as a starring vehicle for Gene Kelly. Jack Cummings will produce the film.

•

Charles Jackson's novel, "Lost Weekend," has been purchased by Paramount for a Charles Brackett production, directed by Billy Wilder.

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The condition of director Lewis Milestone is good but he will remain at the Hollywood Hospital for some time yet.

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Mady Christians will appear in RKO Radio's version of "Mama's Bank Account."

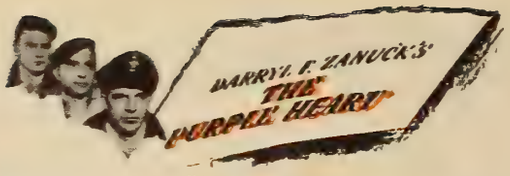
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Michael Todd left here by plane today for New York.

## Business Is Good in South America

Theatre business throughout South America is very good, with few exceptions, it was disclosed here this week by Irving A. Maas, 20th Century-Fox assistant director of foreign distribution, who recently returned from a tour of South American countries.

This upswing attributed to wartime conditions, will continue to increase after the war, Maas said. The levels of all phases of the industry in those countries have steadily risen, particularly in theatre construction, he added. Many new houses are now under construction and plans are being formulated for an even larger theatre construction program throughout most of those countries. Financial interests other than those previously connected with the industry are entering the field, Maas disclosed.




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**PIN UP GIRL**

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# FOU

## 1. HERE'S T LETTERT



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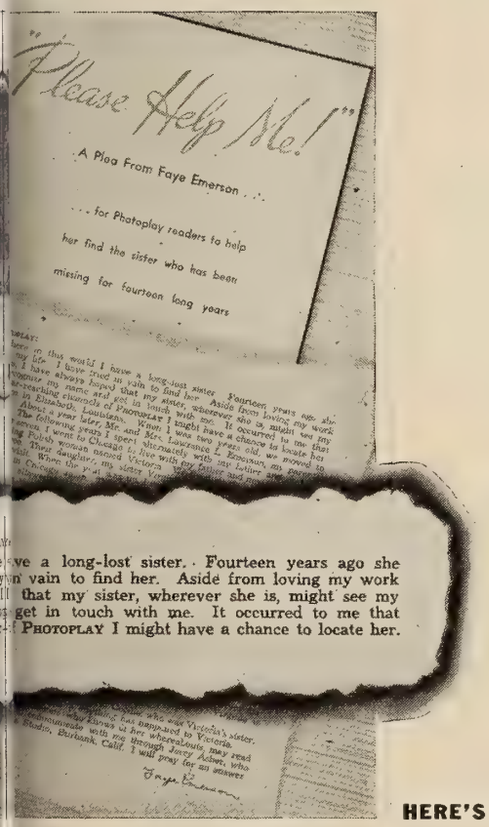
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**RSON'S PLEADING OPEN PLAY READERS**


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A Plea From Faye Emerson

. . . for Photoplay readers to help her find the sister who has been missing for fourteen long years

ve a long-lost sister. Fourteen years ago she vain to find her. Aside from loving my work that my sister, wherever she is, might see my get in touch with me. It occurred to me that Photoplay I might have a chance to locate her.

## 2. HERE'S WHAT HAPPENED WITHIN 48 HOURS AFTER PHOTOPLAY HIT NEWSSTANDS

GLORIA BALKEMA, NINETEEN-YEAR-OLD PHOTOPLAY READER FROM GRAND RAPIDS, MICH., SEES MAY ISSUE PHOTOPLAY CARRYING FAYE EMERSON'S OPEN LETTER. SHOWS IT TO FRIEND, VIRGINIA EMERSON, WHO OFTEN TALKS ABOUT MISSING OLDER SISTER. VIRGINIA PHONES PHOTOPLAY'S NEW YORK OFFICE. PROVES IDENTITY. IS SENT BY PHOTOPLAY TO HOLLYWOOD FOR REUNION. HUNDREDS OF OTHER PHOTOPLAY READERS STILL PHONE, WRITE, WIRE OFFERING HELP.

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Photoplay's charming and gifted reporter of Hollywood news before it happens.

FIRST • AMERICA'S OLDEST • AMERICA'S BEST

# 'Russia' Paces Chicago Run With $25,000

CHICAGO, June 1.—The long Decoration Day week-end kept first run houses humming and business in most cases was good. "Song of Russia" at the United Artists and "Show Business" at the Palace are the new Loop leaders, each winding up their first week with an estimated $25,000.

Estimated receipts for the week ending June 1:

**"Lady in the Dark" (Para.) 1 day, 7th Loop week**
**"The Sullivans" (20th-Fox) 6 days**
APOLLO—(1,200) (55c-65c-95c) 7 days. Gross: $14,000. (Average: $11,400).
**"Standing Room Only" (Para.)**
CHICAGO—(3,850) (55c-85c-95c) 7 days. 2nd week. Stage: Gil Lamb and Revue. Gross: $47,000. (Average: $51,500).
**"Tampico" (20th-Fox)**
**"Bermuda Mystery" (20th-Fox)**
GARRICK—(1,000) (55c-65c-95c) 7 days. Gross: $9,500. (Average: $9,100).
**"Weird Woman" (Univ.)**
**"Action in Arabia" (RKO) 1 day, 2nd week**
**"Chip Off the Old Block" (Univ.) 6 days**
GRAND—(1,250) (50c-60c-85c-95c) 7 days. Gross: $10,000. (Average: $9,100).
**"The Black Parachute" (Col.)**
ORIENTAL—(3,200) (44c-55c-60c-80c-95c) 7 days. Stage: Xavier Cugat and orchestra. Gross: $33,000. (Average: $24,000).
**"Ladies Courageous" (Univ.)**
**"Pardon My Rhythm" (Univ.) (1 day)**
**"Show Business" (RKO) (6 days)**
PALACE—(2,500) (50c-60c-85c-95c) 7 days. Gross: $25,000. (Average: $24,000).
**"Buffalo Bill" (20th-Fox)**
ROOSEVELT — (1,500) (55c-65c-95c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $22,000. (Average: $20,000).
**"Cover Girl" (Col.)**
STATE LAKE—(2,700) (55c-65c-95c) 7 days, 3rd week. Gross: $24,000. (Average: $29,000).
**"Song of Russia" (M-G-M)**
UNITED ARTISTS—(1,700) (50c-65c-95c) 7 days. Gross: $25,000. (Average: $20,200).
**"Up in Arms" (RKO)**
WOODS—(1,200) (55c-65c-95c) 7 days, 5th week. Gross: $17,500. (Average: $10,000).

# 'My Way' Hits Terrific $19,700 Over Par

BOSTON, June 1.—Sparked by a tremendous $48,000 at the Metropolitan for "Going My Way," business has improved here. "Song of Bernadettee" continues big at the Majestic, with $26,000.

Estimated receipts for the week ending June 2:

**"Tampico" (20th-Fox)**
BOSTON THEATRE—(3,200) (50c-65c-95c-$1.10). Stage show. Gross: $30,000. (Average: $25,000).
**"Uninvited" (Para.)**
**"Slightly Terrific" (Univ.)**
FENWAY—(1,373) (44c-55c-65c). Gross: $6,500. (Average: $7,000).
**"The Song of Bernadette" (20th-Fox)**
MAJESTIC—(1,350) ($1.10 all seats). Gross: $26,000. (Average: $10,000).
**"Going My Way" (Para.)**
METROPOLITAN—(4,367) (44c-55c-65c-74c). Gross: $48,000. (Average: $28,300).
**"See Here, Private Hargrove" (M-G-M)**
**"The Whistler" (Col.)**
ORPHEUM — (2,900) (44c-55c-65c-74c) Gross: $26,000. (Average: $23,800).
**"See Here, Private Hargrove" (M-G-M)**
**"The Whistler" (Col.)**
STATE—(3,200) (44c-55c-65c-74c). Gross: $14,000. (Average: $11,000).
**"Weird Woman" (Univ.)**
**"Sweetheart of the U.S.A." (Mono.)**
TRANS LUX—(980) (44c-55c-65c-75c). Gross: $4,500. (Average: $4,000).

## To Screen Selznick Film

HOLLYWOOD, June 1.—The first general press preview of David O. Selznick's "Since You Went Away" will be held at Grauman's Chinese Theatre here June 21.

# Review

## "Secret Command"

*(Columbia)*

*Hollywood, June 1*

THERE is a lot of action, considerable suspense and quite a bit of character in this Pat O'Brien outing which has "the fighting Irishman" cast as a Government agent assigned to prevention of sabotage in a shipyard. It is a film more to his measure than most of those he has had lately and he is better in its relatively simple heroics than in the loftier nobilities which he has had imposed upon him in recent undertakings.

Carole Landis is co-starred with O'Brien, the two portraying Government agents who pose as shipyard worker and wife for purposes of trapping the enemy; the support includes such dependables as Chester Morris, Ruth Warrick, Barton MacLane and Wallace Ford. It is a trim company.

Roy Chanslor's screenplay, based on the story published as "Pilebuck," opens with O'Brien getting a job in a shipyard where his estranged brother is boss. O'Brien takes a beating or two by way of concealing the fact that he is there to prevent a German plot to blow up the place, and there are suspenseful sequences before he succeeds in executing his mission. A. Edward Sutherland's direction is briskly effective. Production by Phil L. Ryan rates commendation.

Running time, 80 mins. "G."*. Release date, June 22.

WILLIAM R. WEAVER

*"G" denotes general classification.

## Buffalo Grosses Dip In May Heat Wave

BUFFALO, June 1.—It looks like a disappointing week here, "Women in Bondage" and "Lady, Let's Dance" making the Twentieth Century the only bright spot with an expected $14,000. "See Here, Private Hargrove" at the Great Lakes took about $16,000. Weather was very hot for May.

Estimated receipts for the week ending June 3:

**"And the Angels Sing" (Para.)**
BUFFALO—(3,489) (40c-50c-60c-70c) 7 days. Gross: $16,000. (Average: $17,400).
**"See Here, Private Hargrove" (M-G-M)**
GREAT LAKES—(3,800) (40c-50c-60c-70c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $16,000. (Average: $16,600).
**"Andy Hardy's Blonde Trouble" (M-G-M)**
**"Sing a Jingle" (Univ.)**
HIPPODROME—(2,100) (40c-50c-60c-70c) 7 days, 2nd week moveover. Gross: $8,000. (Average: $9,700).
**"Women in Bondage" (Mono.)**
**"Lady, Let's Dance" (Mono.)**
TWENTIETH CENTURY—(3,000) (40c-50c-60c-70c) 7 days. Gross: $14,000. (Average: $12,200).
**"Jam Session" (Col.)**
**"Dangerous Blondes" (Col.)**
LAFAYETTE—(3,000) (40c-50c-60c-70c) 7 days. Gross: $7,500. (Average: $12,400).

## 'Harvest Moon' Tops Kansas City Week

KANSAS CITY, June 1.—Good business prevailed here over the long week-end, with the Newman taking $13,000 with "Shine On, Harvest Moon." The Midland, with "Meet the People" and "The Whistler," grossed around $15,000.

Estimated receipts for the week ending May 30-June 3:

**"Pin Up Girl" (20th-Fox)**
ESQUIRE—(800) (45c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $6,500. (Average: $6,000).
**"Meet the People" (M-G-M)**
**"The Whistler" (Col.)**
MIDLAND — (3,500) (40c-60c) 7 days. Gross: $15,000. (Average: $14,000).
**"Shine On, Harvest Moon" (WB)**
NEWMAN—(1,900) (46c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $13,000. (Average: $10,000).
**"Passage to Marseille" (WB)**
**"Gildersleeve's Ghost" (RKO)**
ORPHEUM—(1,900) (45c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $12,500. (Average: $10,000).
**"Pin Up Girl" (20th-Fox)**
UPTOWN—(2,000) (45c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $5,500. (Average: $5,600).
**"Pin Up Girl" (20th-Fox)**
FAIRWAY—(700) (45c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $1,850. (Average: $1,600).

## 'Gaslight's' $12,000 is Cleveland Winner

CLEVELAND, June 1.—"Gaslight" at Loew's Stillman in its second week topped the average by $2,000, taking a big $12,000. "See Here, Private Hargrove," at Loew's Ohio, in its fourth week, looks like $6,000. Good weather hit other box offices.

Estimated receipts for week ending May 31:

**"Jane Eyre" (20th-Fox)**
ALLEN—(3,000) (44c-55c-65c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $6,500. (Average: $8,500).
**"Shine On, Harvest Moon" (WB)**
WARNERS' HIPPODROME — (3,500) (44c-55c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $16,500. (Average: $22,100).
**"Up in Arms" (RKO)**
WARNERS' LAKE—(714) (44c-55c-65c) 7 days, 3rd week. Gross: $2,400. (Average: $3,200).
**"See Here, Private Hargrove" (M-G-M)**
LOEW'S OHIO—(1,268) (43c-65c) 7 days, 4th week. Gross: $6,000. (Average: $5,000).
**"This Is the Life" (Univ.)**
RKO PALACE—(3,300) (50c-60c-85c-95c) 7 days. Stage: Sammy Kaye orchestra. Gross: $25,000. (Average: $25,400).
**"And the Angels Sing" (Para.)**
LOEW'S STATE—(3,300) (43c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $16,000. (Average: $19,000).
**"Gaslight" (M-G-M)**
LOEW'S STILLMAN—(1,900) (43c-65c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $12,000. (Average: $10,000).

## 'Boys' Leads in Balto. With Healthy $17,000

BALTIMORE, June 1.—After a slight slump of several weeks here openings were strong, with top honors going to "Follow the Boys," grossing $17,000 at Keith's. "Pin Up Girl" is set for $14,500 at the New.

Estimated receipts for the week ending June 1:

**"Gaslight" (M-G-M)**
CENTURY—(35c-45c-55c and 60c week-ends) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $16,000. (Average: $17,500).
**"Follow the Boys" (Univ.)**
KEITH'S — (2,405) (35c-40c-50c-60c) 7 days. Gross: $17,000. (Average: $15,000).
**"Pin Up Girl" (20th-Fox)**
NEW—(1,581) (30c-40c-60c) 7 days. Gross: $14,500. (Average: $13,000).
**"Between Two Worlds" (WB)**
STANLEY—(3,280) (35c-44c-55c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $15,500. (Average: $18,000).
**"Action in Arabia" (RKO)**
HIPPODROME—(2,205) (35c-44c-55c-65c) 7 days. Stage show: "Gay Nineties Revue." Gross: $18,000. (Average: $18,000).
**"The Whistler" (Col.)**
MAYFAIR — (1,000) (35c-54c) 7 days. Gross: $7,000. (Average: $7,000).

# Hollywood

*Hollywood, June 1*

INDEPENDENT producers, even those with excellent major release channels, are finding it increasingly difficult to obtain necessary talent for many of the properties they plan for early production. Many of them have had to substitute stories for those they intended to make first.

This is not true, however, of three of the strongest independent organizations in Hollywood. They had the foresight to sign up strong talent rosters, players, directors, producers and writers, and are therefore in a position to sail smoothly with their schedules.

Among those in this position are David O. Selznick and his Vanguard Films, International Pictures and Samuel Goldwyn. Selznick has eight stars and 13 featured players under contract as well as four directors and one producer; International has 17 stars and feature players, three producers, three directors, and three writers, while Goldwyn has 13 players, including stars and supporting actors, and one associate producer-writer under contract. Most of the other independents have to depend on free-lance players, directors, writers and producers, or on loanouts from major studios.

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*Marjorie Reynolds has been loaned to Sol Lesser by Paramount for the top role in "Three's a Family." She'll play a young mother who goes home to live when her husband leaves for Navy service. Charles Ruggles and Fay Bainter play her father and mother while Marjorie Main is scheduled to play her aunt. . . . George Pal's Puppetoon, "And to Think That I Saw It on Mulberry Street" will have it's world premiere at Grauman's Chinese with the Hollywood opening of "Story of Dr. Wassell" June 7. . . . Louise Allbritton, starred in Universal's "San Diego, I Love You," has been named honorary mayor of San Diego and will officiate in that capacity the day of the world premiere of the picture there. San Diego civic leaders plan a Coast-to-Coast broadcast of the event. The picture is nearing completion now at Universal with Reginald LeBorg directing.*

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**Nancy Porter, new Paramount singing find, has been cast in a strong role in "Out of This World." . . . Republic has borrowed Jean Porter from M-G-M for the second feminine lead in "San Fernando Valley" with Roy Rogers and Dale Evans. John English is directing for producer Eddy White. . . . RKO Radio has signed Donna Lee, young singer, to a term contract. Her full name is Donna Lee O'Leary. At the age of 11 she won the RCA television contest at the World's Fair in New York. . . . Universal has assigned Edward Lilley as associate producer and director on "My Baby Loves Music," which will start June 6.**

## 7,000 Book 'Danger'

"Danger Area," British Ministry of Information short subject being distributed here by M-G-M, has been sold to 7,000 film theatres. "These Are the Men," also produced by BMI, has been booked by 9,000 houses.

# 1,000 at War Bond Rally

(Continued from page 1)

completing a Coast-to-Coast tour in behalf of the Fifth campaign.

Central Park was no battlefield this morning, but jutting from the double-decked dais were grim muzzles of business-like machine guns, to remind that the meeting was a WAR bond meeting. A radio blared forth latest war news, as added war background. The meeting was opened with the national anthem sung by Lucy Monroe.

New York film drive chairman Charles C. Moskowitz immediately turned over the meeting to national chairman O'Donnell. Speakers invited were: John Friedl, Richard Kennedy, Ray Beall, Ned Depinet, Nevil Ford, New York War Finance Committee chairman, and others. New York area plans were visualized with large blow-ups and displays covering many stunts planned.

Special war bond edition of MOTION PICTURE DAILY was distributed.

### Hollywood Luncheon Set for Morgenthau

HOLLYWOOD, June 1.—The industry's local Fifth War Loan leaders will hold a luncheon at the Biltmore Hotel for Secretary of the Treasury Henry Morgenthau, Jr., on June 14, when he comes here to address the bond rally in Hollywood Bowl. The Secretary will also visit the Hollywood Canteen, and other functions are being arranged.

Meanwhile, Bob Hope, Judy Garland, Bette Davis and Rudy Vallee's Coast Guard band have been lined up to furnish entertainment on the Bowl program.

# OCR Policy Designed To Assist Military

(Continued from page 1)

gramming will help the war effort, not hurt it."

"In pressing for programs to meet the civilian requirements we recognize that the essentiality of the war program was never greater," he said.

"There can be no thought of jeopardizing war production, nor of diverting needed facilities from the war effort.

"However, the Army is as much concerned as we are in seeing that the essential civilian production is kept running. They share our views that an essential supporting civilian production is part of the war program."

As head of OCR, Elliott will have the final say in the making of policies for the theatre-construction and other programs designed to that end.

## Dowbiggin Missing

TORONTO, June 1.—Thomas W. Dowbiggin of the RCAF, eldest son of Tom Dowbiggin, veteran branch manager for Paramount's Film Service in Montreal, has been reported missing in action.

## WB Cuts for Cadets

Warner houses will admit members of the Cadet Nurse Corps to its houses under the reduced admission scale applying to regular members of the armed forces.

# Court Bars Admission of Some U.S. Schine Data

(Continued from page 1)

Long, whose testimony is still not completed; John F. Caskey, who testified as to the authenticity of records subpoenaed *duces tecum* from M-G-M, RKO, Paramount and 20th-Fox; Frederick Lorey, city editor of the Mt. Vernon, O., *News*, who brought with him a newspaper file containing a "Letter to the Editor," written by James Copland, manager for Schine in Mt. Vernon; Edmund Sperry, manager of the USES in Mt. Vernon, who testified as to the leasing of the building housing the Memorial Theatre there.

In the afternoon session, Long was cross-examined by Attorney Rogers and was questioned regarding several letters he wrote to distributors in which he informed them he had an "abundance of product," that he was "booked up ahead of time," and that his Memorial Theatre patronage had "grown by leaps and bounds."

Long was shown by Rogers a letter in which the witness "tipped off" an RKO home office official that the Schines had lost a court case in Mt. Vernon and that they were attempting to clear title to the Lyric Theatre site with a view to building a new theatre on the location.

"That was on Oct. 7, 1935, and you knew as early as that Schine was going to build a new theatre?" Rogers queried the witness. "Weren't you trying to get the Lyric site yourself so Schine couldn't get it?"

Long denied he made any attempts to purchase the property but upon further questioning admitted he "had it under advisement."

Rogers showed the witness a letter in which the latter told the same RKO executive he was "considering" the purchase himself.

By way of explaining some of the extravagant statements he made to distributors regarding good business at the Memorial, Long said: "I am a showman, that's all. That was a showman's accuracy." He also described some of his statements as "part of my own buying propaganda."

With regard to a letter he wrote, saying he had "thrown up" the Memorial, Long declared that was only "theatre parlance." Schine counsel sought to prove that Long voluntarily let the Memorial lease expire, rather than being "forced out of business by Schine," as the Government contends.

# Disney to Make More Entertainment Films

(Continued from page 1)

tion for the Government which, in the past year, consisted of 97 per cent of its available output. This season, he said, war work will take 70 per cent of the studio's output. As the war changes, a Government project may be dropped here and there, thus enlarging his plant's capacity for entertainment production, Disney stated.

Visual education through films in the postwar, the producer said, offers a potential medium for imparting information to the masses, unequalled by any other method. Although no formula has been evolved for educational films, present methods of production have proved that they can be combined with good teaching to stimulate an unprecedented interest in subject matter. Although fully aware of its potentialities, Disney hinted that financial support from other quarters would have to be forthcoming before he would venture into the visual education field. Further, the Government will not remain in this field after the war, he said.

### Health Films for CIAA

Disney revealed that he is producing from six to eight 16mm health films for the office of the CIAA. Although the manpower lack has been his greatest production problem, he has been able to replace certain personnel lost to the armed services. A shortage of skilled personnel continues, however, with almost a 100 per cent turnover occurring in certain departments.

The producer will remain here for two weeks and will then go to Washington. He is here to arrange for musical recording by Benny Goodman of his next feature, tentatively titled "Swing Street."

# O'Donnell Acclaims Bond Drive Support

(Continued from page 1)

O'Donnell added that this conclusion is based also on reports which have been received since the regional meetings were held. With members of the national committee touring group, including R. M. Kennedy, John J. Friedl, Ned E. Depinet, Ray Beall and Claude F. Lee, with Major Allen V. Martini, O'Donnell returned to New York on Thursday, following 15 large meetings which covered all sections.

"Early next week," O'Donnell said, "your national committee will embark for final visits to Cincinnati, Detroit and Charlotte. When these trips are finally behind us we will feel that either directly or indirectly we have been in close personal contact with 16,500 pledged theatre operators together with the vast army of men and women in distribution.

### Await With Confidence

"In the final analysis, the results which will be obtained will come from the members of the industry in the field, and we await with great confidence the results of your efforts. In our humble opinion, the nationwide enthusiasm that has greeted our visits leads us to believe that the Fighting Fifth will accomplish its objective and its members will go over the top for our country," O'Donnell said.

"Our primary objective in the "Fighting Fifth" campaign is the sale of "E" Bonds and extra "E" Bonds," he said.

"Certainly we will recognize, and you are hereby instructed to record, the sale of all bonds of series "F" and series "G," but our final accounting will be confined to these three types of bonds only. No other type of bond will be included in our activities."

# WLB Ruling On Exchange Raises Asked

(Continued from page 1)

dustry labor authorities as a test case with almost 2,000 similar service employes in the 30-odd film exchange centers as affected by the eventual outcome. The workers have already received increases amounting to about 12 per cent under "The Little Steel Formula."

Film companies are understood to be experiencing mounting difficulties in preventing the workers from leaving for higher-paying jobs in war industries, especially in exchange cities in "critical" or "imminently critical" labor areas.

### 18 Classifications

Labor representatives of the distributors and the IATSE have agreed upon 18 job classifications with minimum and maximum wage scales for some 3,000 IATSE-represented film exchange "white collar" workers in all exchange centers, in addition to seeking to increase wages for service employes. The system of wage scales worked out ranges from $23-$33 a week for general file clerks, messengers and typists to a $65-$85-a-week scale for head bookers in large exchange centers, with a slightly lower range for other places. Workers who are already receiving the minimums set, or who would receive less than a 10 per cent increase, in being brought up to the minimums set, would receive a flat 10 per cent increase. The classifications and wage scales will shortly be submitted to the regional WLB in the areas in which the exchanges are located, for approval.

## 'Can't Ration Love,' Show Hit $18,000

INDIANAPOLIS, June 1.—"You Can't Ration Love" with Henry Busse's orchestra on the stage will do $18,000 at the Circle this week.

Estimated receipts for the week ending June 1:

**"You Can't Ration Love" (Para.)**
CIRCLE—(2,800) (55c-70c) 7 days. Stage show: Henry Busse orchestra. Gross: $18,000. (Average: $11,800).
**"Uncertain Glory" (WB)**
**"Hot Rhythm" (Mono.)**
INDIANA—(3,200) ( 32c-55c) 7 days. Gross: $11,500. (Average: $11,600).
**"See Here, Private Hargrove" (M-G-M)**
LOEW'S—(2,800) (32c-55c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $9,000. (Average: $11,500).
**"Lady in the Dark" (Para.)**
LYRIC—(2,000) (32c-55c) 7 days, move-over from Indiana. Gross: $5,500. (Average: $4,900).

## Frank Hollis Dies

PORTSMOUTH, N. H., June 1.—Frank Hollis, 64, veteran vaudeville actor and manager of the Olympia here, died today. He had been for 23 years associated with the Maine-New Hampshire Theatre Corp. He was also at one time treasurer of the B. F. Keith Theatre in Boston.

## Red Cross Cites MOT

The March of Time has received a Red Cross citation for its film "At His Side," used in the 1944 Red Cross War Fund Drive.

## 'Gildersleeve' and Show Good for $31,400 in 'Frisco

SAN FRANCISCO, June 1.—"Gildersleeve's Ghost," with Jimmy Lunceford's band on the stage, leads the parade here with $31,400 at the Golden Gate.

Estimated receipts for the week ending May 29-31:

**"Up in Mabel's Room" (UA)**
**"Hat Check Honey" (Univ.)**
UNITED ARTISTS—(1,200) (45c-65c-85c) 7 days, 5th week. Gross: $9,200. (Average: $11,000).
**"Valley of the Sun"**
WARFIELD—(2,680) (45c-65c-85c) 7 days. Stage: Vaudeville. Gross: $22,500. (Average: $21,800).
**"Gildersleeve's Ghost" (RKO)**
GOLDEN GATE—(2,850) (45c-65c-85c) 7 days. Stage: Vaudeville. Gross: $31,400. (Average: $25,000).
**"Pin Up Girl" (20th-Fox)**
**"Henry Aldrich Plays Cupid" (Para.)**
FOX—(5,000) (45c-65c-85c) 7 days. Gross: $28,200. (Average: $24,000).
**"A Guy Named Joe" (M-G-M)**
PARAMOUNT—(2,740) (45c-65c-85c) 7 days. Gross: $21,400. (Average: $19,600).
**"See Here, Private Hargrove" (M-G-M)**
STATE—(2,306) (45c-65c-85c) 7 days, 3rd week. Gross: $13,500. (Average: $12,100).
**"Four Jills in a Jeep" (20th-Fox)**
**"Tampico" (20th-Fox)**
ST. FRANCIS—(1,400) (45c-65c-85c) 7 days, 2nd week, moveover from Fox. Gross: $14,200. (Average: $11,600).
**"Once Upon a Time" (Col.)**
**"Swing Out the Blues" (Col.)**
ORPHEUM—(2,440) (45c-65c-85c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $15,500. (Average: $14,800).

### *Fire Damages Embassy*

BALTIMORE, June 1.—Fire, believed to have been started by a cigarette, slightly damaged the Embassy Theatre here at the weekend.

# *Review*

## *"Twilight on the Prairie"*

*(Universal)*

*Hollywood, June 1*

WHILE this program musical doesn't come up to the standard set by Universal for this calibre of offering, it does provide 62 minutes of light vocal entertainment supported by Jack Teagarden's colorful band. Flimsy story material, however, provides little for Vivian Austin, romantic lead and Leon Errol and Eddie Quillan, comics, to do.

The plot revolves around a radio band stranded in Texas where they pose as buckaroos until Miss Austin, owner of the ranch, spots the whole thing as a publicity stunt. Johnny Downs, leader of the band, brings Mammoth Pictures to the ranch to make the film featuring the band and reinstates himself in the girl's good graces. Errol and Quillan struggle with comedy sequences, often over-wordy, while Connie Haines, Teagarden, Downs and Jimmie Dodd give out with vocal numbers. Jean Yarbrough directed for Associate Producer Warren Wilson from a screenplay by Clyde Bruckman based on Wilson's original story.

Running time, 62 minutes. "G"* Release date, July 14, 1944.

*"G" denotes general classification.

### *Tony Ferreira Joins Television Workshop*

Tony Ferreira of the Republic publicity department has recently transferred his activities to the local Television Workshop, of which Irwin Shane is executive director. For the past three months Ferreira has been assisting Shane in his spare time in the writing, producing and directing shows for telecasting over Dumont-WABD. Ferreira will continue this function and will also organize a television stock company for a series of dramatic shows.

## 'OurTime's' $14,800 Leads Toronto

TORONTO, June 1.—"In Our Time" pointed to $14,800 at the Imperial Theatre, while "Lifeboat" took $13,300 at Shea's. Loew's prepared to collect $11,200 on "See Here, Private Hargrove." Weather was fair and warm.

Estimated receipts for the week ending June 1:

**"Around the World" (RKO)**
**"The Falcon Out West" (RKO)**
EGLINTON—(1,086) (18c-30c-48c-60c) 6 days. Gross: $4,000. (Average: $4,000).
**"In Our Time" (WB)**
IMPERIAL—(3,373) (18c-30c-42c-60c-90c) 6 days. Gross: $14,800. (Average: $12,800).
**"See Here, Private Hargrove" (M-G-M)**
LOEW'S—(2,074) (18c-30c-42c-60c-78c) 6 days. Gross: $11,200. (Average: $11,200).
**"Lifeboat" (20th-Fox)**
SHEA'S—(2,480) (18c-30c-42c-60c-90c) 6 days. Gross: $13,300. (Average: $12,800).
**"Around the World" (RKO)**
**"The Falcon Out West" (RKO)**
TIVOLI—(1,434) (18c-30c-48c) 6 days. Gross: $4,400. (Average: $4,400).
**"Cobra Woman" (Univ.)**
**"Hi, Good Lookin'" (Univ.)**
UPTOWN—(2,761) (18c-30c-42c-60c-90c) 6 days. Gross: $9,800. (Average: $9,800).

### *Legion Passes Six, Objects to Two*

The Legion of Decency this week lists six films as acceptable and two as objectionable. In Class B, objectionable in part, are "Gildersleevee's Ghost," RKO, which was said to contain "suggestive scenes and dialogue," and "Johnny Doesn't Live Here Any More," Monogram, objectionable because of "suggestive atmosphere and dialogue."

In Class A-1, unobjectionable for general patronage, are: "Boss of Boomtown," Universal, and "Yellow Rose of Texas," Republic. In Class A-2, unobjectionable for adults, are "Orders from Tokyo," AFE; "Rebellious daughters," Judell-Progressive; "Stars on Parade," Columbia, and "Waterfront," PRC.

### *'Cliffs' Screenings*

M-G-M's "The White Cliffs of Dover" will be tradeshown in key cities June 6 at the company's projection rooms, with the exception of Denver, where the film will be screened at the 20th-Fox branch office. 'White Cliffs' was screened here March 8.




## Cincinnati In Dip Below Average

CINCINNATI, June 1.—"See Here, Private Hargrove," after a smash first week at the RKO Grand, will turn in around $8,500 on a holdover, in a week in which continuance of abnormally hot weather and increased outdoor competition combined to reduce grosses; no local houses reached average.

Estimated receipts for the week ending May 31-June 3:

**"The Scarlet Claw" (Univ.)**
RKO ALBEE—(3,300) (44c-50c-55c-65c-85c) 7 days, plus Saturday midnight show. Stage: Frankie Master's orchestra, Edgar Kennedy, Anne Rooney, Diamond Bros., Walton and O'Rourke. Gross: $20,000. (Average: $22,000).
**"Gaslight" (M-G-M)**
RKO CAPITOL—(2,000) (44c-50c-60c-70c) 7 days, 3rd week. Gross: $6,300. (Average: $10,000).
**"Shake Hands with Murder" (PRC)**
**"Texas Masquerade" (UA)**
RKO FAMILY—(1,000) (30c-40c) 4 days. Gross: $1,400. (Average: $1,600).
**"Weekend Pass" (Univ.)**
**"Hidden Valley Outlaws" (Rep.)**
RKO FAMILY—(1,000) (30c-40c) 3 days. Gross: $650. (Average: $800).
**"See Here, Private Hargrove" (M-G-M)**
RKO GRAND—(1,500) (44c-50c-60c-70c) 7 days, 2nd week, plus Saturday midnight show. Gross: $8,500. (Average: $9,500).
**"Heavenly Body" (M-G-M)**
KEITH'S—(1,500) (44c-50c-60c-70c) 7 days, plus Saturday midnight show. Gross: $4,500. (Average: $5,000).
**"Address Unknown" (Col.)**
**"Pardon My Rhythm" (Univ.)**
RKO LYRIC—(1,400) (44c-50c-60c-70c) 7 days, plus Saturday midnight show. Gross: $4,300. (Average: $5,500).
**"Andy Hardy's Blonde Trouble" (M-G-M)**
RKO PALACE—(2,700) (44c-50c-60c-70c) 7 days, plus Saturday midnight show. Gross: $12,000. (Average: $15,000).
**"Show Business" (RKO)**
RKO SHUBERT—(2,150) (44c-50c-60c-70c) 7 days, 2nd week, moveover from the Palace. Gross: $4,000. (Average: $5,000).

## St. Louis Brightens With 'Lady in Dark'

ST. LOUIS, June 1.—"Lady in the Dark" at the Ambassador leads the parade in St. Louis this week with an estimated $17,000. Other first-runs are off.

Estimated receipts for the week ending May 31:

**"Man from Frisco" (Rep.)**
**"Jamboree" (Rep.)**
FOX—(5,038) (40c-50c-60c) 7 days. Gross: $14,500. (Average: $18,700).
**"Cover Girl" (Col.)**
**"Pardon My Rhythm" (Univ.)**
MISSOURI—(3,514) (40c-50c-60c) 7 days. Gross: $14,000. (Average: $9,900).
**"Gaslight" (M-G-M)**
LOEW'S STATE—(3,162) (40c-50c-60c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $16,000. (Average: $18,900).
**"Lady in the Dark" (Para.)**
AMBASSADOR—(3,154) (40c-50c-60c) 7 days. Gross: $17,000. (Average: $15,700).
**"Up in Mabel's Room" (UA)**
**"Sailor's Holiday" (Col.)**
LOEW'S ORPHEUM—(1,000) (40c-50c-60c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $6,500. (Average: $7,100).
**"Up in Arms" (RKO-Goldwyn)**
**"Shine On, Harvest Moon" (WB)**
SHUBERT—(1,900) (40c-50c-60c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $6,500. (Average: $6,100).
**"A Star Is Born"**
**"Made for Each Other"**
ST. LOUIS—(4,000) (45c-50c) 7 days. Gross: $5,000. (Average: $5,200).

### *'They Met' Premiere*

"They Met in Moscow," produced by Ivan Piriev at the Moscow Studios and being distributed in this country by Artkino, will have its American premiere at the Victoria Theatre here, opening a limited two-week engagement on June 6.

# 'Lady in Dark' Tops Philadelphia Take With Nice $31,000

PHILADELPHIA, June 1.—Business got off to a good start at the pre-holiday weekend with "Lady in the Dark" at the Boyd getting a neat $31,000 for the week with an additional $3,900 already in for the dual Sunday showing at the Earle.

Estimated receipts for the week ending May 31-June 2:

**"The Heavenly Body" (M-G-M)**
ALDINE—(900) (40c-45c-50c-65c-75c-85c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $9,800. (Average: $14,600).
**"Uncertain Glory" (WB)**
ARCADIA—(600) (40c-45c-50c-65c-75c) 7 days, 2nd run, 2nd week. Gross: $3,800. (Average: $4,000).
**"Lady in the Dark" (Para.)**
BOYD—(3,000) (40c-45c-50c-65c-75c-85c) 7 days. Gross: $31,000. (Average: $18,000).
**"The Hour Before the Dawn" (Para.) (6 days)**
**"Lady in the Dark" (Para.) (1 day)**
EARLE—(3,000) (50c-65c-85c-95c) 6 days of vaudeville, including Ted Lewis' orchestra, Gerri Gale, Geraldine DuBois, 3 Reed Sisters, Audrey Zimm, Paul White, Teddy Hale and Charles Whittier. Gross: $29,100. (Average: $27,600).
**"Andy Hardy's Blonde Trouble" (M-G-M)**
FOX—(3,000) (40c-45c-50c-65c-75c-85c) 7 days. Gross: $19,800. (Average: $20,500).
**"The Uninvited" (Para.)**
KARLTON—(1,000) (40c-45c-50c-65c-75c-85c) 7 days, 2nd run. Gross: $7,500. (Average: $6,600).
**"The Song of Bernadette" (20th-Fox)**
KEITH'S—(2,200) (75c-$1.20) 7 days, 3rd week. Gross: $10,000. (Average: $5,800).
**"Between Two Worlds" (WB)**
MASTBAUM—(4,700) (40c-45c-50c-65c-75c-85c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $18,700. (Average: $22,500).
**"Pin-Up Girl" (20th-Fox)**
STANLEY — (3,000) (40c-45c-50c-65c-75c-85c) 7 days. Gross: $27,500. (Average: $30,000).
**"Tampico" (20th-Fox)**
STANTON—(1,700) (40c-45c-50c-65c-75c-85c) 7 days. Gross: $14,900. (Average: $9,400).

# Providence Lags; $15,000 to 'Pin Up'

PROVIDENCE, June 1.—"Pin Up Girl" and "Tampico" at the Majestic was the only standout bill in town this week as grosses everywhere suffered from high temperatures.

Estimated receipts for the week ending June 1:

**"Follow the Boys" (Univ.)**
**"Three Russian Girls" (UA)**
RKO-ALBEE—(2,239) (35c-44c-55c) 6 days, 2nd week. Gross: $8,500. (Average: $12,800).
**"The Uninvited" (Para.)**
**"Henry Aldrich, Boy Scout" (Para.)**
STRAND—(2,200) (44c-55c) 7 days. Gross: $11,000. (Average: $10,500).
**"This Is the Life" (Univ.)**
**"Moon Over Las Vegas" (Univ.)**
LOEW'S STATE—(3,232) (35c-44c-55c) 7 days. Gross: $14,000. (Average: $17,700)
**"Pin Up Girl" (20th-Fox)**
**"Tampico" (20th-Fox)**
MAJESTIC—(2,250) (35c-44c-55c) 7 days Gross: $15,000. (Average: $12,100).
**"Cobra Woman" (Univ.)**
**"Slightly Terrific" (Univ.)**
FAY'S—(1,800) (35c-44c-55c) 7 days Gross: $6,000. (Average: $6,500).
**"Four Jills in a Jeep" (20th-Fox)**
**"The Monster Maker" (PRC)**
CARLTON—(1,526) (35c-44c-55c) 7 days 2nd week, moveover from Fay's. Gross: $3,000. (Average: $4,000).
**"Silent Partner" (Rep.)**
METROPOLITAN (3,050) (50c-60c-70c) 7 days. On stage: "Tars and Spars," U. S Coast Guard revue, with Victor Mature Gross: $7,000. (Average: $7,900).

## C. E. House Promoted

DALLAS, June 1.—Cecil E. House former film salesman for 20th-Fox i Houston, has been named branch manager here




# 'Pin Up' Gets $70,500 At 4 in L. A.

LOS ANGELES, June 1.—"Pin Up Girl" outrode lukewarm newspaper reviews to get $70,500 in Fox West Coast's Chinese - Carthay Circle-Loew's State-Uptown first runs where $61,500 is average. "Once Upon a Time," trounced by critics but accompanied by the praised "Girl in the Case," climbed to $44,000 in the Pantages-Hillstreet tandem, which averages $37,400. Weather was cloudy and sometimes cool.

Estimated receipts for the week ending May 31:

**"Pir-Up Girl" (20th-Fox)**
**"Ladies of Washington" (20th-Fox)**
CARTHAY CIRCLE—(1,516) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 7 days. Gross: $11,000. (Average: $11,200).
**"Pin-Up Girl" (20th-Fox)**
**"Ladies of Washington" (20th-Fox)**
CHINESE—(2,500) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 7 days. Gross: $17,000. (Average: $15,500).
**"This Is the Life" (Univ.)**
**"Moon Over Las Vegas" (Univ.)**
EGYPTIAN—(1,500) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 7 days. Gross: $12,000. (Average: $9,500).
**"Action in Arabia" (RKO)**
**"The Curse of the Cat People" (RKO)**
HAWAII—(1,000) (50c-60c-75c-80c) 6 days, 5th week. Gross: $2,500. (Average: $6,200).
**"Once Upon a Time" (Col.)**
**"Girl in the Case" (Col.)**
HILLSTREET—(2,700) (50c-60c-80c) 7 days. Gross: $22,000. (Average: $19,700).
**"Pin-Up Girl" (20th-Fox)**
**"Ladies of Washington" (20th-Fox)**
LOEW'S STATE—(2,500) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 7 days. Gross: $31,500. (Average: $24,100).
**"This Is the Life" (Univ.)**
**"Moon Over Las Vegas" (Univ.)**
LOS ANGELES — (2,096) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 7 days. Gross: $20,000. (Average: $14,900).
**"Once Upon a Time" (Col.)**
**"Girl in the Case" (Col.)**
PANTAGES—(2,000) (50c-60c-80c-$1.00) 7 days. Gross: $22,000. (Average: $17,700).
**"Man From Frisco" (Rep.) 2nd week**
**"My Best Gal" (Rep.)**
PARAMOUNT HOLLYWOOD—(50c-60c-80c-$1.00) 6 days. Gross: $5,500. (Average: $11,000).
**"Man From Frisco" (Rep.)**
**"My Best Gal" (Rep.)**
PARAMOUNT DOWNTOWN—(50c-60c-80c-$1.00) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $12,500. (Average: $20,300).
**"This Is the Life" (Univ.)**
**"Moon Over Las Vegas" (Univ.)**
RITZ—(1,376) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 7 days. Gross: $7,900. (Average: $8,700).
**"Pin-Up Girl" (20th-Fox)**
**"Ladies of Washington" (20th-Fox)**
UPTOWN—(1,716) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 7 days. Gross: $11,000. (Average: $10,500).
**"Uncertain Glory" (WB)**
WARNERS HOLLYWOOD—(3,000) (50c-60c-80c-$1.00) 7 days, 3rd week. Gross: $10,767. (Average: $17,000).
**"Uncertain Glory" (WB)**
WARNERS DOWNTOWN—(3,400) (50c-60c-80c-$1.00) 7 days, 3rd week. Gross: $12,660. (Average: $18,700).
**"Uncertain Glory" (WB)**
WARNERS WILTERN—(2,200) (50c-60c-80c-$1.00) 7 days, 3rd week. Gross: $10,607. (Average: $15,200).

## WB Handling 'China'

Warner Bros. has agreed to handle physical distribution of "Battle of China," feature-length orientation film made by Col. Frank Capra for the U. S. Army Motion Picture Service, with bookings to be made by local U. S. Army Motion Picture Service bookers and release set for June 12.

## DeMille at Premiere

CHICAGO, June 1.—Cecil B. DeMille will be here for the opening of "The Story of Dr. Wassell" at the State Lake June 24. He is a California delegate to the Republican Presidential convention which will begin here June 28.

# A Career is Born!

## Hugo Haas

Outstanding star of Czech stage, screen. Condemned by Nazis for film activities, escaped to America. Broadway roles in "War and Peace", "R.U.R." *First American picture presages new great future!*



# DAYS OF GLORY

A CASEY ROBINSON *Production*

*Introducing a Brilliant Cast of Broadway Stage Personalities*

starring TAMARA TOUMANOVA • GREGORY PECK

☆

*An RKO-Radio Picture*

First in Film and Radio News Brief, Accurate and Impartial

# MOTION PICTURE DAILY

Alert, Intelligent and Indispensable to the Motion Picture Industry

VOL. 55. NO. 109 NEW YORK, U. S. A., MONDAY, JUNE 5, 1944 TEN CENTS

## 58 Films from Columbia for New Season

### *44 Features, 4 Action, 10 Western Features*

CHICAGO, June 4.—Columbia for 1944-45 is committed to 58 productions—44 features, four action musicals, and 10 Westerns, plus 28 two-reel comedies, 90 single-reel subjects and three serials, it was announced here today at the first of the company's three sales conventions, now in session at the Drake Hotel. The action musicals are additional over the current season and there are two additional Westerns. The number of regular features is the same as this year.

**In addition, the company will sell separately a Sidney Buchman color production (untitled) starring Paul Muni and Merle Oberon, and Sam Wood's first picture for Columbia, "Jubal**

(*Continued on page 7*)

## Dunn Is Named UA Publicity Manager

James F. Dunn will succeed Arthur Jeffrey as publicity manager of United Artists today.

Dunn's appointment was announced by Lou Pollock, UA director of publicity and advertising, at the weekend. He moves over from RKO Radio home office publicity, where for the

(*Continued on page 7*)

### *Hazen, Clark Will Meet This Week*

**Joseph H. Hazen, distributor consent decree liaison, and decree company representatives will meet Assistant U. S. Attorney General Tom C. Clark this week either here or at Washington in another attempt to work out a new decree.**

**Hazen will leave for the Coast on Friday, on business in connection with the new Hal Wallis Prod., of which Hazen will be New York representative. His trip was originally scheduled for the past weekend.**

### *Re-Elect Entire IATSE Slate*

**St. Louis, June 4.—The entire slate of the IATSE headed by Richard F. Walsh, international president, and Louis Krouse, general secretary-treasurer, was re-elected on Friday for another two years at the organization's convention here. William C. Bennett of Washington, leader of the opposition slate, polled 411 of the 998 votes cast. Two new vice-presidents were added. They are Louise Wright, business representative of the Dallas film exchange local, the first woman to be elected to the IATSE executive board, and William Barrett, business representative of Local 80, Studio Grips.**

## British Grosses at All-Time High But Will Recede–Harley

Current grosses of British theatres and, in consequence, American distribution revenue therefrom, are the highest that can be expected for a long time to come because of prevailing conditions peculiar to war time, Francis L. Harley, 20th Century-Fox managing director for Britain, told an audience of company officials and trade press representatives at a luncheon at the Plaza here Friday.

Harley, who is in New York on one

(*Continued on page 7*)

## *New District For Republic*

James R. Grainger, Republic president and general sales manager, has created a new New England district comprised of Boston, New Haven, Buffalo and Albany branches and has placed it under the management of Jack Davis, former Boston branch manager. Boston will be headquarters for the district, which will begin functioning as a unit today.

Sam Seletsky, New York branch manager, is being transferred to the Boston office, and Grover C. Schaefer, Republic home office executive for the past eight years, has been appointed assistant branch manager here. Maxwell Gillis, district manager of the Eastern division, will continue to supervise the New York, Philadelphia and Washington branches.

Grainger left here over the weekend for the North Hollywood studios.

### *Freeman Clarifies Wallis' Para. Status*

HOLLYWOOD, June 4.—Y. Frank Freeman, vice-president in charge of Paramount studio operations, ended at the weekend the widespread speculations in local industry circles concerning his company's deal with Hal B. Wallis, saying he is to have complete independence insofar as Paramount is concerned and without any call on Paramount talent.

Freeman described Wallis' position as the same as any other independent

(*Continued on page 7*)

## RKO to Enter Production For Television

### *Will Produce and Sell Films to Telecasters*

RKO is ready to enter the television field. A new subsidiary, RKO Television Productions, Inc., has been formed to make and sell to television stations, news and entertainment motion pictures specially produced for visual broadcasting.

**The National Broadcasting Company is the first customer of the new RKO television organization.**

News pictures of the Republican and Democratic national presidential conventions in Chicago are to be filmed and edited by RKO Television Productions. They will be flown to New York nightly for exhibition the next day over WNBT, NBC television station in New York.

A contract for this service has been

(*Continued on page 7*)

## *3-Way Film, Air Tie-Up*

A three way tie-up by which 20th Century-Fox films playing in 64 Skouras theatres in the Metropolitan New York area will receive promotion on radio station WJZ, New York, and, in turn, the radio station will promote its programs via one-minute trailers which will be shown

(*Continued on page 7*)

## *New System Clears Jam In Screening Dates*

Sales managers of the five consent decree companies, in order to eliminate growing conflicts in the dates of compulsory advance screenings in exchange cities, have established a "master" clearance system for registering dates, it was disclosed at the weekend following a meeting of company representatives with the industry's Public Information Committee.

Under the new system, Glen Allvine, secretary of the PIC, will keep a master clearance book, and all home office sales staffs will check with him before making trade paper announcements of screenings. This is a national extension of the local clearance of press screenings which has been operating in New York alone for the past two years. The action was precipitated by a series of complaints from exhibitors which were climaxed when they ran into 22 screening conflicts last week.

Acting for the distributors were: Tom Connors and William J. Kupper, 20th-Fox; Arthur Sachson, Warners; C. J. Scollard, Paramount, and Leon Bamberger, representing Ned E. Depinet and Robert Mochrie, RKO.

RKO was the first to register screenings, as follows: "Gildersleeve's Ghost," "Marine Raiders" and "Attack" on June 19 except in St. Louis, where they will be shown on the following day; "Night of Adventure" and "Step Lively," June 20,, and "Look to Your Children," June 21. The New York screening of "Attack" will be held this Wednesday.

### *'Went Away' Opening At Capitol Here*

**David O. Selznick's Vanguard production, "Since You Went Away," will have its New York premiere at the Capitol Theatre following the run of M-G-M's "Two Girls and a Sailor," which opens at that theatre June 15.**

**The picture will not be shown at advanced admission prices and the theatre will continue its stage presentation policy throughout the run of the film. Terms and length of run are still being discussed. No other theatre on Broadway will play day and date with the Capitol.**

# Personal Mention

POSTMASTER GENERAL FRANK C. WALKER, last week received the honorary degree of Doctor of Letters at the commencement of St. Francis College, Loretta, Pa.

•

LT. J. M. BRENNAN, son of JAMES M. BRENNAN, RKO Metropolitan theatres general manager, was married over the weekend at Spring Lake, N. J., to ELEANOR LAME. LT. BRENNAN was a member of the Universal publicity staff on the Coast before he entered the Navy.

•

HARRY M. KALMINE, Warner Theatre assistant general manager, and NAT FELLMAN, assistant to CLAYTON BOND, circuit film buyer, left over the weekend on a New England tour.

•

HARRY F. SHAW, Loew-Poli New England division manager, has returned to his New Haven headquarters after a three-week vacation in Florida.

•

AL HOFFMAN, Loew's home office purchasing department executive, recently became the father of a baby son, JERROLD STEVEN, born to MRS. HOFFMAN.

•

HARRY WIENER, manager of the RKO Capitol, Trenton, N. J., has left for overseas duty as a member of the Red Cross American Field Service.

•

WILLIAM C. GEHRING, 20th Century-Fox Western sales manager, left over the weekend for a week's tour through the Mid-West.

•

A. W. SMITH, JR., 20th Century-Fox Eastern sales manager, returned over the weekend after a tour of several exchanges.

•

AL J. KAUFMAN, Warner theatres executive, will return to New York from Cleveland on Wednesday.

•

HENRI ELMAN, PRC Chicago franchise holder, will leave that city June 24 for New York.

•

WILLIAM B. LEVY, WALT DISNEY executive, will return to New York from Hollywood this week.

•

NORMAN ELSON, Trans-Lux vice-president, will leave today for Washington.

## UA BranchManagers To Meet in Chicago

CHICAGO, June 4.—United Artists branch managers from Chicago, Minneapolis, Indianapolis and Milwaukee exchanges will meet here today with J. J. Younger, Western division manager, who arrived from New York at the weekend, to discuss forthcoming product.

A similar meeting will be held Friday in Kansas City for exchange representatives from Kansas City, St. Louis and Omaha.

# Tradewise . . .

By SHERWIN KANE

M-G-M has dispatched Sir Alexander Korda to London as generalissimo of its production to be undertaken there and with talk of millions of dollars to be made available for such production. Twentieth Century-Fox announces its production agreement with J. Arthur Rank and, at the same time, lets it be known that those collaborative productions in England will be under the supervision of Darryl F. Zanuck, who will go to London "once or twice a year" in that capacity. That would hardly imply that old-fashioned "quota" pictures are being planned in that quarter. Paramount signs to distribute for Hal Wallis and announces that Wallis will make several pictures for Paramount in Britain during the period of his association with the company. Obviously, Wallis's productions in England will not be "quickies."

•

It would appear that these companies are taking their British production plans now with about the same degree of importance that attaches to production investments in Hollywood. It is a chapter of good significance in the histories of both the American and British industries, a chapter to be written much earlier than ordinarily it might have been, due to the persistency and persuasiveness of one man—Rank. It is his determination that "Made in England" pictures shall be exhibited throughout the world and, most especially, in the United States. Presumably, he realized the only way in which that could be accomplished, at least, to begin with, was with American collaboration.

That collaboration, not only with Rank, but with the entire British industry, has been arranged for now. The record shows that only the American industry possesses the know-how in picture-making that consistently commands worldwide screen time. If "Made in England" pictures are to win a place for themselves on the screens of the world within this decade, the achievement can be made a certainty only with the active participation of the American industry. In plain words, British production is in need of basic training in the making of pictures which qualify for the world market. It will get that training through pictures "Made in England—By Americans."

• •

From the *Wall Street Journal*: "One reason for the gain (in Loew's earnings for the 28 weeks ended March 16) was a drop in Federal taxes to $7.2 million, from $8.8 million. This resulted from the formation of a foreign service corporation for handling the firm's large and profitable foreign business. Under Treasury provisions a company doing 95 per cent or more of its business abroad is only required to pay normal taxes and surtaxes, but not excess profits taxes.

• •

One of the regrettable developments which has accompanied wartime prosperity on Broadway is the spread of the practice of boosting admission prices in accordance with the length of the waiting line at theatres.

The practice, unquestionably, is anti-institutional, both insofar as the theatre practicing it and the industry itself is concerned, for the simple and undeniable reason that it is an anti-customer practice. It is in particularly bad taste at a time when it is, presumably, easiest to get away with—a time when other businesses and industries are required to operate within the limitations of price ceilings.

Managements may be deaf to the complainings of patrons and potential patrons against the practice, but the rumblings are there nevertheless. And, what is more, they are likely to be there still when the boom times have given way to normalcy. No patron standing patiently in line before a box office, who witnesses one or several changes of admission price while he waits, and who partakes of that experience as often as he is likely to do on Broadway today, will soon forget or forgive.

The customer will have his day, whether it be soon or late. When it comes, it will prove the wisdom and soundness of house managements which have resisted the practice, whose price policies and whose theatres have been "institutionalized."

To the credit of individual managements and theatres, and to the credit of the industry, there still are such motion picure institutions on Broadway.

# Coming Events

**Through August 31**—Warners short subjects sales drive.
**June 6**—Start of motion picture industry's campaign for United Jewish Appeal.
**June 6**—Actors Equity election, Hotel Astor, New York.
**June 9**—Chorus Equity election, Hotel Astor, New York.
**June 12**—Monogram sales meeting, Hollywood.
**June 12-July 8**—Fifth War Loan drive.
**June 13-15**—Columbia regional sales convention, Chicago.
**June 14**—Industry rally to launch Southern California Fifth War Loan drive, Hollywood Bowl, Hollywood.
**June 16**—United Artists' board meeting, Wilmington, Del.
**June 18**—Industry-wide union rally to repudiate Motion Picture Alliance for the Preservation of American Ideals, Hollywood.
**June 20**—Allied Theatre Owners of New Jersey silver jubilee convention, Hotel Chelsea, Atlantic City.
**July 6**—"Free Movie Day" for Fifth War Loan drive.

## Rene L. Kuhn Novel Gets Hopwood Award

This year's major Hopwood novel award has been won by Rene Kuhn, 21 years old, daughter of Irene Kuhn, novelist, newspaper woman and formerly feature writer for MOTION PICTURE DAILY, who is now assistant director of information at NBC.

Miss Kuhn's novel, "Into the Light," deals with three generations of an Irish-American family in New York. Her short story "Daguerrotype" won a minor Hopwood award last year. The author will be graduated from the University of Michigan June 24.

## Lawler Made O'Brien, Driscoll Partner

T. Newman Lawler, a member of the O'Brien, Driscoll & Raftery law firm for more than 10 years past, has been made a partner in the firm, it was announced at the weekend. Lawler has specialized in taxation and corporation law, particularly in the motion picture field, during his association with the firm.

## Tri-States Meeting On

LITTLE ROCK, Ark., June 4.—Ed Kuykendall, MPTOA president, will be the principal speaker at the annual convention of the MPTO of Mississippi, Arkansas and Tennessee, to be held at the Marion Hotel here Monday and Tuesday.

## AFM Meet on Tomorrow

CHICAGO, June 4.—Annual convention of the American Federation of Musicians will start here tomorrow and continue through Saturday at the Stevens Hotel.

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# Testifies on Schine Overtures to Buy Ohio Theatre

BUFFALO, June 4.—Testimony concerning alleged overtures by Schine officials to purchase the Ohio Theatre, Van Wert, O., was given at the weekend by Carl B. Moore and Mrs. Moore, operators of the house, before Judge John Knight in the Government's anti-trust suit against the Schine circuit. The trial will resume here tomorrow morning.

Moore testified that Meyer Schine and Bud Silverman, Schine representative formerly employed as booker by the witness, paid him several visits from 1935 on, attempting to close a deal for purchase of the theatre. Moore said he told Silverman that when he could get a better house or one as good as his Ohio, he would be ready to talk business.

"Was the deal broken up because it didn't include a job at a salary with Schine?" asked Saul E. Rogers, attorney for Schine, during cross-examination.

Moore told of a conference attended by himself, his wife, and his attorney in Van Wert and a Schine representative, at which "my attorney did all the talking for me." "He said I should have a job with Schine or get more for the theatre than I was offered," Moore stated.

**Asked $25,000 as Condition**

Upon further questioning by Rogers, Moore admitted he had sought $5,000 a year for five years from Schine as a condition of sale of the Ohio.

Earlier on the stand, Mrs. Moore testified she had trouble booking from United Artists, Columbia, Universal, Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer and others.

Also on the stand today was Clifford L. Dasher, who operated the Strand Theatre in Van Wert, with Thomas G. Evans, before it was acquired by Schine. He testified that M-G-M refused to sell to the Strand, with the explanation product had been purchased by Schine, that the 20th Century-Fox exchange also failed to supply film and that the latter's branch manager suggested he "get together with Schine and make a deal."

The Strand was leased to Schine in August, 1935, and the circuit took over Sept. 1 of the same year. Dashen said he continued as manager of the Strand for about two weeks and then resigned.

## *Aubert, French Film Leader, Dies*

Louis Aubert, former president of the French United Motion Picture Industries and once a leading figure in the French film industry, died recently at the age of 66, according to press dispatches from Berne, Switzerland, over the weekend.

Aubert engaged in all branches of the film industry and for a time his Aubert Palace was among the most prominent theatres in Paris.

## *Peskay Headquarters*

Address of the newly acquired four-story building of Edward J. Peskay Associates, which was inadvertently reported in MOTION PICTURE DAILY Friday, as 45 West 45 St., is 45 West 54 St.

## *R. B. Wilby Buys 2 Millions in Bonds*

**Atlanta, June 4.—R. B. Wilby, vice-president and partner in Wilby-Kincey theatres operating in the Southeast, fired the opening gun in the Fifth War Loan drive for this territory, when he pledged to make a personal purchase of $2,000,000 in war bonds.**

# 'U' Coast Sales Meet Will Open Today

LOS ANGELES, June 4.— W. A. Scully, Universal general sales manager, will announce product for 1944-45, outline company sales policy and announce winners of the "Bill Scully Sales Drive" at the company's sales meeting which will open here tomorrow at the Ambassador Hotel and continue through Friday. Home office executives, studio officials and divisional and district sales managers will attend.

Nate J. Blumberg, president, and Cliff Work, production head, will disclose future production plans, while John Joseph, Universal advertising-publicity director, and Maurice A. Bergman, Eastern advertising-publicity head, will report on advertising plans for new product.

Upon conclusion of the meeting, divisional managers Fred Meyers, A. J. O'Keefe and F. J. A. McCarthy will leave for their respective territories to hold regional sales meetings which will be attended by district managers, salesmen and head bookers.

Among those attending in addition to those mentioned will be E. T. Gomersall, Adolph Schimel, F. T. Murray, J. J. Jordan, A. J. Sharick, E. L. McEvoy, M. M. Gottlieb, D. A. Levy, J. E. Garrison, John J. Scully, P. F. Rosian, S. E. Applegate, Dave Miller, C. J. Feldman, H. D. Graham and Alf Perry. Joseph H. Seidelman, foreign sales head, and Al Daff will arrive later in the week.

## *Funeral Rites Held For D. L. Faralla*

HOLLYWOOD, June 4.—Funeral services were held yesterday in Van Nuys for Dario Lucien Faralla, 58, Edward Small's production manager, who died recently of a heart ailment. He is survived by his widow, two sons, William and Duane; two brothers, Aldo and Raoul; and two sisters, Mrs. Jay Gove and Mrs. Amelia Paolotti.

Faralla had been executive business manager of many studios. He was until recently an associate producer with Paramount and under the title of Dario Productions, produced several Spanish films, starring Tito Guizar, which were released through Paramount.

## *Frey, Republic L. A. Manager, Dies*

LOS ANGELES, June 4.—John Frey, manager of Republic's branch here, died at the weekend at his home in West Los Angeles.

Frey, with Republic since 1935, was formerly a salesman in Arizona. He succeeded Francis Bateman here in January, 1943, when Bateman was named Western sales manager.

# Argue Findings in Momand Case Today

OKLAHOMA CITY, June 4.—Hearings are scheduled to begin here tomorrow in Federal Court on the tentative findings of fact and conclusions of law in the $4,900,000 Momand anti-trust suit against Griffith Amusement Co. and eight major distributors handed down by Federal Judge Bower Broaddus recently.

Court observers here said the opinion prepared in the 13-year old suit offers many points of contention and Judge Broaddus has reserved "several days" for the hearing. Although Judge Broaddus' tentative findings were released in April, and neither side has revealed the court's conclusions, it is understood that the distributor defendants virtually have been exonerated.

It is understood that Judge Broaddus has tentatively found that no conspiracy existed between the distributors and Griffith. A. M. Momand, the plaintiff, charged that a conspiracy between distributors and Griffith destroyed his business in a period after 1931. All distributor defendants are said to be exonerated except Paramount, and only one Paramount-Griffith contract was cited as possibly questionable.

Edward F. McClennen of Boston and Louis Phillips of New York, counsel for the distributors, are expected to participate in the hearings, which have been arranged as a courtesy for opposing counsel.

## *To Vote on Merger Of Pathe Units*

Special meetings of the stockholders of Pathe Laboratories, Inc., of New Jersey and Pathe Laboratories, Inc., of California, have been called for June 26 to consider a plan to merge the two corporations into Pathe Industries, Inc., an Ohio corporation. The plan has been approved by the officers and directors of both corporations.

The board of directors of the merged corporation which will select officers and executives of the various operating units of Pathe Industries, including PRC Pictures, will consist of Henry J. Guild, Raymond J. Morfa, Robert W. Purcell, J. Stinson Young and Kenneth M. Young. Top officers of the merged company provided for by the agreement include Kenneth M. Young, chairman of the board; J. Stinson Young, president; Purcell, vice-president, and Karl Herzog, treasurer.

## *Mt. Baker Theatre Sold for $500,000*

PORTLAND, Ore., June 4.—In a deal involving $500,000, Jensen von Herberg, pioneer Northwest theatre owner, has purchased the 1,600-seat Mt. Baker Theatre in Bellingham, Wash., and 17 adjoining stores from the Mt. Baker Amusement Co., subsidiary of Evergreen State Theatres.

## *Harry Turberg Dies*

HAMILTON, O., June 4.—Harry Turberg, 72, manager of the Northio Palace here, died at the weekend at Fort Hamilton Hospital following a long illness. Surviving is a son, Nat Turberg, manager of the Northio Paramount here.

# *Coast Flashes*

*Hollywood, June 4*

TED KANE, with Universal for seven years, has been named head of the company's music department.

•

Jack Beddington, head of the film section of the British Ministry of Information, was a guest of Jack L. Warner at the Warner studio late last week where he addressed a meeting the company's producers and directors.

•

Warners has purchased "Don't Ever Leave Me," original by Norma and Ben Barzman, for Jesse L. Lasky's production schedule. Story will be a vehicle for Claire Foley, brought here to repeat her performance in the stage version of "Janie."

•

Producers Corp. of America has signed Erich Pommer to produce two films, first of which will be "This Crazy, Lovely World," from a Ladislas Fodor script, followed by a remake of "The Cabinet of Dr. Caligari."

## *Seek to Give 10% Raise in Seattle*

Seattle film exchanges and representatives of the IATSE are preparing to file a petition with the regional War Labor Board in that city for permission to grant exchange service workers, including shippers, inspectors and poster clerks, a 10 percent increase, it was learned here at the weekend.

The Seattle employes threatened "mass resignations" over a month ago but reconsidered upon being assured by the exchanges that steps would be taken to help secure increases. Labor turnover in Seattle exchanges has been exceedingly high in view of many local higher-paying jobs in war industries. The Seattle service employes have already received increases of about 12 percent under "The Little Steel Formula."

IATSE service employes' locals in other exchange areas are not expected to follow the procedure of the Seattle local but will await action on a petition filed by M-G-M's Washington exchange with the National War Labor Board.

## *Discuss New M-G-M Air Program Today*

Louis B. Mayer, M-G-M production head; William F. Rodgers, vice-president in charge of distribution, and Howard Dietz, advertising vice-president, will address M-G-M exchange personnel, theatre and circuit operators gathered at luncheon meetings in key exchange centers over a closed circuit of the Mutual network today. They will discuss the forthcoming M-G-M five-times-a-week radio program, "Screen Tests," which will start on the Mutual web June 12.

Mayer will speak from Hollywood and Dietz and Rodgers will talk from New York.

# READY!

# SET!



# THE INDUSTRY'S

# E-DAY




# IS JUNE 12th

# GO!



## BLOOD, SWEAT--AND BONDS!

Sure we're in the fight. It's "E" Bonds we're after! We'll get 'em!

It's the real thing over there now . . . somebody's son, somebody's sweetheart, somebody's pal won't come back. Our very own, perhaps.

For all of them, for this America of ours, let's make this War Loan click! The best campaign the industry ever saw! With parades and banners streaming, with Bond Premieres and true-talk Trailers, with Hero Lobby Charts and Free Movie Days. The works!

Let's do a job to match the bloodshed and the tears!

***FIGHT!***

# FIGHTING 5th WAR LOAN

**JUNE 12th—JULY 8th**

*This Message Was Prepared and Inserted in the Trade Press by:*

COLUMBIA PICTURES CORP., METRO-GOLDWYN-MAYER PICTURES, PARAMOUNT PICTURES INC., RKO-RADIO PICTURES INC., 20th CENTURY-FOX FILM CORP., UNITED ARTISTS CORP., UNIVERSAL PICTURES COMPANY INC., WARNER BROS. PICTURES INC.

IT'S A JOB FOR ALL

SHOW BUSINESS

**THE FIGHTING FIFTH**

**WAR LOAN DRIVE**

KEEP BUSY

June 12--July 8

AND IT WILL BE OVER THE TOP

**P.R.C.**

# British Grosses at All-Time High But Will Recede–Harley

(*Continued from page* 1)

of his periodic home office visits, will spend the Summer with his family on Cape Cod and will return to London thereafter.

Contributing to the current abnormally prosperous status of British theatres, Harley said, is the shortage of many commodities and virtually all luxuries on which excess purchasing power of the public normally would be expended.

British money, he said, goes to the movies rather than to beer, for example.

Motion pictures and theatres are virtually the only unrationed purchaseable in wartime Britain, Harley explained. In addition, the British government "has been most helpful and cooperative" in the matter of film importations. Films are admitted without restrictions at a time when many other imports are barred. In this policy, the government is guided by its desire to provide for the British people the best entertainment available, Harley said.

### Praises British Industry

The 20th Century-Fox executive gave unstinted praise to the British industry for doing a good job under the most difficult wartime conditions. In spite of all the obstacles which confront that industry, Harley said, the quality of its films has improved and its theatres are well run and well maintained in the face of dire manpower and equipment shortages.

Harley described some of the contributions of the industry in Britain to the war effort, the service of individuals on numerous war committees, the contribution of industry facilities to the government and military, the supply of motion pictures to the armed forces, and many other activities. Arrangements are being perfected, Harley said, to earmark certain prints received at the London offices from America for the service men stationed in the British Isles, with the result that many of them now are receiving 35mm. prints almost as soon as 16mm. prints.

Among those at the luncheon were Tom J. Connors, Maurice Silverstone, Larry Kent, Sidney Towell and Martin Quigley.

# Freeman Clarifies Wallis' Para. Status

(*Continued from page* 1)

who faces the manifold problems of production, including who will appear in his films, the only difference being that Paramount is a fifty-fifty partner in the latter's new company. He added that Wallis could, therefore, under his arrangement, produce on any lot, but will use Paramount in view of management problems, including studio overhead.

According to Freeman, the Wallis-Paramount deal in no way bears on the position or duties of Buddy De Sylva as executive producer. He views Wallis' and De Sylva's activities as separate and distinct and without any possibility of conflict.

# *58 Films and 2 Specials From Columbia in '44-45*

(*Continued from page* 1)

**Troop," starring Gary Cooper. The company also had two specials this year.**

The company plans a substantial increase in the cost and number of top-bracket pictures, it was said. At least 20 top films—described as the greatest number ever offered in a single year by Columbia—will be produced, with a corresponding reduction in the number of "B" pictures.

The company also announced that it has renewed its contract for the use of Technicolor facilities and will use the process in several pictures.

### Properties Listed

Columbia said that its program for next year will be selected from among the following properties, or from additional material acquired and produced during the year.

"Tonight and Every Night," color musical co-starring Rita Hayworth, Janet Blair and Lee Bowman, with Victor Saville as director-producer; "Over 21," Ruth Gordon stage play; "Jacobowsky and the Colonel," Franz Werfel-S. N. Behrman Theatre Guild play; "Burlesque," George M. Watters-Arthur Hopkins play with music; "April Showers," biography of a noted musical comedy figure; "Another Love Story," Frederick Lonsdale play; "Counterattack," Janet Marshall-Philip Stevenson stage play; "Chautauqua," drama and music; "Storm in April," I. A. R. Wylie *McCall Magazine* story; "Some Call It Love"; "War Sings a Lullaby," by Virginia Van Upp; "One Thousand and One Nights."

Also: "Stalk the Hunter," *Liberty* magazine serial by Mitchell Wilson; "Song of Broadway," romantic musical; "Nine Girls in a Dress Shop," comedy-drama; "In Old Monterey," Western musical; "No Sad Songs for Me," Ruth Southard novel; "Eadie Was a Lady," with music; "Song of Tahiti," girl-and-music show; "Men of the Deep"; "Boston Blackie" production

Also: "Sergeant Mike," dog story; "Miss Bobby Socks"; "Eve Knew Her Apples," musical; "Wandering Daughters"; "A Guy, a Gal and a Pal"; "Girl Habit," comedy; "Ten Cents a Dance"; "Ferry Command."

Also: "Man from Morocco"; "Blockade Runner"; "Three Blondes and a Redhead"; two "Whistler" productions, sequels to the film based on the CBS radio show; two "Crime Doctor" productions; "Blimp Patrol"; "Girl of the Limberlost," Gene Stratton Porter novel.

During 1944-45 Columbia will release 10 Westerns starring Charles Starrett.

### Short Subjects

The 118 short subjects will include: 28 two-reelers, comprising eight "Three Stooges" specials, four Vera Vague comedies; four with Hugh Herbert, four with Andy Clude, two musicals and six "All Star" comedies. The 90 single reels will feature six "Li'l Abner" color cartoons and four "Fox and Crow" cartoons in color, plus 82 novelty, musical and comedy reels, comprising 10 "Color Rhapsodies," 10 "Phantasies," 12 "Screen Snapshots," 12 "Sport Reels," 12 "Community Songs," six "Film Vodvils," eight "Panoramics" and six color cartoons which will be reissued.

Columbia will also release three serials: "The Black Arrow," "Brenda Starr—Reporter," based on the comic strip by Dale Messick, and "The Monster and the Ape."

# *3-Way Film, Air Skouras Tieup*

(*Continued from page* 1)

in the Skouras houses, has been arranged on a 52-week period, starting about June 15.

Negotiations for the tie-up were concluded late last week between Skouras Theatres and the audience promotion division of WJZ. Contemplated are three different trailers, each one featuring a different set of six commercial programs which will be distributed among the theatres every month so that 18 programs will be brought to the attention of Skouras theatre audiences during this period.

In return, 20th-Fox films being shown at Skouras theatres will be promoted three times daily, seven days weekly on WJZ.

# *Ray Lewis Acquires Selznick Reissues*

David O. Selznick has sold reissue rights to four of his productions to a Canadian group headed by Ray Lewis. Films involved are "Intermezzo," "Garden of Allah," "Tom Sawyer" and "Prisoner of Zenda." The contract includes reissue rights in the United States to all of the pictures, with the exception of "Intermezzo."

Lewis has negotiated a deal with Paul Graetz, president of the AFE Corp., for the American distribution.

# *Dunn Is Named UA Publicity Manager*

(*Continued from page* 1)

past six months, he handled Metropolitan newspapers and syndicates. Prior to his RKO affiliation, he handled special publicity for 20th Century-Fox at the home office and in Hollywood and served as director of advertising and publicity of the Rivoli Theatre in New York for 10 years.

Jeffrey's resignation was announced at the weekend. He joined UA in 1937 as New York press contact, and at various times handled trade press, New York exploitation and out-of-town campaigns for the company. Prior to that he was advertising-publicity director for Warners New York theatres.

# *To Detroit for Krim*

Attorneys Richard Morgan, Paramount; Harry Pimstein, RKO, and John Dunne, 20th Century-Fox, left New York over the weekend for Detroit to appear at the Krim arbitration case which will get underway there today.

# *Hicok Retired*

E. M. Hicok, personnel relations manager for Western Electric, has been retired under the company's automatic pension plan, after 39 years. Succeeding him is R. J. Pfeifer, assistant comptroller of manufacturer.

# RKO to Enter Production For Television

(*Continued from page* 1)

agreed upon by Ralph Austrian, director of television for RKO, and Clarence Menser, vice-president in charge of programs, who is in charge of television development at NBC. It is understood, moreover, that the arrangement, with approval of the top management of both film company and network, provides for cooperation between broadcaster and film company extending beyond the immediate convention project.

It is possible that RKO's television branch will produce other special news, commentator and entertainment reels to be used in long-range experimentation in the use of film for television.

### Austrian in Charge

Austrian, who went to RKO from RCA last year to develop a television program for the film company, will head the new subsidiary. Additionally, Fred Ullman, Jr., producer of RKO's "This Is America" short subjects and for many years with RKO-Pathe News, and Thomas H. Hutchinson will have key executive posts in the new project, combining their respective experiences in newsreel and television production.

Hutchinson formerly was director of television programs for NBC. Lately he has been with Ruthrauff and Ryan, advertising agency, where he was in charge of studies of the application of television to commercial advertising.

**Formal announcement of the new television project is expected to be made by N. Peter Rathvon, president of RKO, and Austrian, at a press conference at RKO's home office tomorrow morning.**

The Chicago political convention pictures will be filmed by special units of RKO-Pathe cameramen. The sound radio reports from the convention by NBC's staff of announcers and commentators will be recorded and adapted for the visual broadcasts. Special interviews and reports will also be made before the cameras by such NBC commentators, including Louis Lochner, Lowell Thomas, Robert St. John, H. V. Kaltenborn, Ben Grauer and Morgan Beatty.

It is planned to telecast over the NBC transmitter the next day a pictorial counterpart of the proceedings heard over the network the preceding evening and afternoon.

In addition to the New York transmission over WNBT the program will probably be relayed to WRGB, General Electric station in Schenectady, and to WPTZ, Philco outlet in Philadelphia.

# *Partlow Branch Manager*

J. R. Partlow, formerly a salesman in the Universal Dallas office, has been appointed branch manager of the company's Oklahoma City exchange to succeed J. E. Hobbs who resigned, it was announced here recently by W. A. Scully, vice-president and general sales manager.

# SENSATIO



## WHIRLWIND 14

## WORLD PRE

# Home in



PRE-SOLD THE 20th WAY: Full Page Ads—LIFE, LOOK, AMERICAN WEEKLY, PARENTS, CLICK and FANS! C
COAST "DOUBLE OR NOTHING" Radio Show, June 9th! FOUR-STATE SPECIAL EVENTS BROADCASTS WCKY CIN

*Of Course, It's from* 20th CENTURY-FOX

# AL START!

WEST VIRGINIA · INDIANA · OHIO · KENTUCKY

## HEATRE 4-STATE
## ERE JUNE 14th!

# Indiana

IN TECHNICOLOR

and these 3 grand new stars



LON McCALLISTER



JEANNE CRAIN



JUNE HAVER

mpany that's always Out in Front!

SELL A BIGGER BOND FOR EVERY SEAT IN THE FIGHTING FIFTH WAR LOAN!

# Outdoor N. Y. Rally Climaxes 17 Fifth Loan Rallies

The industry's local Fifth War Loan breakfast meeting, held Friday at the Tavern-on-the-Green in Central Park here, brought to a climax national chairman R. J. O'Donnell's series of 17 Fifth War Loan rallies throughout the country. The chairman, introduced by Charles C. Moskowitz, chief of the campaign in this city, praised the novelty of the meeting, which had been kept secret until the last minute, and paid tribute to the work done here in previous drives.

Campaign director John Friedl explained the urgent need for siphoning off inflationary money, the importance of increasing the number of bond premieres, the new children's bond show idea, and urged exhibitors to get behind "Free Movie Day" on July 6

Ned E. Depinet, national distributor chairman, told of the closely-knit distributor organization that is now functioning.

**Best Equipped Agencies**

Nevil Ford, New York State chairman for the Treasury's War Finance Committee, stressed the fact that theatres are the best equipped of all agencies to sell bonds.

Major Allen V. Martini, pilot of the Flying Fortress "Martini Cocktail," declared that, "from my observations the people of America are too complacent.

Among those on the dais were: Leonard Goldenson, N. Peter Rathvon, Joseph Bernhard, R. M. Kennedy, Ted Gamble, Si Fabian, Spyros Skouras, Ray Beall, Barney Balaban, Malcolm Kingsberg, Claude Lee and J. R. Grainger.

Sam Rinzler, Harry Brandt, Herman Robbins, Herman Gluckman, Walter Brown, Arthur Mayer, George Schaefer, Oscar A. Doob, Joseph Kinsky, Ernest Emerling, David Weinstock, Jim Brennan, Edward C. Dowden, Leon Bamberger and Harry Mandel.

**60 Bond Premieres Set in Connecticut**

NEW HAVEN, June 4.—At least 60 bond premieres will be set in Connecticut by early this week, as compared with 37 during the Fourth War Loan, Harry F. Shaw, exhibitor state chairman, determined at a state Fifth War Loan meeting here at the weekend.

An all-Army show with a cast of 100 from the Army Air Forces Technical Command, stationed at Yale University, will play premieres in a majority of the smaller towns that did not stage such events before.

## *'Bernadette' to RKO N.Y. Houses July 3-5*

The 40-odd RKO theatres in the Metropolitan New York area, including Westchester, will play 20th Century-Fox's "The Song of Bernadette" on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday, July 3-5, at advanced admission prices of 75 cents for matinees and $1.20 for evenings.

The film concluded a run of 19 weeks at the Rivoli on Broadway last night.


Paramount NEWS

AND NOTHING BUT THE NEWS



"NEW, EXCITING PERSONALITY" SAYS CECIL B. DE MILLE AS HE SIGNS GLAMOROUS CAROL THURSTON TO LONG-TERM CONTRACT. NEW STAR WILL BE HEARD TOMORROW ON THE LAST OF SIX BIG RADIO NETWORK SHOWS PROMOTING **"THE STORY OF DR. WASSELL"...** WILL BE SEEN TOMORROW FOR THE FIRST TIME ON THE N.Y. SCREEN AT RIVOLI PREMIERE OF CECIL B. DE MILLE TECHNICOLOR SPECTACLE, STARRING GARY COOPER.


# 'Buffalo' Riding to $15,000 in Pitts.

PITTSBURGH, June 4.—Bright spot in a dull week here was "Buffalo Bill," which headed for a cheerful $15,000 at the Harris, while business elsewhere continued in early Summer doldrums.

Estimated receipts for the week ending June 2:

**"Man from Frisco" (Rep.)**
FULTON—(1,700) (35c-44c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $6,000. (Average: $8,500).

**"Buffalo Bill" (20th-Fox)**
HARRIS—(2,200) (35c-44c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $15,000. (Average: $10,100).

**"And the Angels Sing" (Para.)**
PENN—(3,400) (35c-44c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $14,500. (Average: $21,700).

**"See Here, Private Hargrove" (M-G-M)**
RITZ—(1,100) (35c-44c-65c) 7 days, 4th week, moveover after 1 week at Penn, 1 at Warner. Gross: $3,000. (Average: $3,000).

**"Follow the Boys" (Univ.)**
SENATOR—(1,750) (35c-44c-65c) 7 days, into 3rd week, moveover after 9 days at Harris. Gross: $3,300. (Average: $3,400).

**"The Heavenly Body" (M-G-M)**
STANLEY—(3,800) (44c-68c-85c). On stage, 6 days of vaudeville, including Bert Wheeler, Milt Britton's band. Gross: $16,000. (Average: $22,000).

**"Gaslight" (M-G-M)**
WARNER—(2,000) (35c-44c-65c) 7 days, 2nd week, moveover from Penn. Gross: $9,000. (Average: $9,350).

## *'Tomorrow', Show Get $14,100 in Omaha*

OMAHA, June 4.—Business dropped here this week. Top gross was $14,100 for "It Happened Tomorrow" and Vaughn Monroe and his band-revue on the Orpheum stage. Showers were frequent.

Estimated receipts for the week ending June 1-2:

**"Show Business" (RKO)**
**"Action in Arabia" (RKO)**
BRANDEIS—(1,200) (44c-60c) 7 days. Gross: $7,400. (Average: $6,500).

**"Passage to Marseille" (WB)**
OMAHA—(2,000) (44c-60c) 7 days. Gross: $8,400. (Average: $8,400).

**"It Happened Tomorrow" (UA)**
ORPHEUM—(3,000) (44c-55c-70c) 7 days. Vaughn Monroe's band revue on stage. Gross: $14,100. (Average: $14,900).

**"See Here, Private Hargrove" (M-G-M)**
PARAMOUNT—(2,900) (44c-60c) 7 days. Gross: $9,600. (Average: $11,700).

## *16,234 Theatres Date Films for Leo Week*

Another 1,168 theatres have booked an M-G-M picture for Leo's 20-year anniversary week, June 22-28, making a total of 16,234 houses set to date, excluding theatres in Canada and foreign countries, which also are participating in the event.

Four more exchanges have reported 100 per cent bookings for theatres in their territories, making a total of 16 branches. The new branches reporting 100 per cent are: Philadelphia, Pittsburgh, Dallas, and Denver.

Burtus Bishop, Jr., is the first district manager to report 100 per cent bookings for exchanges under his supervision.

## *Henry Riegel Chosen As District Manager*

ST. LOUIS, June 4.—Henry Riegel, manager of the Ambassador Theatre here, has succeeded Albert Stetson as district manager of the St. Louis Amusement Co. Stetson was recently named War Activities director for Fanchon & Marco.

Albert Wheeler, manager of the Shady Oak Theatre, succeeds Riegel at the Ambassador while Frank Treanor replaces Wheeler.

# BET ON HIM ...

# *He Wins!*



There he goes . . . Every horse he rides is a winner . . . Whether his mount is the box-office sensation of the moment . . . or one called "Just Another Picture" . . . he wins with all . . . He'll take an attraction right up to the front . . . and keep it there . . . in the big money . . . in fair weather . . . or muddy competition . . . For he wears the colors of the "BIG RECEIPTS" stable . . . Watch him go . . . and put a little lettuce on him . . . the most careful bettors in this business . . . have been backing him for years . . . because he *always* pays off . . . They know he's *got* something . . . It's *Advertising* . . . best in the business.

NATIONAL *Screen* SERVICE

*A Career is Born!*

# DAYS OF GLORY

A CASEY ROBINSON *Production*

*Introducing a Brilliant Cast of Broadway Stage Personalities*

starring

TAMARA TOUMANOVA

GREGORY PECK

AN RKO-RADIO PICTURE



## Glenn Vernon

A stage veteran at 20, he scored a major triumph on Broadway and the road, in "Junior Miss," stage hit of 1942. *His fine performance in his first motion picture is one of its outstanding sensations!*

First in Film and Radio News Brief, Accurate and Impartial

# MOTION PICTURE DAILY

Alert, Intelligent and Indispensable to the Motion Picture Industry

VOL. 55. NO. 110 NEW YORK, U. S. A., TUESDAY, JUNE 6, 1944 TEN CENTS

FILE COPY DO NOT REMOVE

## May Adjourn Schine Trial For 2 Months

### *Expect Halt on Friday Until Mid-August*

BUFFALO, June 5.—Trial of the government's anti-trust suit against Schine circuit under way in U. S. District court here, may be adjourned Friday for about two months, it was indicated here today.

Seth Richardson, of counsel for Schine, must return to Washington at the end of the week for trial of another case and previously had made arrangements for adjournment of the Schine trial during that period. Now, however, it is learned that Federal Judge John Knight, who is presiding at the Schine trial, will be unable to resume until the second or third week in August as he is scheduled to handle the July term of the court at Jamestown, N. Y.

Cross examined by Attorney Saul E. Rogers, of counsel for Schine, as

(*Continued on page 12*)

## *4 More Bond Drive Meets*

With mobilization of the entire industry for the "Fighting Fifth" War Loan campaign nearing completion, drive chairman R. J. O'Donnell and national committee members will attend four meetings this week, following which they will return to campaign headquarters in New York, to await the starting gun of the industry's "E Day" next Monday.

A rally of Northern New Jersey exhibitors and distributors will be held at the Athletic Club in Newark this

(*Continued on page 12*)

## Loew's Subscribes $10,000,000

David Bernstein, treasurer of Loew's, Inc., yesterday notified Leonard Goldenson, chairman of the industry's corporate investment committee of the Fifth War Loan, that Loew's is subscribing to $10,000,000 worth of Fifth Loan bonds. The total purchase will be allocated proportionately to the credit of cities in which there are Loew theatres and Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer exchanges.

### *Underwood Division Mgr. of Columbia*

**Chicago, June 5.—J. B. Underwood, branch manager of Columbia Pictures' exchange in Dallas, will be named division manager of the Southwestern territory, with headquarters in Dallas, it was learned here today. Underwood has been here attending the company's sales convention.**

**It is expected that the company's Southwestern territory will be enlarged.**

## Dismissal of Most Momand Action Seen

OKLAHOMA CITY, June 5.—Losses suffered by A. B. Momand prior to his filing a $4,500,000 damage suit against the Griffith circuit and 14 distributor defendants 10 years ago were not due entirely or directly to contracts made by the distributors or by Griffith activities, Federal Judge Bower Broaddus stated informally here today.

In a courtesy hearing on his tentative findings of fact and conclusions of law regarding the Momand suit in Western Oklahoma Federal District court, Broaddus stated that no evidence of deliberate conspiracy between the distributors and Griffith had been proved to his satisfaction. Although the proceedings were not a matter of record, it was indicated that most of the action will be dismissed. Broaddus criticized evidence introduced by Momand's attorneys to show his financial losses in the 1929-32 period covered

(*Continued on page 11*)

## 'White Cliffs' Gets $103,000 in 4th Wk. At the Music Hall

Unusually early excessive heat added to the dullness of business generally at downtown New York first-runs with the result that current week's grosses are considerably under those of recent weeks. "The White Cliffs of Dover" and a stage bill are expected to get a satisfactory $103,000 in a fourth week at Radio City Music Hall with $68,000 taken in the first four days ending Sunday night. The combination will continue.

Business picked up at the Roxy over the weekend to give "The Eve of St. Mark" and a stage bill headed by Barry Wood and Eddie Garr $58,000 on the first five days, ending Sunday night. The bill will do a mild $77,-

(*Continued on page 11*)

## Paramount Heads To FP-C Meeting

TORONTO, June 5.—The first wartime conference of the Eastern managers of Famous Players-Canadian Corp. opening tomorrow for a three-day session will be attended by Adolph Zukor, chairman of the Paramount board of directors; president Barney Balaban, general sales manager Charles M. Reagan and Leonard N. Goldenson, president of Paramount Theatres Service Corp., most of whom are scheduled to arrive Wednesday.

The meetings will be held in the Brock Hotel, Niagara Falls, Ont.,

(*Continued on page 11*)

## Early Summer Heat Hits Field Grosses

### *But Roundup Averages Still Top Last Year*

Unusually early Summer heat and heavy rains in many spots drove down average weekly grosses during May to more than $1,000 under April averages, according to MOTION PICTURE DAILY field correspondents' reports on some 150 key houses spotted throughout the country. The April weekly average was $16,509; May's was $15,439.

**The grosses, however, continue generally to top those of corresponding weeks in 1943 by a wide margin, with last week, for example, running $2,135 ahead of the week ending June 4-5 last year.**

Films leading at the box office dur-

(*Continued on page 11*)

## *'IA' To Study Charter Bids*

Applications for IATSE charters for film salesmen's and theatre managers' unions have been referred to the newly re-elected IATSE executive board, headed by Richard F. Walsh, international president and Louis Krouse, general secretary-treasurer, for study and investigation, the national union's headquarters disclosed here yesterday. No decision was made at the close of the IATSE convention in St. Louis last Friday. Oscar E. Olson, Milwaukee projectionists' union official, who has been working for the formation of a salesmen's union, said

(*Continued on page 12*)

## U. S. 'Reluctant' on Suit: Kuykendall

LITTLE ROCK, June 5.—Exhibitors must continue their efforts to obtain a fair and equitable consent decree in view of the Government's seeming reluctance to press the trial of a suit against the major companies during wartime, Ed Kuykendall, MPTOA president, told the annual meeting of the MPTO of Mississippi, Arkansas and Tennessee, which opened at the

(*Continued on page 12*)

### *Admissions of 10 Cents, Including State Tax, Not Subject to U. S. Levy*

**Cleveland, June 5.—Subsequent-run theatre owners here have received a ruling from the office of the U. S. Commissioner of Internal Revenue in Washington which eliminates the Federal tax on admissions for children under 12 years of age, provided the net admission is less than 10 cents and a card, so advising, is displayed in the box office.**

**In Ohio (and presumably in other states where admissions are subject to a state gross tax), children's admission, prior to April 1 when the present Federal tax went into effect, was displayed as follows: Established price .097 cents, Ohio state tax .003, total admission, 10 cents.**

**The first ruling from Washington after the new federal tax went into effect was that the U. S. tax liability of one cent for every five cents starting at ten cents was to be computed on the basis of the total admission charge. Under the new ruling, the Federal tax liability is to be commuted on the net admission charge. Inasmuch as the net charge here for children under 12 years is less than 10 cents, it is held not subject to the Federal tax. The result locally is that a majority of houses which raised children's prices to 12 cents to cover the Federal tax, have cut to 10 cents.**

## 'Stark' War Films Out for Columbia

CHICAGO, June 5.—Columbia will not produce any "blood and thunder" war pictures for the duration, A. Montague, general sales manager, said in a trade press interview at the Drake Hotel here, following a company sales convention. Columbia, he added, will continue to turn out war theme subjects, provided they carry sufficient entertainment value. As an example he mentioned Columbia's forthcoming "Mr. Winkle Goes to War," war comedy.

Montague stated that the company will not force reissues on exhibitors, unless there is a demand for them. There has been some talk of reissuing "Here Comes Mr. Jordan," but it will be reissued only when the trade really wants it again, according to Montague. He said that Columbia does not have to depend on reissues to fill out its schedule. It has announced 44 features for the new season, and it will deliver them, Montague emphasized.

He said that Columbia encourages good independent producers, even if it means upsetting its own schedule, for "an exhibitor will never kick about an upset schedule if one can improve the proposed schedule." He named as independent producers Sam Wood, Pat O'Brien, and Sidney Buchman, the latter having recently completed "The Loves of Madame Sands" (tentative title).

**Safron to Hold Three Columbia Regionals**

CHICAGO, June 5.—Jerry Safron, Western district manager for Columbia, left today at the close of the company's four-day sales meeting at the Drake, to hold regional sales meetings in Denver, Salt Lake City and Portland. He will not attend the New York sales meet, June 13-15, but will be on hand for the San Francisco gathering on July 11-13.

## *SOEG Is Winner At 20th-Fox Studio*

LOS ANGELES, June 5.—The Screen Office Employes Guild, Local 1381 AFL has been officially certified by the National Labor Relations Board as the bargaining agent for over 500 office workers at the 20th Century-Fox studios following an election held May 18.

SOEG is seeking a seven percent wage increase retroactive to January for the 20th Century-Fox workers and is now organizing similar workers at the Paramount and Warner Bros. studios.

## *Lt. DeSimon Wounded*

Lt. Gaspar De Simon, formerly of National Screen's American Display plant, awarded the Purple Heart for wounds received in the European Theatre, is now at Halloran General Hospital, Staten Island. De Simon, a navigator on a heavy bomber, was returning from a completed mission when his plane crashed in the English Channel. He volunteered in July, 1942.

# *Personal Mention*

HARRY M. WARNER is scheduled to leave New York for the Coast on Friday.

•

MARTIN MOSKOWITZ, assistant to WILLIAM KUPPER, 20th Century-Fox general sales manager; L. J. SCHLAIFER, Central sales manager, and his assistant JACK BLOOM, have returned to New York from Boston.

•

WILBUR B. ENGLAND, personnel director of RKO Theatres, returned to his desk yesterday after a week's vacation.

•

FRANK KENNEBECK, Paramount's manager for Trinidad, has arrived in New York for a stay of several weeks.

•

ESTHER BENDER of the Cleveland Paramount exchange, will take a four weeks' leave of absence to visit Colorado Springs.

•

ED FISHER, Loew's, Inc., Theatres Cleveland publicity director, will handle the ten-day Navy War Show to be held in that city late in June.

•

MARVIN H. SCHENCK of Loew's has returned to New York after a Florida vacation.

•

LARRY GOLOB, Warners' Eastern publicity manager, will leave today for a two-week stay on the Coast.

•

W. STEWART MCDONALD, Warner Theatres comptroller, is on a New England tour.

LARRY KENT, executive assistant to Spyros Skouras, president of 20th Century-Fox, has left New York for the Coast.

•

BUD GREENWALD, son of MAX GREENWALD, general manager of the Elyria Theatres, Cleveland, will be married July 4 to MISS HELENE COHEN.

•

JANE SHERMAN, secretary to BEN AMSTERDAM, president of the Atlantic Theatres Circuit, Philadelphia, and CORP. ARTHUR K. SELIGMAN, have announced their engagement.

•

GEORGE K. BREMEN, owner of Associated Theatres, Detroit, has arrived in New York enroute to Princeton, N. J., to join the Navy.

•

MRS. EDNA R. CARROLL, Pennsylvania State Censor Board chairman, has been elected vice-president of the Republican State Committee.

•

IRVING MANDEL, Monogram Chicago branch manager, and BEN EISENBERG, Chicago exchange sales manager, will leave for Hollywood June 9.

•

MRS. HERMAN ROBBINS, wife of HERMAN ROBBINS, president of National Screen Service, has arrived in Hollywood for a three week's stay.

•

EDMUND DORFMANN, independent producer, has returned to New York after a month's stay in Hollywood.

•

CHARLES FRANCIS COE will leave New York for Washington tomorrow.

## Skirball UA Film Starting in July

Jack H. Skirball's first production for release through United Artists will be "Fickle Fortune," a tentative title, starring Fred Allen, it has been disclosed by the producer. The film, which is budgeted at $1,000,000, will go into production the latter part of July at the Samuel Goldwyn studios. The story is an original by Lew Foster, Jay Dratler and Alma Reville, and is being adapted by Morrie Ryskind and Fred Allen.

Sally Benson, author of "Junior Miss," is now writing a musical for the stage from Louisa M. Olcott's "Eight Cousins" and "Rose in Bloom" to be presented by Skirball, possibly in association with the Theatre Guild, in January.

Skirball is here viewing stage plays for possible film production. His plans call for production of one picture and one stage play yearly. He will return to the Coast in a week.

## *'Frisco Delinquency Up*

SAN FRANCISCO, June 5.—Juvenile delinquency in theatres here seems to be increasing, local authorities report, despite the ban on children under 16 after 6:30 P.M., and only youths over 18 may enter after 9 P.M.

## *House Approves Cut In Cabaret Tax*

WASHINGTON, June 5.—Representatives of the House, which last week rejected a Senate proposal to reduce the cabaret tax from 30 to 20 percent, today agreed to accept the reduction. A compromise was reached, however, eliminating the Senate exemption from the tax for service men and women, on the ground that it would make administration of the tax impossible.

The agreement reached by the House and Senate conferees is still subject to confirmation by both groups, but it is anticipated it will be accepted without material opposition.

## *Austrian to Talk on Theatre Television*

Ralph Austrian, director of television for RKO, will discuss the anticipated commercial development of theatre television in the next decade at the fourth meeting of the Radio Executives Club television seminar to be held here Thursday.

## *$200 for Indecent Films*

LOS ANGELES, June 5.—Y. Darnell, manager of a theatre at 458 South Main St., was fined $200 in Municipal Judge Irvin Taplin's court on a plea of guilty to a charge of showing indecent films in the theatre last Feb. 10.

## *Gable Returning to M-G-M from Army*

HOLLYWOOD, June 5.—Major Clark Gable will return to M-G-M's production program next season, after an absence of almost two years. The studio has yet to determine his first vehicle although several stories have been lined up in view of the persistent report for the last several months that Gable will go on the inactive Army Air Corps list.

He is expected to get his release papers this week following word from Roy M. Jones, commanding officer of the First Motion Picture Unit at Culver City, but a month's work remains on a combat film dealing with aerial gunnery.


NEW YORK THEATRES

RADIO CITY MUSIC HALL
Showplace of the Nation Rockefeller Center
HELD OVER 4th WEEK
A Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer's Picture
"THE WHITE CLIFFS OF DOVER"
Starring IRENE DUNNE
with ALAN MARSHAL
SPECTACULAR STAGE PRESENTATION
First Mezzanine Seats Reserved. Circle 6-4600

LOEW'S STATE B'WAY & 45
ON SCREEN
FIRST N. Y. SHOWING
EDW. G. ROBINSON
'TAMPICO'
Victor McLAGLEN
IN PERSON
Direct from Glass Hat of Belmont Plaza
The CHINESE REVUE
Added Attraction
Harry SAVOY

RKO PALACE B'WAY & 47th St.
"SHOW BUSINESS"
Eddie Cantor — George Murphy
Joan Davis — Nancy Kelly.

PARAMOUNT'S
"GOING MY WAY"
with BING CROSBY
In Person
CHARLIE SPIVAK and His Orch.
PARAMOUNT Times Square

PARAMOUNT PRESENTS
GARY COOPER in
CECIL B. DEMILLE'S
"The Story of Dr. Wassell"
★ In Technicolor ★
RIVOLI B'way & 49th St.

"ROGER TOUHY GANGSTER!"
20th CENTURY-FOX PICTURE
AIR-CONDITIONED
BRANDT'S B'way & 46 St. GLOBE


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THE KISS that changed a warrior
into a lover...a dancer into a woman..

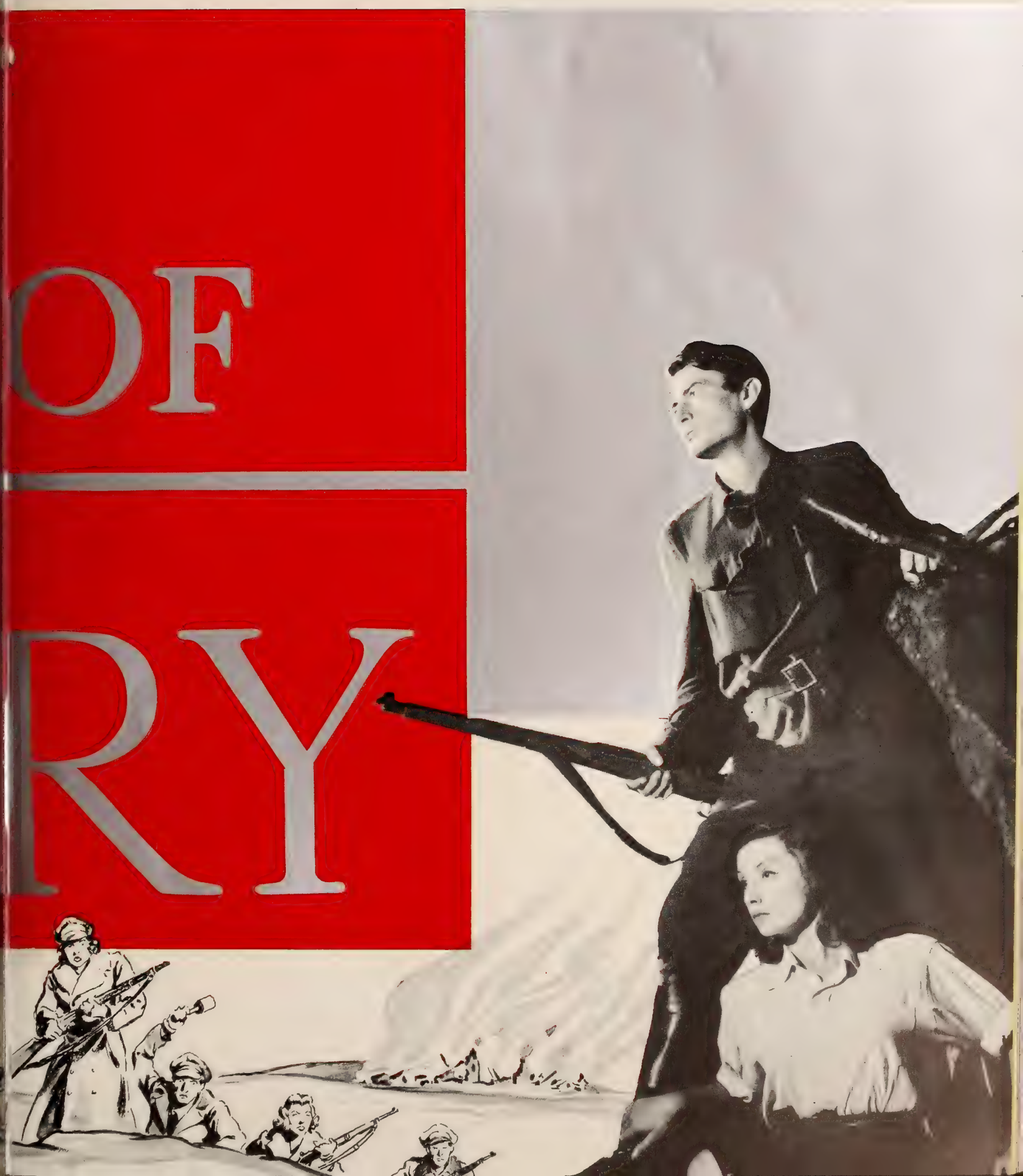
RKO RADIO is proud to give the industry
a magnificent new motion picture . . .

# DAYS GLO



OF

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# Magnificent!



So much warmth, so much drama, so much action and emotional fire—so much of everything that makes a picture great—that you're conscious not of actors in a drama, but only of a great human story lived by its own wonderful characters themselves:



A CASEY ROBINSON production

# DAYS OF GLORY

*Starring the screen's fascinating NEW lovers*

TAMARA TOUMANOVA

GREGORY PECK

with ALAN REED · MARIA PALMER · LOWELL GILMORE

Directed by JACQUES TOURNEUR • Produced and written for the screen by Casey Robinson

RKO RADIO PICTURES

# Another Gigantic Showmanship Launching by RKO...

## 60-CITY PENNSYLVANIA AND WORLD PREMIERE JUNE 8TH

# DAYS OF GLORY

Opening Fox Theatre, Phila.; Loew's Penn Theatre, Pittsburgh, and other first runs throughout Pennsylvania; in West Virginia, New Jersey and Delaware . . .

Backed by saturation radio coverage such as never before used!..24 powerful stations, including WCAU, Phila., and WJAS, Pittsburgh, on the air with half- and quarter-hour "live" shows; five-minute shows, one-minute and all other kinds of breaks day and night in advance and current...

Personal appearances of THE WORLD-FAMOUS DON COSSACK CHORUS... personal appearances of stars... smashing newspaper campaigns... dramatic exploitation of every type... to bring the word of a great new attraction to all the millions of this thickly-populated area!

# Feldman, Graham, Miller 'U' Winners

LOS ANGELES, June 5.—Universal will continue to offer incentives on special occasions to the sales forces throughout the new season, N. J. Blumberg, president of the company, declared in announcing the district manager winners in the "W. A. Scully Anniversary Drive," at the opening session of the sales meeting in the Ambassador here today. Blumberg said that Universal's sales department had obtained this year the largest number of accounts in company history.

District prize winners announced were: C. J. Feldman, Los Angeles, first; H. D. Graham, Atlanta, second; Dave Miller, Cleveland, third. Winning offices in the Scully drive will be announced at the various regional meetings which will be held following the close of the present sessions.

At the close of the meeting tonight, Universal representatives were entertained at dinner by Charles Skouras.

J. Cheever Cowdin, chairman of the board of Universal Pictures, has arrived to attend the sales meetings.

The group of district and division managers were guests last night at the home of Blumberg, and the meeting opened this morning. Tuesday will be taken up with afternoon and evening business sessions at the hotel; Wednesday and Thursday will be spent at the studio visiting sets, meeting players and departmental heads. Meetings will continue on Friday. On Saturday the delegates will be guests of Cliff Work, vice-president and general manager of the studio. On Sunday they will again be the guests of Blumberg. Next Monday and Tuesday will wind up the business sessions and the group will leave for their territories on Wednesday.

## *Censorship Lifted on Films to Puerto Rico*

The Censorship of film to Puerto Rico has been lifted by Byron Price, Director of Censorship of the U. S. Office of Censorship, it was learned here over this week.

This action was taken after the intercession of Bolivar Pagan, resident commissioner of Puerto Rico, who had protested to Price that the existing censorship as applied to Puerto Rico was a discriminatory measure, because the population of that country were American citizens and should be allowed the same privileges as those on the mainland.

Censorship to Hawaii and Alaska was lifted last year in an order from the Office of Censorship removing the postal restrictions on motion pictures and newsreels for these territories.

Distributors may now ship their product to Puerto Rico as well as Hawaii and Alaska without submitting it to the New York or Los Angeles censorship boards of review.

Censorship in the Virgin Islands has also been lifed.

## *'Twain' for July Release*

Warners' "The Adventures of Mark Twain" has been set for national release on July 22, following conclusion of special advance-price runs. The film will return to Broadway for an engagement at the Strand, following its run at the Hollywood.

# *Review*

## *"Great Moment"*

*(Paramount)*

*Hollywood, June 5*

WRITER-director Preston Sturges undertakes here to tell with some earnestness but more comedy than is good for it the story of Dr. William Morton, discoverer of anaesthesia, whose life ended in disappointment and distress before his work was accorded recognition. Joel McCrea, Betty Field, Harry Carey and William Demarest enact the principal roles under the handicap of Sturges' attempt to be comic and serious at the same time.

The film is the writer-director's widest miss to date in a career composed almost solely of bull's eyes. Sturges' account of Morton's life and works sticks to facts and dates but displays no respect for the memory of the man whose greatness is the subject of the production. Veering often, and sometimes wildly, to the opposite extreme, Sturges tries for laughs with dentist-chair sequences based on the old theory that a toothache is funny when the other fellow's got it. Not all his undisputed skill in humor is equal to the blending of this stuff with the essentially historical material in hand.

Attraction-wise production is worth about as much as the billing of the names mentioned can be depended upon to get for opening days. Nothing about the picture suggests mounting grosses or holdovers.

Running time, 80 mins. "G."* Release date, not set.

WILLIAM R. WEAVER

**"G" denotes general classification.*

# Academy of Music Transfer Approved

Federal Judge John C. Knox in U. S. District Court here yesterday approved the proposed settlement plan under which creditors of Fox Theatres Corp. will have returned to them the Academy of Music Theatre Property on E. 14th St., plus other assets, transferred to Skouras Theatres Corp. in 1937 by order of Martin T. Manton, former judge of the U. S. Circuit Court of Appeals.

The settlement, which when completed will be effective as of March 1 this year, will terminate a suit filed by the First National Bank of Atlanta, to set aside Judge Manton's order.

The transfer of the property will be made by Skouras Theaters Corp. and Ktima Corp., a Skouras subsidiary, and will include common capital stock of William Fox Realty Co. and a claim in favor of Fox Theatres Corp. against the realty company in the amount of $300,760.

According to statements made at a hearing on the proposal held before Judge Knox early in May, creditors of Fox Theatres Corp. will have returned to them assets with a value of more than $1,000,000, including rentals under the Academy of Music lease, which Skouras interests will assume.

## *First 1944-45 Ten For 20th-Fox*

LOS ANGELES, June 5.—Twentieth Century-Fox has announced the following first ten releases for 1944-45, as follows: "Wing and a Prayer" and "Take It or Leave It," August; "Sweet and Lowdown" and "Greenwich Village," September; "Irish Eyes are Smiling" and "In the Meantime, Darling," October; "Laura" and "Something for the Boys," November, and "Thunderhead ("Son of Flicka")" and "Sunday Dinner for a Soldier," December.

# 21 Dealers Renew For RCA Equipment

The conclusion of new distribution agreements with three theatre supply dealers and a renewal of agreements with 21 others were announced yesterday by Homer B. Snook, sales manager of the theatre equipment section of RCA. Snook said it is expected that additional dealers will be signed shortly to cover 30 territories in the United States.

The 24 dealers already signed as RCA theatre equipment outlets are: Capital City Supply, Atlanta; Capital Theatre Supply, Boston; United Projector & Film Corp., Buffalo; Dixie Theatre Supply, Charlotte; Joe Goldberg, Chicago; Mid-West Theatre Supply, Cincinnati; Graham Brothers, Denver; Forbes Theatre Supply, Detroit; Southwestern Theatre Equipment, Houston; Missouri Theatre Supply, Kansas City; John P. Filbert, Los Angeles; Theatre Equipment, Milwaukee; Frosch Theatre Supply, Minneapolis; Delta Theatre Supply, New Orleans; Capital Motion Picture Supply, New York.

Also: Oklahoma Theatre Supply, Oklahoma City; Penn Theatre Equipment, Philadelphia; Superior Motion Picture Supply, Pittsburgh; Western Theatre Equipment, Portland, Ore.; Elmer Brient, Richmond, Va.; L. T. Rockenstein, St. Louis, Inter-Mountain Theatre Supply, Salt Lake City; Walter G. Preddey, San Francisco, and United Theatre Supply, Tampa.

## *Van Heydn to Marines*

CAMP LEJEUNE, N. C., June 5.—L. Michael Scrogan, known in films as Peter Van Heydn, has arrived here to complete training with the Marine Corps. Van Heydn was featured in "Five Graves to Cairo" and "Sahara."

# Complaint Is Filed, And Award Entered

A new clearance complaint has been filed at the Washington tribunal and an award entered at the Boston tribunal, the American Arbitration Association reported here yesterday.

Walbrook Amusement Co., operating the Walbrook, Baltimore, filed a clearance complaint against Warners, alleging that the present clearance of the Forest and the Gwynn over the Walbrook are unreasonable as to time and area and seeks complete elimination. The complaint is based upon an arbitration award rendered by J. Barrett Prettyman on April 8, 1941, in which he declared that the Walbrook should immediately follow the Forest and Gwynn on the licensing of Warner product, and seeks a modification of the award in accordance with provision of Section 8 providing for modification of an award because conditions for awarding clearance as set forth in this section have so changed as to warrant modification.

At Boston, arbitrator Charles S. Bolster, in the clearance complaint of E. M. Loew's Theatres, operators of the Winchester, Winchester, Mass., against the decree companies, declared that clearance between the Winchester and the University and Capital Theatres, Arlington, is unreasonable and should be abolished. Further, he reduced the 14-day clearance on RKO, Warners, Loew's and 20th-Fox product and the 10-day clearance of Paramount features between the Winchester and the Strand and Woburn to seven days.

**Filing in New York; Award at Buffalo**

A clearance complaint has been filed at the New York tribunal and an award entered at the Buffalo tribunal, the American Arbitration Association reported here at the weekend.

At New York, Fair Operating Corp., operating the Fair Theatre, Jackson Heights, L. I., filed a clearance complaint against the five consenting companies, charging that the seven-day clearance of the Granada, Corona, over the Fair, is unwarranted and that no competition exists between the two theatres. The plaintiff asks the arbitrator for complete clearance elimination or a reduction to one day. Further, it stated if the arbitrator determines that some clearance is justified a maximum clearance should be placed on the elapsed time between conclusion of run at the Corona or the Jackson, Jackson Heights, and the availability date of the Fair.

George W. Wanamaker, arbitrator at the Buffalo tribunal, in the clearance complaint of George J. and Dorothy Gammel, operators of the Columbia Theatre, against the decree companies decreed that Columbia run immediately follow the Broadway on product deals hereafter entered into.

## *Ban Minors at Midnight*

MANSFIELD, O., June 5.—In another move to stem juvenile delinquency here, theatre managers are refusing to admit children under 16, unless accompanied by an adult, to midnight shows. City officials are considering adoption of the curfew system.

# TODAY, AS YESTERDAY

# Brilliant

STILL A BRILLIANT FILM, audiences and critics agree, is Columbia's "Lost Horizon." Still brilliant, too, is the screen lighting from "National" Projector Carbons, whether the picture be the most recent release or a second or third run. Audiences enjoy virtually the same screen light today as when "Lost Horizon" was first shown.

This has been accomplished because National Carbon Company's background of research and manufacturing experience enabled it to redesign pre-war carbons promptly to war-time needs . . . and also because of the close technical cooperation of exhibitor, projectionist and lamp manufacturer.

***Most important of all, however, is that enormous quantities of copper have been saved for the war effort,* through recovery of copper drippings and stripping of copper from carbon stubs.**

The best evidence that these efforts are successful is that motion picture patrons in ever increasing numbers are overflowing theatres everywhere for needed relaxation and worthwhile entertainment.

★ *BUY UNITED STATES WAR BONDS* ★



1937



1944

The trade-mark "National" distinguishes products of National Carbon Company, Inc.

## NATIONAL CARBON COMPANY, INC.

*Unit of Union Carbide and Carbon Corporation*

CARBON PRODUCTS DIVISION, Cleveland 1, Ohio UCC New York, Pittsburgh, Chicago, San Francisco

# Bonus Plan for Monogram Heads

Approval of an annual executive employees bonus plan commencing with the year ending July 1, 1944 and involving W. Ray Johnston, Trem Carr and Samuel Broidy will be sought by Monogram Pictures Corp., when company shareholders meet in Hollywood June 15.

Other items which the Monogram shareholders will be asked to ratify include the action of the board of directors taken Oct. 22, 1943 in ammending the employment contract of Broidy; the providing for the payment to survivors of the three of the sums of $200 a week for the remaining periods of their respective agreements with the company in the event of their death or deaths; and the granting of options to purchase common stock of the corporation to the three executives.

It is also proposed that the employment contract of Broidy, vice-president and general sales manager be extended to Feb. 28, 1950 instead of Dec. 2, 1948, as previously provided. His salary is $20,800 a year with additional compensation based on company gross business.

Present compensation of Johnston and Carr is $35,400 a year each. The bonus plan calls for the payment of 20 percent of the net profits in excess of $200,000 to eight executives to be allocated as follows: Johnston, five percent; Carr, five percent; Broidy, three percent; George D. Burrows, two percent; Scott Dunlap, two percent; Edward Morey, Harry Thomas and Norton V. Ritchey, one percent each.

## *Carmel Seeks Jury Trial of Trust Suit*

The Carmel Co., owner of the Cameo Theatre, Jersey City, N. J., filed in federal court yesterday a demand for a jury trial of its Sherman anti-trust and Clayton act treble damage suit against eight distributors on the ground they monopolized film distribution in the Jersey City area by giving first-run films to their theatre affiliates, while the Cameo was given fourth runs.

The defendants in the action include all major distributors except Columbia.

In the Sherman anti-trust suit filed by the Rosyl Amusement Corp., operator of the Cameo Theatre, seeking damages against the same group of defendants, United Artists yesterday filed an answer generally denying the allegations in the complaint and demanding dismissal of the action.

**MITCHELL MAY, Jr.**
**CO., INC.**
**INSURANCE**

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*Specializing*
*in requirements of the*
*Motion Picture Industry*

**75 Maiden Lane, New York**
**510 W. 6th St., Los Angeles**

## *To Use Theatres For D-Day Prayers*

**Boston, June 5.—Loew's State and Orpheum Theatres here will become houses of worship on D-Day. Arrangements have been completed to turn both theatres over to the state as soon as the invasion of Europe is known, and all denominations will be invited to use them for prayer. Governor Leverett Saltonstall has commended Loew's for making the houses available.**

# 'Miracle's' $13,300 Leads in Toronto

TORONTO, June 5.—"The Miracle of Morgan's Creek" caught on at the Imperial Theatre here, pointing to $13,300, while "Passage to Marseille" travelled toward $12,800 at Shea's.

Estimated receipts for the week ending June 8:

**"Rulers of the Sea" (Para. reissue)**
**"Sing, You Sinners" (Para. reissue)**
EGLINTON—(1,086) (18c-30c-48c-60c) 6 days. Gross: $4,000. (Average: $4,000).
**"The Miracle of Morgan's Creek" (Para.)**
IMPERIAL—(3,373) (18-30c-42c-60c-90c) 6 days. Gross: $13,300. (Average: $12,800).
**"See Here, Private Hargrove" (M-G-M)**
LOEW'S—(2,074) (18c-30c-42c-60c-78c) 6 days, 2nd week. Gross: $10,200. (Average: $11,200).
**"Passage to Marseille" (WB)**
SHEA'S—(2,480) (18c-30c-42c-60c-90c) 6 days. Gross: $12,800. (Average: $12,800).
**"Standing Room Only" (Para.)**
**"Action in Arabia" (RKO)**
TIVOLI—(1,434) (18c-30c-48c) 6 days. Gross: $3,900. (Average: $4,400).
**"Up in Mabel's Room" (UA)**
**"Knickerbocker Holiday" (UA)**
UPTOWN—(2,761) (18c-30c-42c-60c-90c) 6 days. Gross: $9,300. (Average: $9,800).

## *HoldPreview of MGM Mutual Web Program*

A preview of the forthcoming M-G-M "Screen Test" radio program which will have its premiere next Monday night on the Mutual Network was held yesterday and further previews will be broadcast on Wednesday and Friday, to give Mutual listeners an idea of what the program will be like.

Yesterday's preview was tied in with exhibitor meetings in key cities. In Chicago, for example, 50 exhibitors and Mutual and M-G-M officials attended a luncheon and preview. James McGinnis, sales manager of of WGN, Chicago Mutual outlet, pointed out that the film industry is becoming one of radio's most important customers.

## *Henry to Supervise Fanchon & Marco*

ST. LOUIS, June 5.—Col. Charles H. Henry of the Quartermaster Corps, U. S. Army, will become associated with Fanchon & Marco as theatre supervisor and assistant director of war activities immediately upon his retirement which is expected shortly, Harry C. Arthur, Jr., general manager, has announced.

In addition to routine theatre operation duties, Col. Henry will assist Albert Stetson, circuit director of war activities, in connection with statewide theatre plans for the Fifth War Loan drive upon assuming his new post.

# 50,000,000 See USO Camp-Shows

A total audience of over 50,000,000 U. S. servicemen in this country and overseas have been entertained with 61,000 separate shows by USO-Camp Shows, Inc., Lawrence Phillips, executive vice-president of Camp Shows, disclosed here yesterday in an overall report on the organization's program since Oct., 1941 when it was founded at the request of military authorities, and subsequently supported by public contributions to the National War Fund.

Since Oct., 1941, Camp Shows has spent $13,572,000 of contributed funds at an administrative expense of something less than 3.02 per cent of total expenditures, Phillips stated. In two-and-a-half years Camp Show entertainers have spent 12,030 man weeks overseas—10,820 by paid performers and 1,210 by guest personalities. In all, 1,188 artists left American shores to entertain American troops. Of this number 1,097 were on salary and 91 served as volunteers.

At present Camp Shows has 1,246 on its payroll. Of this number, 429 are overseas, 698 are entertaining in this country, and 125 make up the office, production and field staff both here and abroad. The current budget assigns 60 per cent of expenditures to all activities in this country (including administration) and 40 per cent to overseas work.

## *Study Competitive 'Leaks' on Eastman*

ROCHESTER, N. Y., June 5.—Charges that censorship "leaks" permitted employes in the U. S. Alien Property Custodian's office in Washington to inspect correspondence concerning Eastman Kodak are being studied by Kodak officials.

Commenting on testimony before the Senate Post Office subcommittee that agents of the General Aniline and Film Corp., German dye trust subsidiary taken over by the Government custodian's agency, have had access to intercepted mail concerning Eastman, E officials said:

"Charges that our South American mail was intercepted by a U. S. Government office and thereafter through another Government office reached the hands of our competitors are very serious. Aside from what has been reported in the press, all we know about the matter is that officials of the General Aniline & Film Corporation have written us denying the truth of the charge."

## *O'Shea Is Host*

ALBANY, N. Y., June 5.—E. K. O'Shea, Eastern sales manager for M-G-M, today was host to company exchange employes at luncheon at the De Witt Clinton Hotel. Ralps Ripps was awarded a 20-year loyalty pin and William Williams, Jane M. Breen, Lillian A. Carroll, Edward R. Susso, Frank Carroll and Christine Korin were presented with 10-year pins.

## *Directors Organize*

MEXICO CITY, June 5.—Mexican film directors and newsreel technicians have organized, voting to join the National Cinematographic Industry Workers Union.

# *Coast Flashes*

*Hollywood, June 5*

J. R. GRAINGER, president of Republic Pictures, arrived here today. He will spend 10 days conferring with H. J. Yates, chairman of the board, and Allen Wilson, studio production manager.

•

M-G-M's "The White Cliffs" will open a continuous, indefinite run at the Egyptian and Ritz theatres, Los Angeles, June 20, at prevailing scales. Fox West Coast will continue to manage, but M-G-M will pay the cost of additional electric signs.

•

Warners resumed production of "Hollywood Canteen" today following a long layoff marked by a dispute now settled with the Screen Actors on the method of paying actors' salaries.

•

Charles Davis, former assistant to Sir Alexander Korda, has been contracted by Universal as associate producer-director. "Fairy Tale Murder," an original, will be his first assignment.

•

PRC has signed George Weeks to produce "Hannah from Savannah."

•

Columbia will resume the "Blondie" series with "Blondie Houses a Haunt."

## *Harmon Addresses Okla. Variety*

OKLAHOMA CITY, June 5.—Francis S. Harmon, executive vice-chairman of the War Activities Committee, was guest speaker at the annual meeting of the Oklahoma Variety Club, headed by L. C. Griffith, at the weekend when a $40,000 health center for Tulsa was presented by the organization.

Reviewing the war services of the industry, he recounted the contributions made by Variety Clubs throughout the nation as exemplified by the proffer of the health center. Griffith, chief barker of Tent No. 22 of Oklahoma, represented Variety at the meeting, presided over by Henry Griffing, Oklahoma City attorney.

It was announced that Griffith had resigned as chief barker of the Oklahoma tent and that the board had unanimously elected Ralph Talbot, Tulsa theatre owner and civic leader, to head the organization.

## *Gring Services Are Held in Reading*

PHILADELPHIA, June 5.—Funeral services were held today at Reading, for J. Luke Gring, 56, former theatre manager here, who died recently at the Johnston-Willis Hospital in Richmond, Va., following an operation. He had been a theatre manager for more than 30 years, pioneering in Reading, and then with circuits in Eastern Pennsylvania, including the Stanley-Warner.

He last managed the Erlen and Renel theatres here, and in January became district manager in Richmond for Berlo Vending Co. His wife, Catherine, and a son, David, survive.

# 'White Cliffs' Gets $103,000 in 4th Wk. At the Music Hall

(Continued from page 1)

000 on the first week and will continue, with 20th Century-Fox's "Home in Indiana" set to follow. The fifth week of "Going My Way" and a stage show headed by Charlie Spivak and band is expected to bring a quiet $72,000 and the combination will continue.

Moderate business was recorded at the Strand with a gross of $36,000 on the second week of "Make Your Own Bed" and a stage show headed by Cab Calloway. Weekend business ending Sunday night was $20,000. Warner's "The Mask of Dimitrios" will open Friday with the same stage bill.

A light $28,000 is expected the second week of "Mr. Skeffington" at the Hollywood with $18,000 taken in on the first four days ending Sunday night. The picture will continue. "Roger Touhy, Gangster" is expected to bring a neat $26,000 in its first week at the Globe on the basis of a two-day weekend business of $11,500; it will continue.

**'Show Business' Up**

Business is holding up at the Palace with "Show Business" expected to bring a satisfactory $19,000 for its fourth week which is close to the $19,800 of the third week. Final five days of a 19th week for "The Song of Bernadette" brought the Rivoli $12,000 with almost $685,000 recorded on the entire run. Paramount's "The Story of Dr. Wassell" will open at the Rivoli today. "See Here, Private Hargrove" continues profitably at the Astor with $12,500 expected on the 11th week; it will continue. "It Happened Tomorrow" is expected to wind up a quiet second week at the Gotham with $9,500 and will continue.

"Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs" ended its ninth reissue week at the Manhattan with a mild $7,000 and it holds for a 10th. "A Night of Adventure" will bring the Rialto a poor $6,500 and Universal's "The Invisible Man Returns" will take over Friday. The final five days of a third week of "The Hour Before the Dawn" gave the Victoria about $6,000 after a second week of $7,800 and the Soviet importation "They Met in Moscow" will open this morning. United Artists' "The Song of the Open Road" will also open at the Criterion this morning.

## 'What Price Italy?'

"What Price Italy?", a feature-length documentary of the Sicilian and Italian invasions, has been compiled here by Joseph Plunkett and will be distributed under the sponsorship of Noel Meadow. Sixty-one cameramen of the Army Signal Corps, the Navy and Air Force photographed the material. Commentary was written by Madeline Woods, and is narrated by Gordon Gray, Franklin Ferguson, Robert F. Hurleigh and Al Moray.

## Iris Murphy Leaves

Iris Murphy, who resigned from Buchanan and Co. advertising agency, last Friday, was given a farewell dinner party by her co-workers on leaving. She is wife of Bill Schneider of Paramount's home office advertising department.

# Early Summer Heat Hits Theatre Grosses in Field

(Continued from page 1)

ing the past seven weeks continue to include a good number of musicals, although the majority are non-musicals. Only a few serious pictures about the war appear on the list of leaders, which follows:

"Four Jills and a Jeep," "Buffalo Bill," "The Song of Bernadette," "Jane Eyre," "Pin Up Girl," "See Here, Private Hargrove," "A Guy Named Joe," "Broadway Rhythm," "Andy Hardy's Blonde Trouble," "Gaslight," "Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs" (reissue), "Up in Arms," "Shine On, Harvest Moon," "Uncertain Glory," "The Adventures of Mark Twain," "Passage to Marseille," "In Our Time," "Lady in the Dark," "The Miracle of Morgan's Creek," "The Hour Before Dawn," "Going My Way," "The Uninvited," "Standing Room Only," "Ladies Courageous," "Her Primitive Man," "Follow the Boys," "It Happened Tomorrow" and "Charlie Chan in the Secret Service."

Composite records of the year to date, compared with the same weeks last year, follow:

| 1944 Week Ending | No. of Theatres | Total Gross | Average Per Theatre |
|---|---|---|---|
| Dec. 31-Jan. 1.. | 135 | $2,213,500 | $16,396 |
| Jan. 7-8 ..... | 117 | 2,417,700 | 20,664 |
| Jan. 14-15 ..... | 134 | 2,040,700 | 15,229 |
| Jan. 21-22 ..... | 149 | 2,311,400 | 15,513 |
| Jan. 28-29 ..... | 147 | 2,365,200 | 16,090 |
| Feb. 4-5 ..... | 153 | 2,512,200 | 16,419 |
| Feb. 11-12 ..... | 137 | 2,220,900 | 16,211 |
| Feb. 18-19 ..... | 155 | 2,459,800 | 15,870 |
| Feb. 25-26 ..... | 161 | 2,760,100 | 17,144 |
| March 3-4 ..... | 147 | 2,397,100 | 16,307 |
| March 10-11 ... | 147 | 2,463,400 | 16,758 |
| March 17-18 ... | 153 | 2,661,100 | 18,761 |
| March 24-25 ... | 150 | 2,487,700 | 16,585 |
| Mar. 31-Apr. 1 | 152 | 3,025,000 | 13,329 |
| April 7-8 ..... | 153 | 2,340,600 | 15,298 |
| April 14-15 .... | 143 | 2,506,800 | 17,530 |
| April 21-22 .... | 148 | 2,564,200 | 17,326 |
| April 28-29 .... | 130 | 2,090,900 | 16,084 |
| May 5-6 ..... | 143 | 2,238,700 | 15,655 |
| May 12-13 ..... | 146 | 2,338,700 | 16,018 |
| May 19-20 ..... | 162 | 2,417,000 | 14,926 |
| May 26-27 ..... | 155 | 2,349,400 | 15,157 |
| June 2-3 ..... | 143 | 2,242,500 | 15,683 |

| 1943 Week Ending | No. of Theatres | Total Gross | Average Per Theatre |
|---|---|---|---|
| Jan. 1-2 ..... | 151 | $2,813,506 | $18,632 |
| Jan. 8-9 ..... | 154 | 2,424,300 | 15,742 |
| Jan. 15-16 .... | 149 | 1,870,500 | 12,285 |
| Jan. 22-21 .... | 127 | 1,648,600 | 12,981 |
| Jan. 29-30 .... | 127 | 1,789,500 | 14,091 |
| Feb. 5-6 ..... | 126 | 1,743,000 | 13,040 |
| Feb. 12-13 .... | 132 | 1,919,000 | 14,538 |
| Feb. 19-20 .... | 139 | 1,885,900 | 13,568 |
| Feb. 26-27 .... | 149 | 2,005,200 | 13,458 |
| March 5-6 .... | 142 | 1,933,400 | 13,615 |
| March 12-13 .. | 151 | 1,944,600 | 12,878 |
| March 19-20 .. | 143 | 1,968,300 | 13,764 |
| March 26-27 .. | 147 | 1,938,200 | 13,185 |
| April 2-3 ..... | 123 | 1,785,800 | 14,519 |
| April 9-10 .... | 147 | 2,029,100 | 13,803 |
| April 16-17 .. | 147 | 1,868,500 | 12,711 |
| April 23-24 ... | 158 | 2,006,200 | 12,634 |
| Apr. 30-May 1 | 154 | 2,284,200 | 14,184 |
| May 7-8 ..... | 161 | 2,168,400 | 13,468 |
| May 14-15 .... | 161 | 2,053,700 | 18,967 |
| May 21-22 .... | 158 | 2,096,200 | 13,267 |
| May 28-29 .... | 155 | 2,036,600 | 13,139 |
| June 4-5 ..... | 169 | 2,289,700 | 13,548 |

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# Dismissal of Most Momand Action Seen

(Continued from page 1)

by the allegations. He said losses of profits lead indirectly to property losses, due to other circumstances (mortgages), but that the property losses were not therefore subject to recovery.

Broaddus, stating from the bench that he is prepared to dismiss the Momand allegations against at least one of the two Griffith circuits, the Griffith Consolidated Amusement Co., closed the case for testimony after hearing a Griffith film buyer reiterate that no agreement with the distriubtor defendants were made except those in the record of the case.

Final judgment in the involved suit is not expected for several weeks.

## Kinskys Sponsor 'Date'

Joe Kinsky, coordinator of the "Fighting Fifth" war loan for the motion picture industry, and Mrs. Kinsky were chaperones for last night's "G. I. Blind Date" broadcast, which originated from radio station WJZ and was heard over 160 stations of the Blue Network. A report on the industry's participation in the Fifth War Loan drive was featured.

## Heads Army Film Branch

Lt. Sydney Deneau, formerly of Fabian Theatres, has been promoted to Captain and executive officer of the motion picture branch of the Industry Services division of the Army with headquarters in New York.

# Paramount Heads To FP-C Meeting

(Continued from page 1)

under the direction of president J. J. Fitzgibbons and vice president R. W. Bolstad of FP-C. The only social feature will be a sail across Lake Ontario from Toronto on Thursday, with an informal dinner on the concluding night to hear the Paramount home office officials.

A practical feature of the conference will be an exhibit of the newest type of theatre equipment in the Seneca Theatre, where managers will be able to see mechanical devices to be installed in Canadian Theatres after the war.

**FP-C Payment on Dividend June 30**

TORONTO, June 5. — Earnings of Famous Players Canadian available for dividends are well above requirements of the new rate of $1.50 annually payable in quarterly instalments of 37½ cents. The next payment is to be made June 30 to common shareholders of record June 15.

The circuit has not had a break in dividends for some years. Previous to the current rate, the quarterly payment of 25 cents a share prevailed.

## Collins Shifted to N. Y.

Donald W. Collins, Warner circuit sound engineer in New Haven, has been transferred to New York headquarters, to work under Martin F. Bennett, head of the sound department.



# May Adjourn Schine Trial For 2 Months

(Continued from page 1)

the trial continued today, Grover C. Scott, former leaseholder on the Viv Theatre, Corbin, Ky., admitted that in 1938 he attempted to book product for a theatre not yet constructed.

In direct examination, Government Attorney Milton Kalas sought to show Scott was unsuccessful in obtaining product because Schine had purchased it. Rogers, on the other hand, showed the distributors were reluctant to sell, not knowing if there was to be a theatre to exhibit it in, and further that the theatre was not opened until August, 1939, and distributors cannot sell a year ahead.

"In the Fall of 1938 you went to Universal seeking product for a theatre that wasn't even built?" Rogers queried. Scott said it wasn't opened until after his lease was cancelled. "The theatre didn't even have a name, did it?" Rogers then asked. Scott said he had planned to call it the Roxy.

### Murphy Testifies

Mitchell K. Murphy of Big Stone Gap, Va., in theatre business for 20 years in Virginia, then testified for the Government to making a contract with Hiram H. Owens, owner of the Corbin, on May 19, 1939, for its operation and of going to Cincinnati, where he charged all distributor representatives told him product for Corbin had been sold to Schine.

Owens, a Barberville, Ky., attorney, acquired the Viv site in 1935 and in 1938 made a contact with Scott for the construction and operation of the theatre. Owens, also testifying for the Government, charged that in December, 1938, Louis Lazar and Lou Hensler of Schine offered him first $5,000, and then $7,500 if "I didn't complete the theatre." He said he rejected both deals.

The Viv is one of the theatres Schine was ordered to dispose of under the temporary order of May 19, 1942. Schine also operated the Kentucky and Hippodrome in Corbin.

## 'IA' Will Study Charter Bids

(Continued from page 1)

that he cannot disclose future plans until the board hands down a decision.

After considerable debate, resolutions introduced at the convention claiming IATSE jurisdiction over television were also referred to the incoming board for study.

Oscar Kleintopf, former St. Louis stagehands' business agent, ousted in 1936 on charge of misappropriating union funds, will get a new trial by a committee appointed by Walsh, after a plea to the convention for vindication.

## Frey Services Held

HOLLYWOOD, June 5.—Funeral services were held here today at Forest Lawn cemetery for John Frey, 53, Republic Los Angeles branch manager, who died Friday of a heart condition. Frey was in distribution for 20 years. He is survived by his widow, a sister and a son.

# Four More Meetings on Bond Drive This Week

(Continued from page 1)

morning, with Harry H. Lowenstein and Don Jacocks, exhibitor state co-chairmen, in charge. Representing the national committee will be Joe Kinsky, campaign coordinator; S. H. Fabian, chairman of the WAC theatres division, and Leon Bamberger, assistant national distributor chairman. A speaker will be Wenzell Brown, who was in a prison camp at Hong Kong, for seven months as a prisoner of the Japs.

A tri-state regional will also be held today at the Netherlands-Plaza Hotel, Cincinanti. The entire national committee, including O'Donnell, R. M. Kennedy, John J. Friedl, Ned E. Depinet, Ray Beall and Claude F. Lee, with Major Allen V. Martini, will attend. Martin Smith will preside, with Col. Arthur Frudenfeld in charge of arrangements. Kentucky, Indiana and Ohio delegations will be present.

### To Detroit Tomorrow

On Wednesday, Chairman O'Donnell, Claude Lee and Major Martini will speak at an industry rally in Detroit at the Book-Cadillac Hotel, and will also be guests at a War Finance Committee meeting there. On Thursday, O'Donnell and Major Martini will attend a rally of exhibitors and distributors of North and South Carolina at the Charlotte Hotel in Charlotte. The meeting was called by H. F. Kincey and Warren Irvin, respectively Exhibitor state chairmen for North and South Carolina.

Committeemen for Carolina bond promotions are: H. H. Everett, Watt Parker, L. C. Sipe, J. E. Holston, Harry Hardy, John Vickers, Sam Craver, Benn H. Rosenwald, J. H. Dillon, Hank Hearns, John Bachman, Tom Little, Walter Griffith, Sam Hinson, George Parr, Frank Beddingfield, Martin Street, Scott Lett, Carl Burton, George Roscoe, Ashton Matthews, James V. Frew, Bob Simril, H. F. Kincey, Roy L. Smart, Mrs. Pauline Griffith, Rovy F. Branon, Jack Austin, A. B. Craver.

### Home Office Committee Maps Bond Plans

Executives of home offices here met yesterday with chairman Eugene Picker and mapped plans for stepping up payroll deduction participation and extra bond buying by film workers during the Fifth War Loan. Frank Mitchell of the War Finance Committee, presided with Picker.

Each company will hold employee rallies. One plan discussed was to have all companies, for the first time, unite in a single plan to have employees buy bonds to outfit a complete "fighting unit," including a tank, bomber, anti-aircraft gun, landing craft, etc.

Among those present were: Floyd Weber, Columbia; Sam Goodman, Century; A. W. Smith, Jr., 20th-Fox; Max Wolff, Loew's; George Bonwick, PRC; John Farmer, RKO; Walter Titus, Jr., Republic; Emanuel Frisch, Randforce; John Benes, Skouras; John O'Connor, Universal, and Harry Buckley, United Artists.

New York will have at least a 100 per cent increase in bond premieres according to campaign director Oscar A. Doob, following a report by Ralph Pielow, distributor chairman for the New York area. Pielow has set premieres in every borough, plus premieres in every small city in the counties around New York. Loew's are setting at least 10 premieres to be held for midnights, probably Fridays, totaling nearly 70 premieres. A Broadway stage show premiere also is projected by Broadway chairman Irving Lesser.

Brooklyn chairman Charles B. McDonald has scheduled a bond meeting for tomorrow at 10:30 a.m. in the Brooklyn Albee.

At 11 a.m. today, Loew's managers will meet with C. C. Moskowitz at Loew's here on bond campaign details. On Thursday, 11 a.m., Loew assistant managers will hold a similar conference.

Plans for "Nassau's Fighting Fifth Patrol" were made at a breakfast-meeting held yesterday at the Garden City Hotel, Garden City, L. I., and attended by 75 persons, including Leon D. Howell, War Finance chairman of Nassau County. Saturday, June 17th, was set aside for the Fighting Fifth Patrol to take over Nassau County. Rallies will be held at Great Neck, Floral Park, Hempstead, Freeport, Rockville Center, Lynbrook, Cedarhurst and Long Beach.

The meeting was arranged by Fred J. Schwartz and Jack Harris, co-chairmen for Nassau County.

### Pidgeon, Lake to Rally In St. Louis Tomorrow

HOLLYWOOD, June 5.—Walter Pidgeon and Veronica Lake will leave by plane tomorrow for St. Louis for a war bond rally Wednesday night. Miss Lake will fly thence to Chicago, with Pidgeon returning to Hollywood. Helen Forrest will join Miss Lake in Chicago for the Chicago Stadium rally Friday night.

These appearances are results to date of the Hollywood Victory Committee's endeavors to supply talent for the campaign, which originally contemplated five cross-country tours. Addition appearances of this kind may follow if continuing HVC efforts to obtain talent are successful.

### Kansas City Doubles Its Bond Premieres

KANSAS CITY, June 5.—An unprecedented goal of 340 War Bond Premieres, double the number held during the Fourth War Loan, has been set for the Fifth campaign in the Kansas-Western Missouri area, following a capacity industry campaign meeting at the Hotel Muehlebach here.

Elmer C. Rhoden and Howard Jameyson, exhibitor chairmen, respectively, for Western Missouri and Kansas, head committees which will cover every city and town. Rhoden presided at the meeting, which was attended by more than 200 exhibitors and distributors and officially launched the area's pre-drive campaign.

## RCA Declares Dividend

RCA's board of directors has declared a dividend of 87½ cents per share on $3.50 cumulative first preferred stock, for the April-June quarter. The dividend is payable July 1 to holders of record on June 12.

# U. S. 'Reluctant' on Suit: Kuykendall

(Continued from page 1)

Hotel Marion here today. The meeting will conclude tomorrow.

Kuykendall urged exhibitors to perfect their organization against unfair industry taxation, terming it a problem that must be watched closely and constantly. Taking note of product shortages in many parts of the country, Kuykendall said that reissues can help solve extreme shortages but warned that it appears that there will be fewer reissues forthcoming than the need requires. He told the meeting that there are some indications that the government may "ease up" on equipment supplies and that theatres may find the equipment problem much less stringent in the not too distant future.

Kuykendall commended exhibitors for the support being given the Fifth War Loan Drive, which will get under way next Monday. He also called attention to the observance of the industry's 50th commercial anniversary and discussed distribution and exhibition of U. S. Government short subjects.

### 'No. 1 Insurance'

"The No. 1 insurance of the industry is its war activities," H. M. Richey, M-G-M exhibitor relations head, told the convention. "There are available now several avenues of insurance against post-war competition and I would put as the primary clause of our insurance policy of the future, our war activities, which some may look upon as a duty, possibly even as a burden, but which to some has been a magic key to open up avenues of goodwill.

"Never again shall we have the opportunity to support our contention that motion pictures are the greatest entertainment medium and that the motion picture theatre is an important part of every successful community as we have today, and this has been achieved through continued efforts of the industry's war activities." Richey will leave here Wednesday for Oklahoma City and then continue on to Dallas, Memphis, New Orleans, and Atlanta, arriving back in New York on June 19.

### Speakers Scheduled

Speakers at the exhibitors' convention will also include Mark Jenkins of Loew's "Show Builder" field promotional unit; Lawrence Burrow, Little Rock attorney; Charles Kessnich, M-G-M district manager at Atlanta; Duke Clarke, Paramount district manager at Dallas; Claude Mundo of Little Rock chairman of the exhibitor tri-state group, and others.

Tuesday's luncheon will be given over to a "kickoff" for the Fifth War Loan drive, with M. S. McCord, Little Rock, treasurer of Malco Theatres presiding. The luncheon also will honor Arkansas exhibitors who during the Fourth War Loan sold more than one E bond for each theatre seat including J. J. Sharum, Claude Mundo, James Taylor, C. J. Harris, W. J. Banniza, Paul Jones, Emma Cox, Pvt. L. E. Gwaltney, Thomas Burton, Mabel Landers and Austin Hicks.

## Mrs. Al Teplitz Dies

CHICAGO, June 5. — Ruth Teplitz, wife of Al Teplitz, head booker for the Sam Myers and A. J. Balaban circuits here, died Saturday.

5th WAR LOAN DRIVE


# MOTION PICTURE DAILY


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Join the Fighting Fifth!

VOL. 55. NO. 111 NEW YORK, U. S. A., WEDNESDAY, JUNE 7, 1944 TEN CENTS

# FILMS AT INVASION!

## 2 Americans In Default on British Quota

By PETER BURNUP

LONDON, June 6.—The Board of Trade announced today that only two quota defaults, both by unidentified American principals, occurred during the year ending last March 31 among distributors who had elected to operate on a monetary rather than a footage basis. There is a possibility that prosecutions may be instigated following consideration of the circumstances by the Films Council.

Under the 1938 Quota Act, amended in 1942, an American distributor could satisfy requirements by acquiring annually only one British film of the prescribed length and labor cost, provided the distributor also acquires a given amount of British film for American distribution. The defaults occurred under this ordinance, but prosecution, in view of the extreme shortage of British studio space, is unlikely.

The announced footage of British features registered during the year was 460,280, compared with 438,557 the preceding year. There were 70 individual films compared with 62 the

(*Continued on page 8*)

## $15,000,000 Bond Buy for Paramount

Paramount will buy $15,000,000 in Fifth War Loan bonds, Barney Balaban, president, stated here yesterday through the film industry's campaign committee. He notified Leonard M. Goldenson, chairman of industry sales, that the amount will be divided between the company, its theatre partners and affiliates.

This pledge follows one of $10,000,000 made by Loew's on Monday, through David Bernstein, treasurer of that company.

## *Home Offices Close Early for Prayer*

**Practically all home offices in New York closed early yesterday to permit their thousands of workers to attend church services and prayers for our armed forces in the Invasion.**

**President Barney Balaban called all Paramount workers to a D-Day observance in the home office at noon. Other offices closed for the day as follows: United Artists, 1:00 P. M.; Columbia 3:00 P. M.; Warners, RKO and M-G-M 3:30 P. M.; and Universal 4:00 P. M.**

## *RKO Affirms Its Television*

N. Peter Rathvon, RKO president, is chairman of the board of the new RKO subsidiary, RKO Television Corp., which has been formed to produce film and live talent programs for television use, as reported exclusively in MOTION PICTURE DAILY on Monday.

As previously reported, Frederic Ullman, president of RKO Pathe News, will be president of the new television company, and Thomas H. Hutchin-

(*Continued on page 8*)

## Patrons Hear Progress In Theatres

### *Theatres Tie-Up with Radio and Newspapers*

Theatres almost everywhere in the United States were well prepared to service patrons with up-to-the-minute bulletins when the invasion came yesterday morning.

Extensive tie-ups had been made weeks ago with radio stations and newspapers to send latest flashes to thousands of theatres over special wires from radio stations and newspaper offices.

Teletype machines had been set up in many circuit offices with news dispatches being brought to audiences through theatre amplification systems. Elsewhere, bulletins were read from stages in the same manner as election returns are announced to audiences.

Hundreds of theatres installed radio receivers in their lobbies so audiences and the public could listen to news bulletins.

Prayer services were conducted between performances in most houses of the country while in others special prayer trailers and special invasion

(*Continued on page 7*)

## *O'Donnell Urges Film Industry to Back the Invasion with Bond Buys*

**Cincinnati, June 6.—Robert J. O'Donnell, speaking as national chairman of the motion picture industry's "Fighting Fifth" War Loan campaign, at a mass meeting of industry representatives here today issued the following formal statement on the occasion of the invasion:**

**"On this momentous occasion—fateful D-Day—the efforts and sacrifices of our fighting men and our Allies should be a solemn inspiration to every member of our industry, whether he or she is in exhibition, production or distribution, to join the "Fighting Fifth."**

**"It is opportune to repeat that Invasion multiplies astronomically our obligation to our boys, to our Government and to our home."**

**"Fight by his side and sell more bonds to provide more power for Eisenhower! Let's all back the invasion. Sell invasion bonds!"**

## *Washington Expects to See First Newsreels On Landing by Weekend*

By BERTRAM F. LINZ

WASHINGTON, June 6.—American cameramen, military and commercial, were today in the midst of the world's greatest adventure, picturing from land, air and sea scenes of the invasion of Fortress Europe which, with a little luck, may be showing in the theatres of the country by Friday.

**Under plans worked out to the last detail many weeks ago, the first of these pictures may be in this country tomorrow night or Thursday morning, possibly to be immediately processed and distributed, probably as a "special" by each of the five companies.**

If it is decided to "special" the first invasion pictures to be received, they will be shipped by air express under a special priority from the Army for

(*Continued on page 6*)

## L.A. Grosses Down 40% on D-Day

LOS ANGELES, June 6.—A dinner-time check-up of the effect of D-Day on grosses revealed that attendance was down on an average of 40 per cent, with exhibitors reporting this kind of news gladly for the first time in theatre history and expecting night business to drop still further. With all commercial programs off the radios throughout the day and evening, theatres piped in President Roosevelt's broadcast for the benefit of the small audiences present.

The Los Angeles *Times* dropped all advertising from the Tuesday final edition which is regarded as carrying the most widely read amusement section in this area. Circuits and independents queried were unanimous in the satisfaction that D-Day had come. Relaxation of pre-invasion tension was regarded as a likely prelude to an upturn in recently diminishing grosses.

Let's ALL back the Invasion!

# Personal Mention

HARRY C. ARTHUR, JR., general manager of Fanchon and Marco, is en route to New York from St. Louis.

•

LT. EDWARD B. ARTHUR, formerly assistant general manager of Fanchon and Marco, was visiting in St. Louis this week.

•

MARTIN STARR, radio director for the industry's Fifth War Loan drive, left last night for Washington to confer with Treasury Department officials.

•

PAUL O'BRIEN of O'Brien, Driscoll and Raftery, will leave tomorrow for Davenport, Iowa.

•

JULES FIELD, 20th-Fox assistant exploitation manager, left last night for Indianapolis.

•

JULES LEVEY, United Artists producer, will leave today for Toronto on business.

•

ARY LIMA, Warners general manager in Brazil, left last night for Hollywood.

•

JULES LAPIDUS, Warners Eastern division sales manager, will be in Pittsburgh today and tomorrow.

•

JOE KRENITZ, Universal Cleveland branch manager, is vacationing at Ann Arbor, Mich.

•

SIDNEY MEYER, co-owner and general manager of Wometco Theatre, Florida, is in town.

## Rodgers to Coast To Set 8th Block

William F. Rodgers, M-GM vice-president and general sales manager, will leave New York tomorrow for Hollywood on a three-week trip to view products for the new season and to complete arrangements for the company's eighth block. He will stop at Detroit, Milwaukee and Chicago en route. Before returning to New York, Rodgers will visit Kansas City, St. Louis and Cleveland.

M-G-M's Central sales manager, John J. Maloney, who has headquarters in Pittsburgh, and his assistant, Charles F. Deesen, have left for Dallas on a tour of branch offices at Oklahoma City, Kansas City, St. Louis, and Indianapolis.

## RKO Stockholders to Elect Directors

DOVER, Del. June 6—Annual meeting of RKO stockholders will be held here tomorrow morning at which time a proposal to amend the company's by-laws to permit enlarging the number of directors from the present nine will be considered.

Other business to be transacted includes selection of directors for the ensuing year.

# Insider's Outlook

By RED KANN

*Hollywood, June 6*

RE-TRAVELING the files develops its moments. Some, embarrassing in view of time and forecast and the toll both have a habit of exacting. Some, good to better. Others, unresolved and still cooking.

■

Scene 1 takes us to New York and mid-January.

*Question*: "Will there be a decree?"

*Answer*: "No one can answer that with finality. Too many things are apt to happen. I think, however, there will be—in due time."

Questions, ours; answers, by one of the pivotal lawyers in the protracted negotiations. Protracted then, they are now four months, and more, older. We braved a forecast then. It held the line at its juncture, and still does. Here's part of it:

"There will be a decree. No matter how much redrafting may be required or how long the back-and-forth may run, a decree will emerge. The alternative confronting the five majors is theatre divorcement. They may be expected (they insist they have) to travel any distance, concede almost any concession for the continued right to maintain their theatre structure intact."

■

Scene 2 returns us to Hollywood and the preceding November. Even then "Uncertain Glory," starring Errol Flynn and now in first run release, shaped up as a Thomson Production. Whether it would be so marked on the screen was a question, but now time demonstrates the question is removed; it's there. Financially and bookkeeping-wise, however, it was forecast as the first crystallization in Flynn's new deal with Warners under which he will make one of his own a year; Thomson is drawn from the T. in Errol T. Flynn.

This looks like a personal arrangement between star and producer and, of course, it is. But it stresses something in the nature of another Hollywood trend, born of war days and war time tax structures. Thus, Flynn is not the only one at Warners. Bette Davis is understood to have a producing-on-her-own arrangement, calling for a limited number of pictures during the life of her pact. She may not appear in them, but whatever they turn out to be, they will not interrupt her starring appearances on the program she has graced these many years.

■

Scene 3 develops on the Paramount lot in February with a third anniversary observation on Buddy De Sylva's tenure of office as executive producer. Asked how it felt, he replied: "Ever have a hammer hit you on the head every day of the year for three years?"

Since then, of course, Hal Wallis and the Warners have broken up. Hal has formed his own company, with his end reputedly and partially financed by New England theatre money, and has entered upon an equal-split partnership with Paramount.

■

Sensitive and garrulous Hollywood at once reacted, then began to talk. Is this a threat to De Sylva and, if so, how come in view of his bang-up record? Will Wallis have the same type of first call on Paramount talent as he enjoyed at Warners? Will other producers there seek new deals with Paramount on a profit-sharing basis?

Frank Freeman, aware of this gabby town, states flatly the deal is not a threat; that Wallis is an independent producer who could work on any lot he chose, that De Sylva continues what he is—the executive producer. In other words, two different men with two different jobs and De Sylva with 19 months to go under his contract.

In the light of Freeman's comment, not so good was the recent forecasting here that Wallis may be expected to insist upon major resources (meaning talent) of whatever studio affiliation he may make. Not so, continues Freeman, who says Wallis will have to line up his people exactly like any other independent maker of pictures.

Whether De Sylva, remembering the three years and that hammer, emerges with a unit of his own remains to be seen. In that connection, Freeman declares he recognizes the executive producership is a burdensome job. To that, however, he adds De Sylva and the unit possibility are not connected with Wallis and his Paramount arrangement. Evidently, it was in Buddy's mind earlier.

■

Meanwhile, there has been some inside conversation let loose about Cecil B. DeMille. He informs he has one more to make under current contract; that he makes his at the rate of one a year and is yet to start whatever the final one is to be. Thinks it will be "Rurales," in all likelihood.

## Testify on Leases In Schine Trial

BUFFALO, June 6.—Sgt. Richard DeToto, of the Military Reservation at Indiantown Gap., Pa., former operator of the Seneca Theatre, Seneca Falls, N. Y., testified in Federal Court here today, as trial of the Government anti-trust suit against the Schine Circuit continued, that while he had a lease on the Seneca and an oral option for a renewal, the house was sold to the Schine Circuit.

Where before he had been paying rent to the Seneca Falls Savings Bank, Sgt. DeToto said he suddenly found himself making payments to Leon Schaefer, manager of the Strand Theatre, a Schine house in Seneca Falls, and the only other theatre in the town.

**Would Close House**

"Early in May, 1936, I went to see Schaefer and asked him if I could renew by lease on the Seneca," DeToto testified. "He replied: 'Are you kidding?' and said Schine doesn't buy theatres to rent them, that Schine wants to close up the theatre."

Sgt. DeTota said when he was told he could not renew the lease, he took steps to build another theatre in an old laundry building in Main St., Seneca Falls. The new house was not constructed.

The soldier, subpoeaned from camp, started his exhibitor career as part time employe for Schine in Geneva at the Geneva Theatre. In 1934 he became manager of the Seneca Theatre and the following year leased it from the owner, the Seneca Savings Bank. He vacated June 30, 1936, upon sale of the property to Schine, he testified.

**Strand Larger**

The Seneca had 350 seats. The Strand, a 900-seater, was acquired by Schine from Bernstein Brothers, Ithaca, in September, 1935.

Earlier, Abner C. Jones, Harlan, Ky., banker, testified for the Government that Schine representatives visited him between 1937 and 1939 with a view to leasing the New Harlan Theatre, Harlan, Ky., when the lease of Price Coomer, expired. Jones said he told the representatives he had "a satisfactory tenant."

## Warners to Reissue Six Next Month

Warners will re-release six features on June 15, it was announced yesterday by Ben Kalmenson, general sales manager. New prints, trailers, press books and accessories will be available. The films are: "Manpower," "They Made Me a Criminal," "The Walking Dead," Tiger Shark" and two features as yet to be selected.

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TWENTY YEARS OF LEADERSHIP
1924-1944
MGM

# M-G-M's

# THE WHITE CLIFFS OF HOLDOVER

*"See what I mean?"*







THIRD WEEK TOPS FIRST TWO! CHALLENGES LONG-RUN RECORDS OF "RANDOM HARVEST" and "MRS. MINIVER"

FIGHTING SHOWMEN! JOIN THE FIGHTING 5th WAR LOAN!

# Scully Gives 44-45 Preview

LOS ANGELES, June 6.—Details of 22 features completed or preparing from which Universal will build a program for 1944-45 were disclosed here today by W. A. Scully, vice-president and general sales manager, in a "preview" of product for the new season, given to sales executives and district managers attending a sales conference at the Hotel Ambassador.

The pictures listed, in advance of a full program to be made known later in the week included 15 completed. "Universal will inaugurate the 1944-45 program with more completed film than at any time in its history," Scully declared, in giving details on the following completed productions:

**Completed Productions**

"Gypsy Wildcat," color production starring Maria Montez, Jon Hall and Peter Coe; two productions starring Donald O'Connor; "The Merry Monahans," with Peggy Ryan and Jack Oakie co-starred; and "Patrick the Great," co-starring O'Connor and Peggy Ryan; "The Climax," in color, starring Susanna Foster, Boris Karloff and Turhan Bey; "The Devil's Brood," starring Boris Karloff and Lon Chaney; "San Diego, I Love You," starring Jon Hall and Louise Allbritton; "See My Lawyer," starring Olsen and Johnson, with Grace McDonald, Alan Curtis, Noah Beery, Jr.; two Sherlock Holmes pictures starring Basil Rathbone and Nigel Bruce: "The Pearl of Death" and "The House of Fear"; an Inner Sanctum mystery, "Dead Man's Eyes," starring Lon Chaney; "Moonlight and Cactus," with the Andrews Sisters.

Also: "Babes on Swing Street," starring Peggy Ryan and Ann Blyth, with Leon Errol, Leo Carrillo, Andy Devine, Kirby Grant and Freddie Slack and his orchestra; "Murder in the Blue Room," with Anne Gwynne, Grace McDonald and Donald Cook; "Reckless Age," starring Gloria Jean; "The Singing Sheriff," with Bob Crosby and his orchestra, Fay McKenzie and Iris Adrian.

**Others Soon Ready**

Productions due to be completed soon are: "Bowery to Broadway," starring Maria Montez, Jack Oakie, Susanna Foster, Turhan Bey, Louise Allbritton, Leo Carrillo, Ann Blyth, Andy Devine and Evelyn Ankers, and "Be It Ever So Humble," starring Martha O'Driscoll and Noah Beery, Jr. Also, a Western serial, "Raiders of Ghost City," with Dennis Moore, Wanda McKay, Lionel Atwill, Virginia Christine, Regis Toomey and Joe Sawyer, and the first of the 1944-45 Westerns, "Riders of the Santa Fe," starring Rod Cameron, with Fuzzy Knight and Ray Whitley.

Scully also outlined highlights of several productions just starting or about to start; they include:

"Can't Help Singing," in color, starring Deanna Durbin and Robert Paige; Felix Jackson will produce, with direction by Frank Ryan; "My Baby Loves Music," with Bob Crosby and Grace McDonald; "Queen of the Nile," in color, starring Maria Montez, Jon Hall and Turhan Bey, produced by Paul Malvern, with Jack Rawlins directing; "The Frozen Ghost," an Inner Sanctum story starring Lon Chaney.

# Review

## "Christmas Holiday"

*(Universal)*

IN transferring Somerset Maugham's novel, "Christmas Holiday," to the screen to provide Deanna Durbin with her first heavy dramatic role, scripter Herman J. Mankiewicz has effected considerable alterations in the basic dramatic story. Starred in Felix Jackson's production are Miss Durbin and Gene Kelly with a capable supporting cast which includes Richard Whorf, Dean Harens, Gladys George, Gale Sondergaard and David Bruce.

Whether the legions of customers who have come to appreciate Miss Durbin in the wholesome, vivacious, light romantic singing and acting roles which she has portrayed until now, will welcome her in the role of the young wife of a murderer who attaches herself to a questionable bistro as penance for what she considers her responsibility for the murder, will be decided at the box office. The emphasis in Robert Siodmak's direction is upon the tragedy wrought in the lives of Miss Durbin and Miss Sondergaard, as Kelly's mother, by his weakness for gambling, rather than upon romance.

The locale of the Maugham story has been changed from Paris to New Orleans, with a good portion of the action unfolded in retrospect through the medium of a young Army lieutenant who has been jilted by his fiancee upon his graduation from Officers' Candidate School. When his plane is grounded in New Orleans, he is taken in hand by Whorf, a newspaper reporter. It is to the officer that Miss Durbin relates her story; how her husband's patrician mother blamed her for the murder he committed, and of her doing penance in the bistro while he is in jail. Suspense is achieved when Kelly escapes from jail intent upon settling scores with Miss Durbin, whom he is convinced has been unfaithful to him. Naturally it is all a product of his twisted mind, but it serves to release Miss Durbin from the unique existence she has adopted, for he is killed as he is about to shoot her.

Miss Durbin's singing is confined to renditions of Irving Berlin's popular "Always" and Frank Loesser's "Spring Will Be a Little Late This Year," both delivered in the cheap night club, with the former being spotted several times in addition in the film as background music. Fundamentally, "Christmas Holiday" is a rather grim dramatic film of frustration and a distinct departure from what audiences are prepared to expect from both Miss Durbin and Kelly. Therein, however, is a circumstance which may result in wide discussion of the picture, to its benefit at the box office.

Running time, 93 mins. "G."* Release date, June 30.

MILTON LIVINGSTON

*"G" denotes general classification.

## Further Delay for Clark Decree Meet

WASHINGTON, June 6.—Assistant Attorney General Tom C. Clark may meet with representatives of the distributors on the consent decree at the end of this week, but the meeting is more likely to be put over until next week, it was said today at the Department of Justice.

Joseph H. Hazen, who has acted as liaison between the companies and the Department, talked again with Clark by telephone today, but the only development was a promise by Hazen that he would call back again in a day or two with suggestions for a meeting date.

**"U" Foreign Chiefs to Coast on Product**

J. H. Seidelman, vice-president in charge of foreign activities for Universal, will leave here Friday for the Coast for studio conferences concerning the new season's product and plans for foreign language dubbing. Accompanying Seidelman will be Al Daff, foreign sales supervisor, and Fortunat Baronat, director of foreign publicity.

## Film Classics Plans Export-Import Unit

Film Classics will inaugurate an export and import department in preparation for postwar expansion, it was disclosed here recently by George A. Hirliman, president.

Hirliman also revealed that his organization has acquired American distribution rights to what is said to be the first French picture produced in Switzerland since the beginning of World War II. The film, "Woman Disappears," was produced by Jacques Feyer, who made "Carnival in Flanders."

## UA to Release BMOI 'Eve of Battle'

LONDON, June 6.—United Artists will distribute on a strictly commercial basis, the British Ministry of Information 20-minute film "Eve of Battle," it was learned here today.

Sidney Bernstein, director of film distribution for BMOI in the European theatre, called a press conference here today as a result of the protests made by the five American newsreel companies through Murray Silverstone, United Newsreel president for uncontrolled distribution of their newsreels following liberation of occupied territories.

## Eight Rallies Here To Back Invasion

The first military demonstration to "Back the Invasion" will be held in Times Square at noon Friday and will officially launch the industry's "Fighting Fifth" War Loan drive. There will be 70 pieces of army motorized equipment, a battalion of 300 soldiers, with overseas packs, an 80-piece military band from the 397th Infantry, and a delegation of 60 war heroes.

Staged under the direction of Charles C. Moskowitz, chairman for the industry's New York committee, the demonstration will be opened by Newbold Morris, president of the City Council, and other distinguished guests will speak.

Broadway theatres will have their bond booths lined along the curb and bonds will be sold for immediate delivery. The equipment, broken into six units, will later visit Manhattan, Bronx, Brooklyn, Queens, Richmond and Westchester. Eight rallies are planned for these areas and it is expected that the 2,000,000 persons attending will buy at least $1,000,000 worth of bonds.

Edward C. Dowden, chairman of special events, is in charge of arrangements.

**2,000 Premieres Set, Cincinnati Rally Told**

CINCINNATI, June 6.—Over 2,000 war bond premieres have already been scheduled for the Fifth War Loan, starting Monday, and the final total will far eclipse that of the Fourth War Loan, John J. Friedl, campaign director, said here today at an all-industry rally in the Netherlands-Plaza Hotel.

More than 300 exhibitors and distributors attended from Ohio, Kentucky, West Virginia and Indiana. Plans and objectives for the effort to back the invasion were outlined by national industry chairman R. J. O'Donnell, vice chairman R. M. Kennedy, national distributor chairman Ned E. Depinet, publicity director Ray Beall, Claude Lee, industry consultant to the U. S. Treasury, and Major Allen V. Martini, bomber hero.

Among those present were France H. Isbey, Michigan chairman; Major Joseph F. Goetz of Patterson Feld, Dayton; Harold Bredlow, War Finance Committee director; R. J. Dunn, assistant cashier of the local Federal Reserve Bank, and Phil J. Trourstine, War Activities Committee state director.

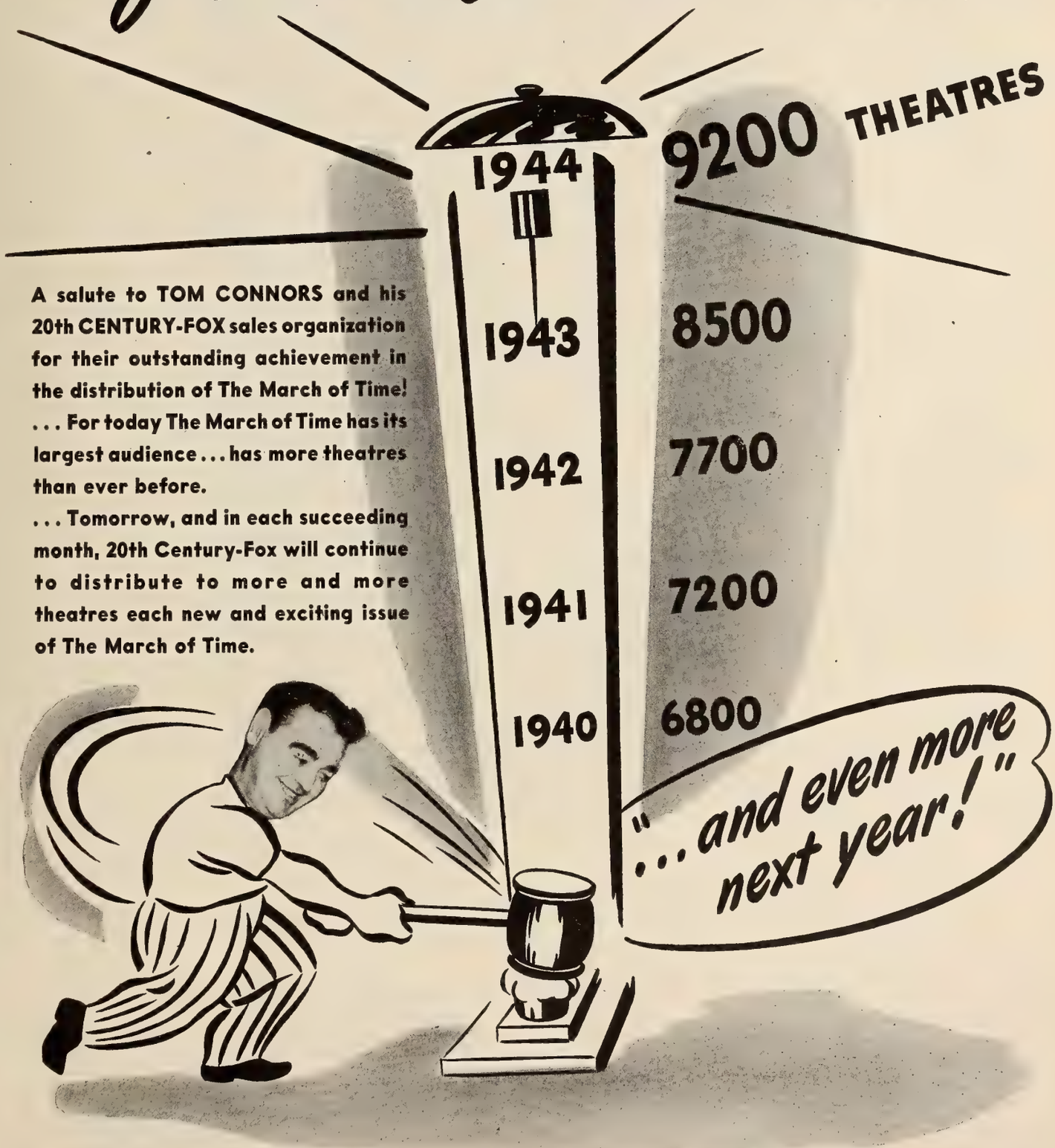
## 'Chicken' Next Year

Release of Warners' production of "Chicken Every Sunday," comedy by Julius J. and Philip Epstein, produced on Broadway by Edward Gross, has been set for June 1, 1945. Gross, who sold the property for $250,000, was represented by H. William Fitelson, New York film attorney.

## Small 'Brewster' Remake

Edward Small, independent producer releasing through United Artists, is concluding negotiations for film remake rights to "Brewster's Millions," owned by British and Dominion Film Corp., Ltd., who are represented here by H. William Fitelson and Arthur S. Friend, film attorney.

# 20th Century-Fox Rings the Bell for MARCH OF TIME!




A salute to TOM CONNORS and his 20th CENTURY-FOX sales organization for their outstanding achievement in the distribution of The March of Time!

... For today The March of Time has its largest audience ... has more theatres than ever before.

... Tomorrow, and in each succeeding month, 20th Century-Fox will continue to distribute to more and more theatres each new and exciting issue of The March of Time.

# The March of Time

# Cameramen Cover D-Day Landings

## Early Reels Expected by The Weekend

(*Continued from page* 1)

shipments to all sections of the country. The weight of such an air shipment would be in the neighborhood of seven tons.

What the newsreel companies plan to do was disclosed today by Claude Collins, Washington representative of the newsreel division of the War Activities Committee, who for many months has been working out with Army and Navy officials the plans for handling the picture material developing on the various war fronts.

Although War Department officials refused to discuss any of their plans for handling the initial pictures of the invasion and refused to speculate as to when they would be available, although one officer said he did not expect them to arrive this week, Collins predicted that the first of the pictures of the actual landing would reach this country tomorrow night or early Thursday morning.

**London by Afternoon**

The pictures of the night attack, the first landings and probably some of the shore activities early today, he said, should be in London by afternoon. The thoroughly worked-out plans call for their immediate processing and review, censorship by the joint Allied Review Board and immediate transportation to this country by the Army. The Joint Allied Review Board is composed of representatives of the United States, Britain and other countries, our representation, in addition to Army and Navy officials, including Ned Buddy, in charge of the European pool of the newsreel companies, and William Montague, formerly with Paramount Newsreel and now with the OWI overseas film division.

**All Treated Alike**

The pictures taken by the newsreel companies' own war correspondents are to be given the same quick treatment which will be accorded the Army and Navy photographers' films. Arrangements for the operations of the companies' representatives, whose product will be pooled so that the most comprehensive coverage can be given by a limited number of men, were worked out by Buddy, on whom rests the whole burden of European coverage, from the assignment of the men right through to the shipment of the developed negatives.

All of the pictures taken by the company correspondents will be rushed through a laboratory, reviewed and censored on the same quick schedule as the military material, and the negatives will be shipped back by courier plane, with prints following by commercial plane as a safeguard in the event of accident to the negatives.

In order to reduce the labor involved in processing and thus save time, instructions have been issued to restrict the coverage by the pool and it is expected that the initial shipments will not exceed 15,000 feet, Collins said.

The pictures sent over by the pool will go directly to the companies for editing and printing, but those sent over by the Army will go to the War Department for the making of a master print. As Allied forces moved in on France, the OWI was prepared to follow with films for showing in liberated areas as rapidly as they were cleaned up and steps taken to restore the normal lives of the populace.

Already thoroughly tried out and perfected in North Africa, Sicily and Southern Italy, the OWI plans were declared to be complete in every detail.

**Large Stock Ready**

As in the case of Italy, where 7,500 reels of the best American pictures were available at the time of the invasion to be carried into and shown in the theatres of the country, the OWI has a large stock of films ready for the invasion of France, together with its own documentaries and, during recent consideration of the agency's appropriation, it was disclosed that a six-reel film, "Salute to France," is practically completed.

On the basis of the experience in the three areas already covered, officials said, the Army has been so impressed with the effectiveness of motion pictures that special arrangements have been made for the quick reopening of the theatres almost on the very heels of the fighting forces, as a potent means of keeping the local populations under control and of informing them correctly of the things that are and have been going on.

## *Cin. Shows Halted For News Flashes*

**Cincinnati, June 6.—News flashes on the invasion were given throughout the day by popular local announcers over loud speakers within the RKO Albee, Palace, Capitol, Grand and Lyric here, through station WCKY, local CBS affiliate. Performances were halted at all of houses for these exclusive theatre bulletins.**

**Public reaction was highly favorable and the service was credited with contributing to the increased attendance which prevailed at the theatres.**

## *Paramount Employes In Prayer Meeting*

At noon yesterday Paramount executives called a meeting of all home office employees where Adolf Zukor, chairman of the board, spoke and Arthur Israel, assistant to Barney Balaban, president, reminded workers that "this is a good day to think about buying more war bonds and blood donations." Bill Novick, local exchange employee offered a prayer for the Invaders.

## Theatres Ready As D-Day Hits B'way

Broadway theatres, keyed to D-Day for weeks, like thousands all over the country, met yesterday's news of the Invasion fully prepared to give Metropolitan theatre patrons news bulletins direct from press services while direct radio station hook-ups further facilitated immediate transmission of flashes to the screens of New York's key film houses.

Broadway theatre managers reported comparatively little effect on grosses yesterday, except for the Roxy, which noted a slight decrease in receipts in the early hours. The Music Hall reported "remarkably good business." Others reported no noticeable deviation.

**Pray at Each Performance**

The Paramount conducted a minute of prayer between each performance with a special salute to the armed forces. Bulletins were flashed on the screen all day as they arrived from station WMCA. News flashes were also announced from the stage. The Capitol, in a direct hook-up with station WHN, presented only the most significant reports. M-G-M's one-minute trailer, "D-Day Prayer," was screened with each performance.

Warners' Strand and Hollywood Theatres presented news, as reported, from the stage, and radios were placed on mezzanines.

The Criterion used radios in its lounges, and M-G-M's trailer, "D-Day Prayer" on its screen. The Roxy ran 20th-Fox's Movietone prepared invasion announcement by Lowell Thomas.

**D-Day Signs for Extra Bonds at Loew's**

Before noon yesterday, Loew's New York theatres were displaying lobby posters urging patrons to "back up our boys in France" by buying extra bonds on 'D Day'. Each bond sold was stamped 'D-Day'. Last night, following the showing of a prayer on film, D-Day bond rallies were staged in 90 per cent of the circuit's theatres. At a managers' meeting conducted by C. C. Moskowitz in the interests of the Fifth War Loan drive, every person present pledged to buy an extra bond on D-Day.

## *D-Day Fails to Dent Cleveland Grosses*

CLEVELAND, June 6.—Downtown theatres here report boxoffice receipts virtually unaffected by news of the invasion today.

Long prepared for D-Day, local film houses, such as Warners Hippodrome, through direct radio connections, flashed bulletins on the screen all day, while Loew house managers reported news from stages at the break of each show. Managers reported that a majority of patrons frequented lounges throughout the day where news of Allied landings came over radios placed there for the purpose.

## Radio Scraps Programs for The Invasion

American radio told the most dramatic story in its history yesterday—the long-awaited news of the invasion of the Fortress Europe.

Starting when the first official announcement came from London at 3:32 a.m., the ensuing hours of broadcasting were almost exclusively devoted to news reports and special invasion programs. Prayers were offered and special addresses by President Roosevelt and King George VI of England were carried by the networks.

**Headquarters Reports**

NBC cancelled all sponsored programs to provide an uninterrupted flow of invasion reports from commentators here and correspondents at Supreme Allied Headquarters abroad and with Armed Forces actually "in the field." Interspersed with news reports were special events. A prayer, offered by Archbishop Francis J. Spellman at noon was repeated by NBC at 2:30 p.m., together with the reading of the Archbishop's prayer for America. King George's address to Allied Forces from London was carried at three P.M. and five P.M. The network carried special Eternal Light ceremonies at Madison Square with Mayor LaGuardia as the principal speaker. President Roosevelt spoke to the nation from the White House at 10 P.M., reading a prayer which he had composed. Choir music, hymns and band selections were carried on the air between flashes. Programs of Bob Hope, Fibber McGee and Molly, Red Skelton, Ginny Simms and Fred Waring were refashioned to maintain the solemn atmosphere of the day.

**War Bond Messages**

CBS generally cancelled commercials, substituting specially prepared messages of the Office of War Information urging war bond purchases.

The Blue Network cancelled all commercials and several regularly scheduled programs. OWI patriotic messages were broadcast throughout the day. The Blue presented a special D-Day dramatic program, "Milestones to Victory," which had been rehearsed for some time.

Local New York stations also devoted the bulk of broadcasting time to news flashes, special events and programs.

Radio's plans for coverage of the invasion, set weeks ago in close cooperation with military authorities, were the most intensive in its history. Network precedents and restrictions heretofore imposed upon performance of recordings on major networks were waived.

Known arrangements included the availability of sufficient transatlantic circuits to provide all networks with at least 18 hours per day of continuous service.

# London Business Normal on D-Day

LONDON, June 6 — British theatres interrupted their programs throughout the day and night to bring latest news flashes on the invasion to their audiences. In addition, theatres throughout the nation carried King George VI's radio broadcast over loud speakers.

Theatre receipts have been unaffected thus far by the launching of the invasion but exhibitors anticipate a severe slump in attendance tonight as millions here will spend the evening in prayer and hopeful quiet.

Two Cities' new production, "The Way Ahead," depicting the training of men for the invasion, coincidentally was tradeshown at the Odeon today to a large exhibitor audience. (A report from London on a preview of "The Way Ahead" was published in MOTION PICTURE DAILY on May 25.) The J. Arthur Rank organization said it would not endeavor to cash in on the unusual publicity possibilities of the film through its remarkable timeliness.

The exhibitor audience at the tradeshowing spurned a luncheon which followed it and proceeded to Parliament to join in cheering Prime Minister Churchill as he left the House after his historic oration.

# Boston Grosses Soar On D-Day News

BOSTON, June 6.—Box office receipts at theatres here soared today as news of the Invasion hit this city. Every downtown theatre was crowded from early morning and indications are that all single-day records will be broken when gross receipts are totalled.

Long lines waited outside theatres for hours as schools and department stores closed in tribute to D-Day. Races scheduled for today were cancelled and the thousands who frequent the track turned to theatres.

Large downtown houses flashed bulletins on screens at intervals. At the Keith Memorial Theatre lounges were filled to capacity as crowds waited for further radio news of the attack. Twenty-two loudspeakers were installed in the business section of the city and throngs of residents heard addresses by Governor Saltonstall, Lt. Governor Cahill and Mayor Tobin.

## *Patrons Hear News in Nation's Theatres*

(*Continued from page* 1)

short reels were screened. Stressed throughout was the Fifth War Loan drive, which will get under way on Monday, with exhibitors urging patrons to buy an extra bond with the arrival of D-Day.

Thousands of theatres last night interrupted programs at 10 P.M. (EWT) to hear President Roosevelt's Invasion-Day address to the nation, and to hear his special D-Day prayer for our forces fighting inland from the beaches of France and elsewhere on the Continent. The National Anthem was the concluding note of the day in practically all theatres, with other patriotic airs added frequently during the day and evening.


Paramount NEWS

AND NOTHING *BUT* THE NEWS



**TAKES THE MONEY!** BOSTON MET. EQUALS FAMOUS HUB HOUSE'S BEST PREVIOUS FIRST-WEEK FIGURE WITH BING CROSBY'S "GOING MY WAY." LEO MC CAREY SMASH IS LEADING "LADY IN THE DARK" BY 14% ..... AND AT NEW YORK PARAMOUNT IT'S TOPPING "STAR SPANGLED RHYTHM" BY 33% AS IT ENTERS SIXTH WEEK TODAY.


# British Newsreels Seek More Film for Invasion Coverage

LONDON, June 6.—Faced with the need for increased allotments of raw stock for invasion news coverage, the British Newsreel Association today sent a request for authorization for an increase from 700 feet to 1,000 feet in their next eight issues to the Board of Trade.

Following consultation with the Ministry of Information, the latter agreed to relinquish to the reels approximately 1,000,000 feet of raw stock from its own allocations for propaganda purposes. This will be sufficient to meet the increased footage sought for the next four issues of the reels. In addition, the MOI tonight is further exploring the possibility of meeting the newsreels' full request.

The raw stock situation here still is serious, particularly in view of the demands which will be made by the military as a consequence of the invasion and urgent requirements of other official quarters. No relaxation of present raw stock rationing is anticipated here for months to come. While there appears to be ample film base on hand, limited processing facilities here comprise a major problem.

# 'Eve of Invasion' In U.S. Newsreels

The five newsreels here are editing a special 1,800-foot newsreel entitled "Eve of Invasion," depicting the United Nations preparations of the Allied invasion of the Western Front, which will replace the regular newsreel to be released on Thursday.

Action was taken following a conference here yesterday of the newsreel company heads, Lt. Colonel Gordon F. Swarthout, acting chief, bureau of public relations of the War Department and officials of the motion picture division of the domestic bureau of the Office of War Information.

The regular Thursday newsreels were completed early Tuesday morning by all companies. When official confirmation of the invasion was received from Washington, all company staffs returned to their headquarters immediately to re-edit their reels, which were to include advance material compiled by the OWI, comments by the foremost commentators and President Roosevelt's Invasion speech to the nation.

This material will be replaced by "Eve of Invasion" and will be held for further newsreel issues.

## *D-Day Hits Chicago Loop Theatres*

CHICAGO, June 6. — Grosses in the Loop declined noticeably today with news of the Invasion. Theatre operators said a slump was anticipated and predicted a return to normalcy within a few days.

The only line in front of a theatre today was at the Telenews.

## *'Frisco' N. Y. Opening*

Republic's "Man From Frisco" has been booked by Loew's State for its first New York run, starting June 15.

# Production in Slight Drop; 52 in Works

HOLLYWOOD, June 6. — Production levelled off during the past week as 11 pictures were completed and only six were started. This brought the total number in work down to 52, as against a peak of 57 the previous week. The production scene follows:

**Columbia**

*Started*: "Stalk the Hunter," with Allyn Joslyn, Evelyn Keyes, Marguerite Chapman, Edgar Buchanan, Nina Foch, Jeff Barker. "Boston Blackie's Appointment with Death," with Chester Morris, Janice Carter, Richard Lane, Dorothy Maloney, George E. Stone.

*Finished*: "Cry of the Werewolf," "Under Western Skies," "Battleship Blues."

*Shooting*: "Death Walks Alone," "Meet Miss Bobby Socks," "Ever Since Venus," "Tonight and Every Night."

**M-G-M**

*Shooting*: "Airship Squadron 4," "Music for Millions," "Son of Lassie," "The Thin Man Goes Home," "Ziegfeld Follies," "Lost in a Harem," "Mrs. Parkington," "The Picture of Dorian Gray," "Thirty Second Over Tokyo," "Secrets in the Dark," "National Velvet."

**Monogram**

*Shooting*: "Marked Trails," "I Married a Stranger."

**PRC**

*Started*: "Bluebeard," with John Carradine, Jean Parker, Nils Asther, Ludwig Stossel, Patti McCarthy, Teala Loring, Emmett Lynn, Iris Adrian.

*Finished*: "Seven Doors to Death."

**Paramount**

*Shooting*: "Fear," "Here Come the Waves," "Murder, He Says," "Two Years Before the Mast."

**RKO**

*Finished*: "None But the Lonely Heart."

*Shooting*: "The Master Race," "The Pumpkin Shell," "Farewell My Lovely," "Having Wonderful Crime," "Tall in the Saddle," "Heavenly Days," "The Woman in the Window" (International); "The Princess and the Pirate" (Goldwyn).

**Republic**

*Started*: "Brazil," with Virginia Bruce, Tito Guizar, Edward Everett Horton, Veloz and Yolanda.

*Finished*: "Sheriff of Sundown," "House of Terror," "Anything for a Laugh" (Colmes).

*Shooting*: "San Fernando Valley," "Cheyenne Wildcat," "Atlantic City."

**20th Century-Fox**

*Shooting*: "Thunderhead," "A Tree Grows in Brooklyn," "Laura," "Something for the Boys."

**United Artists**

*Shooting*: "Dark Waters" (Bogeaus), "Story of G. I. Joe" (Cowan), "Guest in the House" (Stromberg), "With All My Heart" (Vanguard).

**Universal**

*Started*: "Be It Ever So Humble," with Martha O'Driscoll, Noah Beery, Jr., Hattie McDaniel.

*Finished*: "Trail to Gunsight," "The House of Fear," "Babes on Swing Street."

*Shooting*: "Bowery to Broadway," "San Diego, I Love You."

**Warners**

*Started*: "Christmas in Connecticut," with Barbara Stanwyck, Dennis Morgan, Sydney Greenstreet, S. Z. Sakall, John Alexander, Frank Jenks, Joyce Compton.

*Shooting*: "Strangers in Our Midst," "Objective Burma," "Roughly Speaking," "The Conspirators."

# RKO Confirms Entry into Field of Television

(*Continued from page* 1)

son, former NBC television program manager, will be in charge of television production for the new company. Other officers are: Ralph B. Austrian, executive vice-president, and Malcolm Kingsberg, vice-president. Arthur Willi, RKO Radio talent director, will be talent and casting director for the new television company.

In confirming the organization of the new company yesterday, Rathvon said: "Exhibitor interests come first and must be protected in every way possible, but this cannot be done simply by ignoring this new medium of entertainment. To turn our backs on television would be a disservice to the exhibitor. We believe that the most suitable types of television programs, as they are evolved through experience, will be far different in character from the feature motion pictures created in Hollywood for theatre exhibition. In the evolving of such programs, however, motion picture techniques may play an even greater part than existing radio techniques and the use of film will probably be more important in television broadcasting than the electrical transcription disc is today in radio.

"Rather than stand aside while others preempt the field, it would seem to be in the best interests of the entire motion picture industry that producer-distributor companies should participate in television, not only to protect themselves, but the exhibitors as well, by directing television programming into fields which would be far removed from feature pictures created for the theatre. Unless this is done, there will be a tendency for television to become dependent upon the showing of feature pictures made primarily for theatre exhibition."

Austrian's statement in connection with the new company pointed out that it will have "all the vast resources, equipment, studios, research facilities, creative ability and talent of RKO Radio Pictures in Hollywood and Pathe News in New York."

"No single individual advertiser," Austrian said, "no single advertising agency, or no group of advertising agencies could possibly operate such enormous facilities as RKO now offers the potential television users of this country. These facilities are now available to both reputable advertisers and recognized advertising agencies through RKO Television Corp. The same facilities make it possible for RKO Television Corp. to offer advertisers not only filmed television programs but live-talent package productions as well."

### Paul Alley Will Head NBC Television Films

Paul Alley, foreign editor of M-G-M's "News of the Day" for the past 10 years and also an editor of United Newsreel has joined NBC's television staff to take charge of film production, according to an announcement here yesterday by C. L. Menser, NBC vice-president in charge of programs.

Edward Sobel, stage director who was at one time on the RKO studio staff in Hollywood, has rejoined the NBC television staff to produce "live"-talent programs.

## 'Gangway,' Show Get $19,500 in Balto.

BALTIMORE, June 6.—An unseasonable hot spell was overcome by a cool weekend. "Gangway for Tomorrow," aided by a stage show, is aiming for $19,500 at the Hippodrome.

Estimated receipts for the week ending June 8:

**"Meet the People" (M-G-M)**
CENTURY—(3,000) (35c-45c-55c and 60c wekends) 7 days. Gross: $18,000. (Average: $17,500).

**"Follow the Boys" (Univ.)**
KEITH'S—(2,405) (35c-40c-50c-60c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $14,500. (Average: $15,000).

**"Pin Up Girl" (20th-Fox)**
NEW—(1,581) (30c-40c-60c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $13,000. (Average: $13,000).

**"Between Two Worlds" (WB)**
STANLEY—(3,280) (35c-44c-55c-65c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $10,000. (Average: $18,000).

**"Gangway for Tomorrow" (RKO)**
HIPPODROME—(2,205) (35c-44c-55c-65c) 7 days. Stage show: Woody Herman and his orchestra and revue. Gross: $19,500. (Average: $18,000).

**"It Happened Tomorrow" (UA)**
MAYFAIR—(1,000) (35c-54c) 7 days. Gross: $7,500. (Average: $7,000).

## Legion Approves 9, One Objectionable

The Legion of Decency this week rates 20th-Fox's "The Eve of St. Mark" in Class B, objectionable in part, because of what it termed "objectionable allusion, suggestive dialogue, usage of a suggestively vulgar expression."

Nine other films were approved by the Legion, including "The Ghost Catchers," and "South of Dixie," both Universal, and "Spook Town," PRC, all Class A-1, unobjectionable for general patronage. In Class A-2, unobjectionable for adults, are: "Bathing Beauty," M-G-M; "Home in Indiana," 20th-Fox; "Marshal of Reno," Republic; "Mr. Skeffington," Warners; "A Night of Adventure," RKO, and "Underground Guerrillas," Columbia.

## 'Wassell' Premiere

HOLLYWOOD, June 6.—Paramount's "The Story of Dr. Wassell" will have its Pacific Coast premiere here tomorrow night at the Hollywood Paramount. Receipts will go to the Naval Aid Auxiliary. Among those expected to attend are Gary Cooper, Albert Dekker, Dorothy Lamour, Veronica Lake, Paulette Goddard, Betty Hutton, Jane Withers, Bing Crosby, Bob Hope, Signe Hasso, Laraine Day, Artura de Cordova, Fred MacMurray and others. Dr. Corydon M. Wassell will be an honored guest.

# Hollywood

*Hollywood, June 6*

TWENTIETH Century-Fox, which lost more leading men per capita than any other studio when the call to arms was sounded, is in the news of the week with two replacements of a calibre to suggest that the emergency has been coped with. Fred MacMurray has been signed to play the lead in "Where Do We Go From Here," a color venture, and George Raft is to star in "Nob Hill," another in color. MacMurray recently disengaged himself from a long-held studio contract and Raft has been freelancing for years, both finding themselves now in an especially favorable position with respect to the business of picking their assignments. A far cry from the standard condition wherein off-contract status is lined with needles and pins, but this is, as everybody says, war.

•

*Columbia has assigned producer Sam White to the production of a musical to be entitled "Fiesta Town" and to be located in Los Angeles' own Mexican colony, which is quite a place. Paramount has signed David Brooks, a singer with Broadway background and a career in opera, and will star him in "Bonnie Lassie," a color featurette, as a starter, returning him then to New York for an appearance in a musical there before bringing him back for features. . . . Monta Bell, whose long career has been punctuated with succeesses like "Birth of the Blues" and "Aloma of the South Seas," has been signed by Monogram to direct "Little Devils," the somewhat misleadingly titled story of the activities of Chinese children operating behind the Japanese lines of battle.*

## 2 Americans Default On British Quota

(*Continued from page* 1)

previous year, but the footage figures require an adjustment with regard to the provisions of the 1938 Act relating to double and treble quota footage under the cost clauses, which give increased footage value to films in relation to a minimum cost of $84,000 per film.

Thus, the figures adjusted to this scale show a registered, recognized footage of 818,213, against 668,527 for the previous year. The Board of Trade regards the figures as "highly satisfactory," asserting that they clearly disclose that films of higher quality are being produced now.

## SAG Turns Down SPU On Working Agreem't

HOLLYWOOD, June 6. — The Screen Actors Guild board last night rejected the Screen Players Unions' proposals for a working agreement designed to compose differences which resulted in SPU's filing a National Labor Relations Board petition for a separate bargaining unit, now awaiting adjudication. SAG took the position that rejection would expedite adjudication, pending which the producers have refused to proceed with SAG arbitration demands for contract revisions giving extra players improved salary scales and working conditions.

First in Film and Radio News Brief, Accurate and Impartial

# MOTION PICTURE DAILY

Alert, Intelligent and Indispensable to the Motion Picture Industry

VOL. 55. NO. 112 NEW YORK, U.S.A., THURSDAY, JUNE 8, 1944 TEN CENTS

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## Dubbed Films Ready for Army's Call

### *Versions in French and Italian Are Set*

Foreign distribution heads of distributors revealed here yesterday that they had ready or are contemplating several additional dubbed versions of their product for postwar distribution and when requested by the overseas film bureau of the Office of War Information, for earlier disposal in the liberated countries by that Governmental agency. In addition, the OWI has its own dubbed documentary films, together with those of other Governmental agencies in a huge stockpile covering 22 different languages, an OWI spokesman said.

**French versions will be ready for showing in France just as soon as the Army signals ap-**

(*Continued on page 9*)

## 'Attack' Is Ready; No Rental Charge

"Attack," War Department 56-minute film dealing with the invasion of New Britain Island in Dec., 1943, was shown here yesterday to the press by RKO, which will distribute, and proved to be easily one of the best documentary films made to date. Photographed by the U. S. Army Signal Corps with the cooperation of the Army Air Corps, it is a stirring pictorial record of a huge invasion operation from its planning stage to the

(*Continued on page 12*)

## *Cabaret Tax Awaits Roosevelt Signing*

WASHINGTON, June 7.—Only the signature of President Roosevelt now is required to make effective a reduction in the cabaret tax from 30 to 20 per cent, following acceptance today by the House, by an overwhelming majority, of the conference report on the debt-increase bill.

The report was accepted yesterday by the Senate, where the tax cut provision originated, and today's vote in the House confirmed expectations that, on a show-down, no serious opposition would be encountered in reducing the night club tax, which had been represented as threatening a large number of cabarets.

## Schine Trial Will Be Adjourned Until August 15

BUFFALO, June 7.—The trial of the Government anti-trust suit in U. S. District court here against the Schine Circuit will be adjourned tomorrow afternoon until Tuesday, Aug. 15. Federal Judge John Knight, who is presiding at the trial, will be unable to resume until then as he is scheduled to handle the July term of the Federal Court in Jamestown, N. Y. Seth Richardson, of counsel for Schine, must leave for Washington on another case, trial of which is scheduled for next week, necessitating the Schine adjournment now.

After testifying for the Government, as the trial continued today, that he and his partner sold the Moose The-

(*Continued on page 9*)

## Business Normal At N.Y. Houses

Although a slump in attendance had been generally expected, business at Broadway first runs remained at normal level in most cases throughout Tuesday night and yesterday. Neighborhood theatres, however, reported business to be below average, as did several of the smaller Broadway houses.

Completely unaffected by the mo-

(*Continued on page 12*)

### *Universal's Fifth Loan $3,500,000*

**Hollywood, June 7.—Universal is subscribing for $3,500,000 of Fifth War Loan bonds, board chairman J. Cheever Cowdin announced at this morning's session of the company's sales meeting at the studio here.**

**On Monday, Loew's pledged to purchase $10,000,000 worth of bonds during the campaign, and on Tuesday Paramount made a pledge of $15,000,000. The Univeral subscription brings the total for the first three corporate purchases to date up to $28,500,000.**

## Independent Unit For De Sylva Seen

HOLLYWOOD, June 7.—Negotiations looking toward the formation of Buddy De Sylva's own production unit at Paramount tonight were understood close to consummation. If concluded, in keeping with De Sylva's expressed desire to unburden himself from the rigors of the executive producership, he would make a limited number of attractions annually, with Paramount providing financing.

In this eventuality, it is further reported that Paramount production will function under an executive board to be created with Y. Frank Freeman

(*Continued on page 9*)

## Exemptions in Job Freeze Up to Regions

### *No Washington Relief From WMC Order*

By BERTRAM F. LINZ

WASHINGTON, June 7.—Industry interests seeking exemptions from the new War Manpower Commission regulations that all labor must be recruited through U. S. Employment Service offices after July 1 can be given no relief from Washington, WMC officials said today.

**They explained that the new plan for the channeling of labor into industries where it is most needed in the war effort is set up on a local basis, and that the regional WMC offices will decide how strictly the controls must be applied in their territories on the basis of the local**

(*Continued on page 12*)

## Columbia Splits Its Southern Territory

Columbia's Southern division, headed by Sam Moscow until his death a few weeks ago, has been realigned, with R. J. Ingram, former Atlanta branch manager, heading a new Southeastern division comprised of Atlanta, Charlotte and New Orleans, and with J. B. Underwood, former Dallas branch manager, as reported exclusively MOTION PICTURE DAILY on June 6, heading the Southeastern division that takes in Dallas, Memphis and Oklahoma City. Atlanta and Dallas will be respective headquarters cities.

Ingram joined Columbia in 1928 as manager of the Memphis branch, transferring to Atlanta in 1941. Underwood started with the company in 1929 as office manager at Dallas and was made branch manager there later the same year.

## *Re-elect All RKO Directors at Dover*

The board of directors of RKO was reelected for another year at the company's annual stockholders meeting in Dover, Delaware, yesterday.

The board includes Ned E. Depinet, Frederick L. Ehrman, L. Lawrence Green, L. Boyd Hatch, Floyd B. Odlum, Richard C. Patterson, Jr., N. Peter Rathvon, George H. Shaw and John M. Whitaker.

## *500,000 'E' Bonds for 500 Coast Houses for the 5th*

### *Gen. Clark Thanks 'Fighting Fifth'*

**By radio from Lieut. General Mark Clark, who has been pretty busy liberating Rome, has come a message to Oscar A. Doob, New York campaign director of the "Fighting Fifth" War Loan, extending thanks for naming the drive after the Fifth Army.**

**"The soldiers are pleased that you are honoring them in the current bond campaign," said the general. "We who are fighting in Italy are bolstered by your support in America. Good luck."**

HOLLYWOOD, June 7.—News of the European invasion has prompted exhibitors of Southern California to establish a goal of 500,000 bond sales in 500 theatres for the Fifth War Loan, which starts on Monday. The 500,000-bond goal was urged by Charles P. Skouras, chairman of the Fourth War Loan, at an industry bond meeting at the Hotel Ambassador Variety Club headquarters.

The session was presided over by Dave Bershon with O. N. Srere of the War Finance Committee and was attended by 50 exhibitor and distributor committee members. This session was preceded by a morning session of distributors at the Warner exchange, with Fred Greenberg and Harry Cohen presiding, at which every salesman in this territory was instructed to contact

(*Continued on page 12*)

# Personal Mention

SPYROS SKOURAS, 20th Century-Fox president, and MURRAY SILVERSTONE, vice-president in charge of foreign distribution, left last night for Washington.

•

MARJORIE KURTZ, assistant publicity director of the War Activities Committee, resigned yesterday and plans to be married within a month.

•

JACK LEEWOOD, Warners Denver public relations representative, has returned to that city following conferences with home office executives.

•

BEN GOETZ, MGM British production executive, is awaiting transportation back to London following his extended visit here and on the Coast.

•

CHARLES FRANCIS COE expects to return to Palm Beach, Fla., in about two weeks on a mission in connection with his law practice there.

•

HARRY KELLER, Universal Mid-west publicity head, will return to Chicago from Minneapolis today.

•

ED KUYKENDALL, MPTOA president, has returned to his Columbus, Miss., home from Little Rock, Ark.

•

WALT DISNEY and MRS. DISNEY are scheduled to leave for the Coast tomorrow following their New York visit.

## To Honor Past Heads Of Allied of N. J.

A banquet honoring the founders and past presidents of Allied Theatre Owners of New Jersey will be held June 22 at the Hotel Chelsea, Atlantic City, to climax the association's silver jubilee convention, June 20-22. Heads of distributing companies are expected to attend, as will Acting Governor Howard Eastwood of New Jersey.

Displays for the convention are being prepared by 20th-Fox, M-G-M, Paramount, Warners, RKO, Columbia, Republic, Monogram, PRC, National Screen, Universal, United Artists, Film Classics, Sanitary Automatic Candy Co., National Theatre Supply, Cinema Craft and the War Activities Committee.

## WAC Luncheon for Beddington Today

A luncheon in honor of J. L. Beddington, director of the film division of the British Ministry of Information, will be given by the War Activities Committee at the Hotel Astor today, to be attended principally by company foreign managers. Beddington recently returned from a visit in Hollywood.

## MPPDA Meet June 14

The regular quarterly meeting of the MPPDA is scheduled to be held here June 14. The adjourned annual meeting of the board is not expected to be held prior to that date.

# U.S. and Industry Talk Over Surplus

WASHINGTON, June 7.—Plans for the disposal of military photographic equipment that may be declared surplus in the future have been discussed by Government officials with representatives of the photographic equipment industry, it was disclosed here today.

To date, according to procurement division officials who will have charge of such disposal, very little photographic equipment has been declared surplus, but it is anticipated that later very considerable quantities of various types of equipment will no longer be required for military purpose and will be available for civilians.

The principal problem in disposing of these stocks will be to obtain the largest possible revenue from sales to relieve the public tax burden, and at the same time to maintain and encourage a competitive economy, it was said. Every effort will have to be made to avoid "dumping" of goods, which would disturb the industry's situation, and to determine the most efficient method of distribution, officials here declared.

A Treasury spokesman gave assurance to the industry that no arbitrary decisions concerning the disposal of photographic equipment would be made and that the advice of industry members would be solicited.

## Urge Preparations Now for Surpluses

ROCHESTER, N. Y., June 7.—Planning now is essential to soften the impact of war's end on industry, according to officials of Eastman Kodak and Bausch & Lomb, who spoke before 150 industrial representatives at a post-war planning forum in the Chamber of Commerce last night.

Both companies hold large government war contracts in items related to the motion picture industry.

Donald A. Gaudion of Eastman Kodak advised that the speed with which industries and sub-contractors will receive settlement of claims on war contracts terminated by the end of hostilities can be accelerated by preparation now.

Wilson B. Wight, administrator of priorities of Bausch & Lomb, discussing "Disposal of Government Surplus Material," observed that the hundreds of billions of war costs could not be ascertained at war's end but only when great surpluses amassed everywhere have been disposed of. He observed that large concentrations of materials at front bases and ports of embarkation will never be used in the war and urged his hearers to investigate present and proposed machinery set up by the War Production Board for handling surpluses and to prepare to think of them in terms of their own future needs.

## Ideal to Pour

W. M. Cotton, president of the Ideal Women's Group publications, will be host at a reception this afternoon in the company's new offices in New York.

# Reshuffle Runs in Los Angeles Area

LOS ANGELES, June 7.—The Los Angeles, Downtown; Egyptian, Hollywood, and Wilshire Theatres in the Wilshire district, will move up from first-run outlets for secondary attractions into extended runs housing M-G-M "show case" product beginning with "White Cliffs," opening in the three theatres day-and-date June 20.

The arrangement was made by Louis B. Mayer and Charles P. Skouras, whose Fox West Coast theatre operation will continue unimpaired under the new set-up. "Gaslight," "An American Romance," "Dragon Seed," "Mrs. Parkington," "Thirty Seconds Over Tokyo," "National Velvet," "Meet Me in St. Louis" and "The Picture of Dorian Gray" are included.

This means another reshuffled Los Angeles-Hollywood first-run situation, which, adjusted several months ago to to eliminate product jams, had been succeeding. The theatres concerned have been playing United Artists, Universal and Columbia pictures, which failed to make local "A" playing time, the question now becoming what will happen to this type of product hereafter. The move gives M-G-M two sets of first-run outlets, the other being Loew's State, Los Angeles; Grauman's Chinese, Hollywood, and Uptown.

## Theatre Sound Men Pacts Before WLB

New contracts covering some 560 IATSE sound maintenance engineers signed by the IATSE with Altec, RCA and the sound maintenance departments of the large circuits have been sent the War Labor Board here for approval.

Provisions of the new contract, which are retroactive to May 1, provide for raising the present minimum of $84 a week to $92, two weeks vacation with pay after one year's service, seniority rights and other benefits relating to hours.

The new contract also provides for the engineers to work on installations of television in theatres. Louis Krouse, IATSE general secretary-treasurer, negotiated the new agreement.

## Industry Coast Meet Off Until June 25

HOLLYWOOD, June 7.—The industry mass meeting, sparked by the Screen Writers Guild, to adopt an affirmative public relations policy in answer to attacks on the industry from whatever sources and to repudiate the Motion Picture Alliance, has been delayed to June 25 at the American Legion Stadium.

## Loew's Declares Extra Dividend

Loew's, Inc., at a board of directors meeting held here yesterday at the home office, declared a 50-cent dividend and 50 cents extra, payable June 30 to stockholders of record on June 20.

# Coast Flashes

*Hollywood, June 7*

CHARLES R. ROGERS is due here from New York on June 15.

•

Paramount has closed for band leaders Ray Noble, Henry King, Ted Fio Rito, Carmen Cavallero and Joe Reichman to appear in the Sam Coslow musical, "Out of This World."

•

Arthur Greenblatt, John Franconi, Ed Blumenthal and Thomas Burke will arrive here tomorrow from the East for the Monogram convention opening on Monday.

•

Paramount has scheduled "Cross My Heart," a comedy with music, which Harry Tugent will write and produce.

•

Leo J. McCarthy will entrain for New York Monday to prepare for the PRC conventions.

# House Group Cuts Army Film Fund

WASHINGTON, June 7.—The House Appropriations Committee today reduced $1,600,000 from Army estimates for welfare and recreation during 1944-45, but the $58,000,000 granted will prove adequate for all needs in view of recent war trends, it was said.

Based on the program for a maximum-sized army, the appropriation approved by the committee is $27,000,000 more than the fund allowed for 1943-44.

Reporting on the situation to the committee, Major General F. H. Osborn, Chief of Army Special Services, explained that "the generous gift of 16mm entertainment films given the army by the film industry" provides the pictures shown overseas and forms the basis of programs to which the army contributes educational, news and other films aimed directly at the soldiers.

Morale films provided by the Army are produced by the Signal Service at a cost of approximately $4,500,000 a year. Major General H. C. Ingles, Chief Signal Officer, told the committee that the raw stock situation continues light because of the amount of film required for taking pictures at the front, in aerial gunnery where cameras are used instead of machine guns and for "V-mail." The raw stock itself can be produced in adequate quantities, he said, but there is a lack of machines to do the perforating.

Ingles told the committee no difficulties are expected, however, because of the reduction in the training film program.

## 'Command' at Criterion

Columbia's "Secret Command," a Terneen production, starring Pat O'Brien and Carole Landis, will have its New York premiere at Loew's Criterion on June 13.

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**JACK CARSON · JANE WYMAN · IRENE MANNING**
in "MAKE YOUR OWN BED" with
**ALAN HALE · GEORGE TOBIAS · ROBERT SHAYNE**

Directed by PETER GODFREY
Produced by ALEX GOTTLIEB
Screen Play by Francis Swann & Edmund Joseph
Adapted by Richard Weil · From a Play by
Harvey J. O'Higgins and Harriet Ford

Jack L. Warner, *Executive Producer*

RELEASE STARTS WITH A ROAR--NEARLY 200 DATES THIS WEEK!

# Armed Forces Aid Newsreels

Newsreel coverage of the invasion now underway is the most extensive in the entire history of American reels, based on plans long completed by the five U. S. companies and the U. S. Government.

J. L. Beddington, director of the film division of the British Ministry of Information, who arrived in this country from London one month ago, discloses here that few Americans or British newsreel cameramen are actually accompanying invasion forces at the outset, but all of the newsreels have access to films made by the several hundred official cameramen of the Armed Forces—after it has been censored by military authorities. Beddington indicates that American audiences should be seeing initial shots of the actual invasion within 10 days. American newsreel pool representatives and BMOI heads have discussed with military authorities the type of film material desired.

Arrangements have been made to insure speedy handling of newsreel pictures, with new laboratory arrangements set up in London to permit an immediate review of footage by military authorities there before it is sent to this country. A considerable quantity of new equipment was recently sent from the U. S. to newsreel cameramen in London.

## *Discuss AFM-Studio Contract in Chicago*

CHICAGO, June 7.—The two-year agreement signed between the producers and the American Federation of Musicians in Hollywood last month was a major topic at this afternoon's session of the 48th AFM convention held at the Stevens Hotel here. President James C. Petrillo and J. K. (Spike) Wallace, president of the Los Angeles Local 47, indicated that this pact is "the beginning of a bright future" for the AFM in the studios. Wallace credited Petrillo for securing the pact and stated "we've got our foot in the door. You will see some marvelous things happen."

Earlier, the delegates passed a resolution which forbids the employment of any member for the making of records and/or transcriptions unless terms and conditions of the contract are at least equal to those prescribed in the recently-enacted Decca and four employer contract pacts.

## *Preview and Party For MGM Air Show*

A 15-minute preview of M-G-M's "Screen Test" radio program which will start on the Mutual network Monday was held yesterday at M-G-M's home office in New York for about 75 newspaper and radio editors and others.

Among those who attended were William F. Rodgers, Howard Dietz, Si Seadler, Marvin Schenck, Herbert Crooker, Mitchell Rawson, Al Altman, Dudley Wilkinson, Jack Mehler, Bert Nayfack, Ed Churchill, George Frazier, Nick Kenny, Danton Walker, Louis Sobol, Dorothy Kilgallen, Bill Stern and Leonard Lyons.

# *Review*

## *"Hail the Conquering Hero"*

*(Paramount)*

*Hollywood, June 7*

THE play, or the story, is the thing, of course. But to end it patly like that is not always quite the thing. It depends largely on who is doing what and how he does it.

In "Hail the Conquering Hero," Preston Sturges calls the shots. He wrote and directed the story, placed in evidence his hallmark of distinctive and unusual twists in both of those departments and the consequence is an excellent piece of entertainment that mixes comedy which almost goes slapstick from time to time and drama, which tugs away at the heartstrings. He does it with an adroit sense of balance.

Eddie Bracken, who scored heavily in "The Miracle of Morgan's Creek," scores once more in this. Instead of the blonde Betty Hutton, the romantic foil on this occasion is the dark and attractive Ella Raines. William Demarest, without whom no Sturges effort apparently can be complete, is on the scene again playing a tough, but heart-of-gold, Marine top sergeant, who is abetted by five other hard-bitten hombres who reflect, with credit, the *esprit de corps* of the devil-dogs.

This is about Bracken, whose father was a Marine in World War No. 1. Like father, the son enlists, is discharged for chronic hay fever and stays away from home because he failed to make good. At a bar, Demarest and his bevy of lovelies learn the situation and also that Bracken's father was Demarest's topkick in the last fracas. The spark to the furious, later developments is kindled by a slightly balmy Marine with a decided mother complex. He is the one who decides Bracken is doing his mother dirt. The conspiracy then gets moving.

It provides for Bracken to return quietly as a war hero, to reunite with his mother after which, it is calculated, the excitement will die down and no one will prove the worse for the deception. Under protest, the program is carried out, but, of course, it misfires. Instead of sneaking into town, the town is waiting with four bands, garlands of flowers, speeches from the mayor and a high state of confusion. The opposing political party, tired of Raymond Walburn's administration, lights on Bracken as a successor. It is indicated he will carry the town by storm.

All through this, Bracken is prevented from telling the truth by the Marine menace and the suspicion that jungle fever occasionally gets the upper hand. Finally, the grand illusion spirals to a height where he no longer will submit. He tells an assembled rally he is a phoney, that the medals were bought in a pawn shop and the uniform acquired as a device to rejoin mother and home town. By this time, Miss Raines knows full well Bracken is the boy for her despite all of his efforts to protect her from the collapsing house of cards. But Demarest tells the truth, the townspeople decide Bracken is the honest mayor they want to administer their affairs and the picture closes.

This is the outline. The story motivation is established well up front of the opening minutes, the pace fast thereafter. It is also funny and frequently creeps up on the hilarious until Sturges cleverly pulls the plug on comedy and swings over rapidly into straight drama. The dialogue is crisp and crackles merrily around some of the political banalities of the American political system. Acting is of high order in a cast which also includes Franklin Pangborn and Elizabeth Patterson. Production values are excellent: Sturges is in fine fettle: Results: Very neat indeed.

Running time, 100 mins. "G."* Release in block No. 6.

RED KANN

*"G" denotes general classification.

## *USO-Camp Shows to Follow U. S. Troops*

USO Camp Shows will follow American troops into liberated territories on the European continent as soon as they are given the green light by the War Department, USO-Camp Shows reported here yesterday.

For the past several months Camp Shows has been building up a reserve of talent in the British Isles in anticipation of the Invasion. About 154 entertainers are ready in England to provide 33 different mobile shows to troops occupying liberated areas.

## *W. Arthur Jack Dies*

LEXINGTON, Ky., June 7.—William Arthur Jack, 82, pioneer theatre operator here and in the Atlanta territory, died recently.

## *UJA Radio Artists Set Broadcast*

The Radio Artists' division of the United Jewish Appeal of Greater New York will sponsor a Coast-to-Coast broadcast over the Blue Network this evening at 11:30, Carter Blake of Columbia Pictures, chairman of the division, reported at the weekend.

Officers of the radio artists group of UJA include Eddie Cantor, Bert Lytell, Fulton Oursler and Bill Stern. Associate chairmen are Alan Reed and Norman Winter; the executive committee consists of Philip Loeb, Richard Sanders, Milton Herman, George Touller, Marilyn Cantor, Jonathon Edwards, Juliette, Lewis, Harold J. Stone, Leo Mishkin, Nedra Mahoney and Lawson Zerbe.

# Zevin Sentence Is Postponed Again

Federal Judge Francis G. Caffey yesterday postponed until July 3 the sentencing of Isadore Zevin, former secretary to George E. Browne, convicted IATSE ex-president, who pleaded guilty to perjury in connection with the Government's probe of the whereabouts of $1,500,000 collected from IATSE members.

Although Boris Kostelanetz, special Federal prosecutor who recently was instrumental in sending six former Capone gangsters to jail for ten years for extorting $1,000,000 from the film industry, would not comment on the postponement, granted at his request, the delay in the sentencing of Zevin is said to indicate that Zevin is preparing to become a witness for the Government at the forthcoming trial of the same Chicago gangsters on charges of mail fraud relating to the $1,500,000 collection by means of a two per cent wage assessment against IATSE members.

The conviction of the Chicago gangsters, as well as that of Louis Kaufman, former IATSE business agent in Newark, is now being prepared for appeal before the United States Circuit Court of Appeals.

## *Safety Award Given M-G-M Third Time*

WASHINGTON, June 8.—The Film Safety Awards Committee of the National Safety Council presented its Bayer Memorial Award today to M-G-M's Pete Smith Specialty, "Seventh Column," at a luncheon in the Statler Hotel. This marks the third time an M-G-M short subject has won the award, which is given annually to the motion picture contributing most to the cause of safety.

The presentation was made by Col. John A. Stillwell, president of the National Safety Council. Charles Francis Coe of the MPPDA received the award on behalf of Pete Smith and M-G-M. Chief speaker was Senate majority leader Alben Barkley, who stressed the Government's interest in safety-education as a necessary wartime precaution. The speech was broadcast over Mutual.

## *60-City Premiere For RKO's 'Glory'*

PHILADELPHIA, June 7.—RKO's "Days of Glory" will have its world premiere tomorrow in 60 cities in Pennsylvania, under the auspices of radio station WCAU and 23 other stations comprising the Pennsylvania network.

The local preview will be held at the Fox. Tamara Toumanova, star of the film, will be guest of honor. Other cities participating in the premiere, said to be the largest simultaneous opening ever held in this territory, include Reading, Harrisburg, Pittsburgh, Lancaster, York, Allentown, Shenandoah, Lewiston, Altoona, Uniontown, Butler and Johnstown.

## *Mono. Backs Belita Show*

CHICAGO, June 7.—Monogram and William Shapiro, independent producer, who jointly own the Belita contract will coproduce "The Holiday on Ice" road show with Frederick Bros. Artists Corp., which comes into the Coliseum Oct. 6, for 17 days.

M-G-M's
SHIP-SHAPELY
MUSICAL

# TWO GIRLS AND A SAILOR



*With Oceans of Love*




HOLLYWOOD REPORTER:
"Altogether joyous and captivating . . . lavish opulence of entertainment . . . a box-office smash."
THE EXHIBITOR:
"Topnotch musical will certainly please the customers . . . as pleasant a package of surprise entertainment, as has been seen in many, many moons . . . a load of enjoyment."
MOTION PICTURE HERALD:
"Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer's running flow of money-making musicals . . . 'Two Girls and A Sailor' a master musical . . . superlative on all counts . . . smooth as satin."
MOTION PICTURE DAILY:
"Crackerjack musical . . . loaded with talent . . . loud and emphatic smacks at the box-office."
FILM DAILY:
"Quality and quantity to set it up as box-office bang . . . bursting with entertainment . . . super-musical bids for the maximum of business . . . diversion in the lush Metro tradition."
INDEPENDENT:
"A topflight musical destined for whopping grosses."
SHOWMEN'S TRADE REVIEW:
"Lavish and tuneful musical . . . a top box-office draw."
DAILY VARIETY:
"Top grosser with every element for a popular hit . . . tuneful melodies, bang-up production numbers, big names, story with a genuine heart tug skyrocket this sock film into a cinch attraction for any house."
BOXOFFICE:
"The top of entertainment . . . thoroughly big time."
THE WONDERFUL M-G-M MUSICAL
"TWO GIRLS with AND A SAILOR"
★ VAN JOHNSON ★ JUNE ALLYSON ★ GLORIA DeHAVEN ★ JOSE ITURBI ★ JIMMY DURANTE
★ GRACIE ALLEN ★ LENA HORNE
★ HARRY JAMES AND HIS MUSIC MAKERS with HELEN FORREST
★ XAVIER CUGAT AND HIS ORCHESTRA with LINA ROMAY
★ TOM DRAKE ★ HENRY STEPHENSON ★ HENRY O'NEILL
★ BEN BLUE ★ CARLOS RAMIREZ ★ FRANK SULLY
★ ALBERT COATES ★ DONALD MEEK ★ AMPARO NOVARRO ★ VIRGINIA O'BRIEN ★ WILDE TWINS
★ Original Screen Play by Richard Connell and Gladys Lehman
★ Directed by RICHARD THORPE ★ Produced by JOE PASTERNAK
★ A METRO-GOLDWYN-MAYER PICTURE


Fun For The Millions . . . Millions For The Box Office




# LIFE-SAVER!

TWENTY YEARS OF LEADERSHIP
1924-1944
MGM

FIGHTING SHOWMEN! JOIN THE
FIGHTING 5th WAR LOAN!

# L.A. Grosses Below Par For New Films

LOS ANGELES, June 7.—Los Angeles first runs, in common with theatres elsewhere, were experiencing an attendance recession this week, none of the new attractions crossing house averages. "Meet the People" and "Cry Havoc" were $500 under average in the Chinese-Carthay Circle-Loew's State-Uptown combination. Warm weather at the weekend was an alibi.

Estimated receipts for the week ending June 7:

**"Meet the People" (M-G-M)**
**"Cry Havoc" (M-G-M)**
CARTHAY CIRCLE—(1,516) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 7 days. Gross $9,500. (Average: $11,200).

**"Meet the People" (M-G-M)**
**"Cry Havoc" (M-G-M)**
CHINESE—(2,500) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 7 days. Gross $13,500. (Average: $15,500).

**"Knickerbocker Holiday" (UA)**
**"Yellow Canary" (RKO)**
EGYPTIAN—(1,500) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 7 days. Gross: $8,000. (Average: $9,500).

**"Voice in the Wind" (UA)**
**"That Nazty Nuisance" (UA)**
HAWAII—(1,000) (50c-60c-75c-80c) 7 days. Gross: $6,000. (Average $6,200).

**"Once Upon a Time" (Col.)**
**"Girl in the Case" (Col.)**
HILLSTREET—(2,700) (50c-60c-80c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $12,000. (Average $19,700).

**"Meet the People" (M-G-M)**
**"Cry Havoc" (M-G-M)**
LOEW'S STATE—(2,500) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 7 days. Gross: $27,500. (Average: $24,100).

**"Knickerbocker Holiday" (UA)**
**"Yellow Canary" (RKO)**
LOS ANGELES—(2,096) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 7 days. Gross: $17,500. (Average: $14,900).

**"Once Upon a Time" (Col.)**
**"Girl in the Case" (Col.)**
PANTAGES—(2,000) (50c-60c-80c-$1.00) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $12,000. (Average $17,700).

**"The Hour Before the Dawn" (Para.)**
**"The Navy Way" (Para.)**
PARAMOUNT HOLLYWOOD—(50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 6 days. Gross: $7,000. (Average: $11,000).

**"The Hour Before the Dawn" (Para.)**
**"The Navy Way" (Para.)**
PARAMOUNT DOWNTOWN—(50c-60c-80c-$1.00) 7 days. Gross: $16,000. (Average: $21,300).

**"Knickerbocker Holiday" (UA)**
**"Yellow Canary" (RKO)**
RITZ—(1,376) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 7 days. Gross: $7,000. (Average: $8,700).

**"Meet the People" (M-G-M)**
**"Cry Havoc" (M-G-M)**
UPTOWN—(1,716) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 7 days. Gross: $10,300. (Average: $10,500).

**"Between Two Worlds" (WB)**
WARNERS' HOLLYWOOD — (3,000) (50c-60c-80c-$1.00) 7 days. Gross: $16,175. (Average: $17,000).

**"Between Two Worlds" (WB)**
WARNERS' DOWNTOWN—(3,400) (50c-60c-80c-$1.00) 7 days. Gross: $17,598. (Average: $18,700).

**"Between Two Worlds" (WB)**
WARNERS' WILTERN—(2,200) (50c-60c-80c-$1.00). Gross: $15,165. (Average: $15,200).

## *Arndt Named Radio, Film Head of PAW*

WASHINGTON, June 7.—Howard W. Arndt, formerly city and sports editor of Paramount News and more recently chief of the newsreel section of the Office of War Information news bureau, now is motion picture and radio chief for the Petroleum Administration for War.

Arndt will handle film and radio news angles of the agency's responsibilities for keeping the military machine and essential civilian needs supplied with petroleum products. It is probable that PAW will undertake some experiments in making pictures of some aspects of its program.

# *Review*

## *"The Mask of Dimitrios"*

*(Warner Bros.)*

COMBINING murder, intrigue and espionage, "The Mask of Dimitrios" is a well-acted action melodrama that sustains suspense and interest throughout. Producer Henry Blanke has provided an attractive production for the telling of the story based on the novel by Eric Ambler which recounts by flashbacks, the nefarious career of an unscrupulous and insidious criminal. Topped by the excellent performances of Peter Lorre, as the writer of mystery stories who sets out to reconstruct the life of Dimitrios after his body is washed up on the shores of the Bosphorous in the Near East, and Sydney Greenstreet, as the sinister former associate of the murdered man, the film is endowed with some highly tense moments under Jean Negulesco's intelligent direction. Others in the cast include Zachary Scott, Faye Emerson, Victor Francen, Steven Geray, Kurt Katch and Edward Ciannelli.

The time of the action in Frank Gruber's screenplay is 1938 with flashbacks running back to 1922. The background is the Near East, Geneva and Paris. Lorre is intrigued when he hears the salient facts in the life of Dimitrios. According to his Turkish informant, Dimitrios was a criminal of long standing, an international murderer, robber, smuggler and spy. However, Lorre discovers that he is not the only one interested in his investigating stemming from the finding of Dimitrio's body. Greenstreet's opposition develops into an offer of collaboration with the eventual suggestion of blackmailing Dimitrios himself, who is not dead at all, but living in splendor under an alias in Paris. Lorre gets his story and Greenstreet finally kills the real Dimitrios when he fails in his blackmailing attempt. Zachary Scott is properly sinister as Dimitrios. Arthur Edeson's photography is effective in highlighting the mood of the material.

Running time, 95 minutes. "G."* Release date, July 1.

MILTON LIVINGSTON

*"G" denotes general classification.

## Schine Trial Will Adjourn to Aug. 15

(Continued from page 1)

atre, Norwalk, O., to Schine in October, 1936, because Schine had bought the opposition house and tied up product, Joseph H. Felter admitted under cross examination that he had accepted $2,500 from the circuit for closing the deal, giving half of that amount to a "girl ticket seller."

Felter operated the Moose with C. O. Frederick, one-time Norwalk, O., postmaster, and secretary of the local Moose lodge. Saul E. Rogers, of Schine counsel, drew from Felter statements to the effect that he had first owned the Moose with his brother; that it later was bought by the Moose lodge and he remained as buyer and booker; that the lodge interests bought out the opposition Linwood and finally closed it.

### Approached by Lazar

Under direct examination by Robert L. Wright of the Justice Department, Felter testified that before Schine bought the Forum, Louis Lazar of Schine came to him and said, "You'd better get in with us, we're a big company." Felter also testified that after the Forum was acquired by Schine he was unsuccessful in obtaining product from film exchanges in Cleveland.

"I didn't get a picture," he said. "I got in touch with Lazar in August, 1936, and told him we had decided to sell."

The price asked, he testified, was $17,500, but the house was sold to Schine for $15,000. In seeking to account for the $2,500 difference, Rogers brought out that Felter himself received half of it and the "ticket seller" the other half with which to "take a vacation."

## 'Gaslight', 'Wassell' Beat Capital Par

WASHINGTON, June 7.—The only above-average business will be done by "Gaslight" at Loew's Columbia, which in its fourth downtown week will take an estimated $8,500, and "The Story of Dr. Wassell," at Warner's Earle, which in its second week is heading for a good $21,000. The heat seems to have the others down.

Estimated receipts for the week ending June 8:

**"The Hour Before Dawn" (Para.)**
LOEW'S CAPITOL—(3,434) (35c-43c-55c-72c) 7 days. On stage: Earl Lindsay's Lovely Ladies. Gross: $21,000. (Average: $22,000).

**"Gaslight" (M-G-M)**
LOEW'S COLUMBIA—(1,234) (43c-55c-65c) 7 days, 4th downtown week. Gross: $8,500. (Average: $8,200).

**"The Story of Dr. Wassell" (Para.)**
WARNER'S EARLE—(2,210) (44c-55c-85c-$1.00) 7 days, 2nd downtown week. On stage: Rufe Davis, Curtis Bay Coast Guard Band. Gross: $21,000. (Average: $19,700).

**"Show Business" (RKO)**
RKO-KEITH'S—(1,800) (35c-44c-65c-74c) 7 days. Gross: $11,750. (Average: $13,600).

**"Passage to Marseille" (WB)**
WARNER'S METROPOLITAN—(1,600) (35c-55c) 7 days, 3rd downtown week. Gross: $6,500. (Average: $7,200).

**"Buffalo Bill" (20th-Fox)**
LOEW'S PALACE—(2,242) (43c-55c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $16,000. (Average: $19,000).

## *Independent Unit For De Sylva Seen*

(Continued from page 1)

and Henry Ginsberg undoubtedly as members and perhaps additional members. One might be William Dozier, story department head as well as a producer.

Speculation over De Sylva's future status arose when Hal B. Wallis made a deal to produce films for Paramount.

# Dubbed Films Ready for Army's Call

(Continued from page 1)

**proval for their exploitation.**

Murray Silverstone, 20th-Fox foreign distribution vice-president and president of the United Newsreel, disclosed that his company had a version of "Claudia" dubbed in French ready for exhibition in invaded France as soon as feasible. Silverstone stressed that if the OWI feels that "in the interest of presenting the American viewpoint" other dubbed films are necessary his company is ready to proceed along such lines.

### Planning Committee Set

Silverstone declared that in all probability the invasion had already set in motion the machinery of the joint Anglo-American newsreel which will be shown to the liberated countries. A planning committee has been set up in London, he said, for production of this reel consisting of representatives of the OWI and the British Ministry of Information and the Allied military services. This group will cull the best features from the United Newsreel, which contains clips of the five American companies, and also their British counterpart.

Al Daff, Universal foreign supervisor, said that his company was proceeding with dubbing plans to cover all eventualities. Certain dubbed versions have been prepared, mainly in French, Daff said, but he was reluctant to disclose specific titles. There have been no plans set as yet for OWI distribution of these films, he said. He was of the opinion that the war-weary populations of Europe would be most receptive to pictures that offered relaxation and entertainment.

John Hicks, Paramount vice-president in charge of foreign sales, said that his company's plans were not complete on dubbing, but that they were working on extensive plans in this direction.

### Seek Mexican Actors

A Warner spokesman said that a limited number of his company's films had been dubbed in French and Italian. It is understood that many companies expect to dub in Spanish and have sent representatives to Mexico to line up Spanish-speaking actors for dubbing in New York. Other companies, it is understood, will do the actual Warner dubbing in Mexico.

Among factors entering into dubbed version of films has been the past attitude of European companies, many of which have required that the dubbing be done there. Dubbing in the past has proven cheaper if performed in the country where the version is to be exhibited, as there is freer access to talent that speaks the native language.

## *Ideal's Housewarming*

W. M. Cotton, president of the Ideal Women's Group publications, and his associates will be hosts to motion picture writers, reviewers and others at a "housewarming" in Ideal's new Madison Avenue headquarters this afternoon.

# ANOTHER TOP HI

## *The critics agree!*

**"A thrillingly realistic film. The camera work is fine, the film's plot and dialogue are truthful as well as exciting, and the people in it are real folks."**
**WASHINGTON EVENING STAR**

**"Tension, conflicts, heart bumps and pathos . . . spotted through the story in acceptable box-office style."**
**LOS ANGELES HERALD-EXPRESS**

**"Strong, dramatic entertainment."** **SAN FRANCISCO NEWS**

**" 'Man From Frisco' is a worthy story, well told, and Republic Pictures can be proud of this production."**
**WASHINGTON DAILY NEWS**

**"Michael O'Shea, in his easy going way, combines charm and strength."** **SAN FRANCISCO EXAMINER**

**"The film packs punch and power."**
**LOS ANGELES EXAMINER**

**"Stirring and intelligent treatment of a mighty timely subject."** **WASHINGTON EVENING STAR**

**"The film has solid entertainment."**
**HOLLYWOOD CITIZEN NEWS**



FROM REPUBLIC

# Man from Frisco

## MICHAEL O'SHEA • ANNE SHIRLEY

## GENE LOCKHART

DAN DURYEA • STEPHANIE BACHELOR • RAY WALKER • TOMMY BOND

*and a cast of 20,000*

•

ROBERT FLOREY—DIRECTOR

Original Story and Adaptation: GEORGE WORTHING YATES • GEORGE CARLETON BROWN

Screenplay by ETHEL HILL • ARNOLD MANOFF



A REPUBLIC PICTURE

# Short Subject Review

## "Hot Money"

*(RKO-Pathe)*

A lesson is driven home powerfully in Pathe's latest "This Is America" subject, addressed particularly to those earning high wages in war industries, stressing the necessity for saving now for the future, instead of spending extravagantly. The theory expressed, though somewhat incomplete, assumes a reality in the person of Miss Peggy Brown, who goes from a small town to a big-city defense plant where she enters the big-wage bracket. After several months of reckless spending for expensive clothes and luxuries Miss Brown realizes she is sabotaging the nation's economy. She visualizes her fiance selling apples on a street-corner on his return from the wars—because of her, and others like her, who thrive on wild spending sprees. It is well directed and presented in a way which should appeal to emotions and sensibilities of the average person. Commentary by Dwight Weist is excellent. Frederic Ullman, Jr., produced. Running time, 17 mins.

# 'Attack' Is Ready; No Rental Charge

*(Continued from page 1)*

initial landings on the beachheads of Arawe and Cape Gloucester.

Released through the Office of War Information and distributed by RKO under the auspices of the industry's War Activities Committee, it offers a strong element of timeliness in depicting a military operation similar in its planning and execution to the invasion of the Channel Coast of France. In portraying the sacrifices made by the Armed Forces it also should provide a highly effective appeal for War Bond purchases during the Fifth War Loan Drive.

**No Deliberate Staging**

There appears to be no deliberate staging of scenes in "Attack" nor are there any histrionics to highlight the action. It is a sober, realistic account from start to finish and the grimness that seeps into the footage derives from the actual operations which deliver a terrific emotional impact in their unfolding. In the early sequences the several task forces are shown making preparations for a two-pronged invasion at their assigned staging grounds. The amphibious operations follow with the invasion of Arawe coming first as a feint and the Cape Gloucester operation following a few days later as the main objective. The main difference between the New Britain invasion and that of the coast of France is one of terrain. The men who set foot upon New Britain had to plough through dense jungles before they encountered the Japs who had been blasted out of their positions along the shore by saturation bombings of the Air Force.

There are potent reminders of the price to be paid to achieve objectives, in the closing sequences of the film, but there is no sermonizing about them. The only Japs seen in the film are dead ones and a captured injured one. M. L.

# 500,000 'E' Bonds for 500 Coast Houses for the 5th

*(Continued from page 1)*

every exhibitor and arrange for 'Bond Premieres,' 'Bond Shows' and "Free Movie Days" during the drive.

"Double bill" bond premieres of pictures and top radio shows for first-run Los Angeles and Hollywood theatres are being worked out with radio networks, sponsors and advertising agencies, it was revealed. Under this plan, some of the big air shows would broadcast from theatre stages and the programs will be doubled up with preshowings of new pictures. The plan is being worked out by a special events committee with Joe Alvin, of NBC, representing all networks, and chairman B. H. Wallerstein and Bruce Fowler, with M. A. Anderson, Jack Berman, Rube Wolf, Jay Sutton, Hugh Bruen, Mort Goodman, Oscar Kantner and Tom Baily as committee members.

Eighty motorized units, to cover six precincts within city limits, have been mobilized for door-to-door canvassing, it was reported by Spence Leve. Further cooperation with war industries and Boy Scouts was explained.

Bershon, who is Southern California exhibitor chairman, said, "Show business is war business, and war bonds are our business."

Further committee meetings will be held during the balance of the week.

**Studios Plan Appeals With Stills to Fans**

HOLLYWOOD, June 7.—As part of the industry's Fifth War Loan campaign, six studios will cooperate in a plan to enclose a War Bond appeal with every photograph and letter sent to fans. Suggested by Al Finestone of the campaign's bond staff in New York, and worked out through the cooperation of the Public Information Committee of the industry, the idea has been adopted by M-G-M, Paramount, RKO, 20th Century, Universal and Warners. Before the windup of the War Loan Drive, July 8, more than 200,000 fans are expected to receive the bond message.

**$50,000 D-Day Bond Sales by Randforce**

Forty theatres of the Randforce Circuit in Brooklyn and Queens sold almost $50,000 worth of bonds as a result of special appeals during D-Day on Tuesday.

Almost 300 blood donors were secured for the American Red Cross in a special appeal at the circuit's Carroll Theatre in Brooklyn on the same day.

# Exemptions Are Up To WMC Regions

*(Continued from page 1)*

**shortage or surplus of labor.**

Accordingly, it was pointed out, applications from film companies for exemption from the requirements, said to be sought particularly in the employment of theatre managers, must be filed with the regional offices.

Under the WMC order, made public June 1, a spokesman for chairman Paul V. McNutt said the new rules would prevent hiring of any male workers on a full-time basis in essential or non-essential industry except through reference to the Employment Service; would impose employment ceilings regulating the number of workers that a concern may employ and limiting replacements in non-essential industry to women, and would seek to transfer excess and idle manpower in surplus labor areas to areas where shortages have become critical.

Once the controls have become effective, any male seeking to change jobs must apply to the U. S. Employment Service, where interviewers will offer the essential positions the agency has been asked to fill. If the worker refuses to accept, a referral card will be denied him. Certificates of availability, as now required, will continue to be needed. Employers may turn down referred workers but will not be permitted to put off the referrals too long.

## Cantor's 'G.I. Joe'

Charles William Peers Jr., of Louisville, a soldier on duty somewhere in Europe, has been selected "Typical G.I. Joe" and has been awarded $5,000 in the contest conducted by Eddie Cantor, it was announced last night on Cantor's NBC program.

## Canton House Files Clearance Complaint

A clearance complaint has been filed at the Boston tribunal by the Canton Amusement Co., operating the Strand Theatre, Canton, Mass., against the five consenting companies, the American Arbitration Association reported here this week.

Plaintiff states that the present availability of features is as follows: Loew's, 14 days after first-run Norwood and 30 days after first-run Stoughton, and the remaining decree companies, 30 days after first-run Stoughton and Norwood. Further, that the Norwood Theatre, Norwood, has availability of films 21 days after Boston and the State Theatre, Stoughton, has 14 days after Brockton.

The complaint declares that the Strand is not in competition with the State or the Norwood, and requests that the clearance be reduced to 14 days after the first-run Brockton.

## Introduce Bill to Repeal War Time

WASHINGTON, June 7.—New legislation to restore Standard Time throughout the country has been introduced by Senator Kenneth S. Wherry of Nebraska, in the form of a bill, which would require the approval of President Roosevelt, and a joint resolution, which would not.

The House Interstate and Foreign Commerce Committee also is expected to bring out legislation to abandon War Time, possibly before Congress recesses for the Summer.

In enacting the legislation two years ago giving the President authority to impose War Time, Congress wrote in a provision that it could be repealed by joint resolution, a form of legislation which does not require Presidential approval.

# Business Normal At N.Y. Houses

*(Continued from page 1)*

mentous events of invasion day and the day after was Radio City Music Hall with "The White Cliffs of Dover." Business exceeded original expectations with the gross of the fourth week ending last night reaching $109,000 instead of $103,000, as forecast earlier in the week.

"The Eve of St. Mark" did about $8,500 both yesterday and on D-Day at the Roxy. "Going My Way" began a sixth week at the Paramount yesterday with about $10,000, which was about equal to Tuesday's gross. Both theatres reported normal business.

Grosses were off both Tuesday and yesterday at the Capitol and the Strand. The Capitol ended a first week with "Tender Comrade," with less than $30,000, which is considerably below the pace of recent films at this house. The Strand decided on Monday to withdraw "Make Your Own Bed" and substitute "The Mask of Dimitrios" but altered this decision Tuesday and decided to keep "Make Your Own Bed."

Most other Broadway houses reported a dropping off of business on D-Day and yesterday. As the manager of one Broadway first-run house explained when questioned about business, "We don't know whether it is the picture or D-Day, but business is terrible."

RKO, Loew, Brandt and Skouras neighborhood circuits in this area reported that business was generally off on D-Day. Many of the theatres reported increases in bond sales, however.

**D-Day Sends Phila. Gross Down 25-50%**

PHILADELPHIA, June 7.—Invasion Day box office business was down from 25 to 50 per cent for both matiness and evening with center of the city and neighborhood houses hit alike. While the Warner Circuit had made a tieup with the *Bulletin* over the weekend to give theatres news coverage, there was little time to publicize the service. All other theatres were unprepared with the radio and places of worship monopolizing the attention of the people. The opening of the Ringling Circus with a War Bond performance on Tuesday night made for a further competing factor. Due to the invasion, RKO cancelled the dinner scheduled for tonight in honor of Tamara Toumanova to mark the premiere of "Days of Glory" tomorrow.

**War News Slows Up Toronto Business**

TORONTO, June 7.—Patronage at downtown theatres was reported only fair following the start of the European invasion, while attendance at neighborhood houses was meagre, as many persons remained within earshot of home radios.

Shea's and Imperial theatres of the Famous Players circuit and Loew's and Uptown of Loew's circuit partly overcame this problem by arranging loudspeaker announcements on war developments.

In the meantime, the Famous Players' managers' convention was being held at Niagara Falls as scheduled, but social and sport features on the program had been cut.

5th WAR LOAN DRIVE

# MOTION PICTURE DAILY

Join the Fighting Fifth!

VOL. 55. NO. 113 NEW YORK, U. S. A., FRIDAY, JUNE 9, 1944 TEN CENTS

COPY REMOVE

## 411 Features For 1944-45 Are Indicated

### *Decrease from 424 This Year Continues Trend*

Continuing the wartime trend toward "fewer, bigger and better" films, the producing companies have indicated a total of 411 features for 1944-45, *Motion Picture Herald* will say today in a pre-seasonal review of the new season's product potentialities.

This reduction from 424 pictures to be delivered by the end of 1943-44, ending in August, is further, to be compared with the number promised at the beginning of the present 12 months, which was to have been between 438 and 454. In 1942-43 a total of 468 were delivered; the year before, there were 534.

The general tightening trend, however, is not uniform for all individual companies. RKO Radio, for example, released 39 films, including four spe-

(*Continued on page* 10)

## Can Reopen Closed Canadian Houses

TORONTO, June 8.—Change of policy has been announced by the Wartime Prices and Trade Board with respect to the construction of new buildings, previously prohibited as a war measure under regulations enacted early in 1942. The Board has rescinded clauses of the order banning occupation of theatres not in actual operation for film entertainment purposes on Jan. 31, 1942, which means that dark theatres can now be reopened. Further, the Board has removed restrictions on new theatre construction but warned that difficulties may still be encountered in securing building materials, equipment, furnishings and

(*Continued on page* 11)

## *RKO Theatre Groups Reelect All Officers*

All officers of RKO theatre subsidiaries were reelected for another year at meetings of their boards of directors held here yesterday. The subsidiaries include Keith-Albee-Orpheum, B. F. Keith Corp., RKO Proctors and RKO Midwest Theatres.

Officers re-elected for KAO and B. F. Keith include N. Peter Rathvon, president; Malcolm Kingsberg, ex-

(*Continued on page* 11)

## Sees Theatres In Wide Use Of Television

Exhibitors will adopt theatre television because of its box-office potentialities; major circuits will supply the necessary facilities for bringing the specially telecast events to the theatres; television features will augment regular screen programs; and television will even bring larger attendance to theatres. These points were stressed yesterday by Ralph Austrian, RKO television consultant, in viewing the



**Ralph B. Austrian**

(*Continued on page* 11)

## *Films' Fifth Drive Starts*

"Jumping the gun" by three days, the industry's participation in the Fifth War Loan will start officially this morning with an Army infantry "invasion" of Times Square.

Under the command of Brig. Gen. Maurice Miller and Col. John L. King, 400 infantrymen from Fort Bragg, N. C., with overseas equip-

(*Continued on page* 10)

### *$41,110,000 War Bond Buy for 14 Firms*

**Fifth War Loan bond-buying pledges for $41,100,000 from 14 film companies and circuits have already been received by Leonard Goldenson, Paramount, chairman of industry corporate bond sales, as follows:**

**Paramount Pictures and theatre partners, $15,000,000; 20th Century-Fox and National Theatres, $11,000,000; Loew's and affiliates, $10,000,000; Universal, $3,500,000; United Artists, $500,000; National Screen, Republic, United Artists Theatres, $200,000 each; J. J. (N. Y.) Theatres, Skouras Theatres, United Artists, $100,000 each; Telenews Theatres, TransLux Theatres, each $75,000; Shea Enterprises, $60,000.**

## *FP-C Marks Anniversary*

NIAGARA FALLS, Can., June 8.—Gathering of Eastern Canadian managers and home office employes at the Niagara Falls, Can., three-day convention of Famous Players Canadian Corp. on the final day, today, heard plans for observing the 25th anniversary of the founding of the circuit, Jan. 23, 1945, with Vice-President R. W. Bolstad in charge of arrangements which will include silver jubilee dinners in key cities across Canada and, if circumstances permit, the holding and Western managers.

of a national convention of all Eastern

It was announced that 313 theatres

(*Continued on page* 11)

## *Will Hays Voices Industry Message on the Invasion*

*WILL H. HAYS this week expressed in behalf of the industry the following message attendant upon the Allied invasion of France, close upon the liberation of Rome, in which are particularized reasons why the historic events in occurrence are rich in special significance for those in the world of the motion picture:*

HISTORY may find this to be the greatest week in the annals of the United States. The great invasion, the great drive of liberation, is carrying back to the homeland of the arts, the civilizing forces and cultures which, transplanted here, have found their richest nurture in this America. Great among them is the motion picture, our own chief medium of the arts, which has come to be so large and vital an instrument in the life of America both in peace and in war.

WE ARE aware of and participant in those special plans

(*Continued on page* 10)

## Reels Receive First Clips Of Invasion

### *Fly Almost 1,000 Feet Here Within 60 Hours*

WASHINGTON, June 8.—First motion pictures of the actual invasion reached Washington this morning, less than 60 hours after the planes they pictured left England for the cross-channel flight.

**Newsreel executives in New York last night admitted receipt of the footage of the invasion but doubted that enough footage is on hand at this time for a special reel. They are awaiting additional material.**

Setting up an enviable mark for speed and efficiency, the pictures, taken by Army cameramen as the inva-

(*Continued on page* 10)

## 'U' Tribute to Nate Blumberg

LOS ANGELES, June 8.—In a personal tribute to its president, Nate Blumberg, Universal will conduct a worldwide playdate drive between June 11 and Oct. 28, it was announced here today by W. A. Scully, vice-president and general sales manager, at a meeting of company sales executives and district managers at the Ambassador Hotel. It will be known as the "Nate Blumberg Testimonial Drive."



**Nate J. Blumberg**

Universal exchanges in the United

(*Continued on page* 10)

## *McEvoy Is Named Head of 'U' Shorts*

LOS ANGELES, June 8.—E. L. McEvoy was named short subjects and serials sales manager for Universal by vice-president William A. Scully at the morning session of Universal's sales meeting at the Ambassador Ho-

(*Continued on page* 10)

# WAC Officials Are Lauded by Hays

Officials of the War Activities Committee were lauded for "the sincerity and high purpose with which they serve," by Will H. Hays at a WAC luncheon given here yesterday for J. L. Beddington, director of the film division of the British Ministry of Information, at the Hotel Astor. Distribution, exhibition and WAC executives attended.

Hays, who observed that he was entering the 23rd year of service in "the highest competitive business in the world," said that these men will continue to carry their full share of work in the world that will have to be rebuilt after the war. He also paid tribute to the trade press division of the WAC, headed by Martin Quigley, and to the WAC aid in the bond drives, in supplying films for servicemen and other war work engaged in by the WAC and the industry.

Beddington, who has been here for about a month inspecting the American industry in the East and in Hollywood, will proceed to Canada before leaving for London. He commented that the WAC was uniquely American in the sense that the British industry has no comparable organization. War bond sales and entertainment of British troops are not in its province, he said.

### Schaefer Commends British

George J. Schaefer, WAC chairman, who presided at the luncheon, commended the British industry for the progress which it had made in the last five years in producing such films as "In Which We Serve," and the unreleased "Life and Death of Col. Blimp," and its series of outstanding documentaries.

Si Fabian, WAC theatre division chairman, and Ned E. Depinet, WAC distributors' chairman, also spoke.

Among those who attended the luncheon were: Arthur Mayer, Martin Quigley, Walter T. Brown, Herman Gluckman, N. Peter Rathvon, Leon Bamberger, Phil Reisman, Oscar Doob, J. Robert Rubin, William Melniker, W. C. Michel, Murray Silverstone, I. A. Maas, Joseph Bernhard, Joseph Hummel, T. P. Mulrooney, H. D. Buckley, Carl Milliken, Mrs. N. Wittig, Morris Goodman, Walter L. Titus, Walton Ament, George Benwick, Roberto De Socas, Thomas C. Baird and Aubrey Morgan.

## *Poole and Bruen Will Report on Mission*

Los Angeles, June 8.—The Independent Theatre Owners of Southern California will hold a special board meeting Tuesday to hear Robert Poole and Hugh Bruen report on their recent Washington Department of Justice conferences on the consent decree and with the Office of Civilian Requirements on its theatre building program.

The Pacific Coast Conference of Independent Theatre Owners will hold its regular quarterly trustees' meeting in Portland, Ore., June 20-22.

# *Personal Mention*

HARRY M. KALMINE, W. Stewart McDonald, Nat Fellman and Rudy Weiss returned yesterday from a tour of Warner New England theatres.

•

Frank Armstrong, former Warners' promotion manager and now with the Kudner Agency, became the father of a son, Frank, born to Mrs. Armstrong yesterday.

•

Lt. Marvin Rothenberg, formerly of the Warner Theatres home office staff, and Miss Shirley Felner will be married here on Sunday.

•

Norman Ayers, Warners' Eastern district manager, will return today from Boston.

•

Alex L. Hillman, publisher of *Movieland,* left yesterday for Washington.

•

Harry D. Buckley, United Artists vice-president, will leave today for Washington.

WILLIAM F. RODGERS, M-G-M vice-president in charge of distribution, left last night for the Coast.

•

Richard de Rochemont, producer of March of Time, designated by the Government as official war correspondent, will leave soon to open an office at Cairo and then visit the Mediterranean area and Europe.

•

Leonard Hirsch, assistant to E. K. O'Shea, M-G-M Eastern sales manager, will leave Monday for Boston and New Haven.

•

Al Wilkie, Paramount publicity manager, will leave today for a vacation at his Joisey estate.

•

Arthur Gottlieb, head of Du-Art Film Laboratories, left last night for Ottawa.

•

Seymour Poe will leave today for Washington.

# AFM and IBEW 'At Peace for Duration'

Chicago, June 8.—James C. Petrillo, president of the American Federation of Musicians, at the AFM convention now in session at the Stevens Hotel here today declared peace for the duration of the war with the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers. Jurisdictional disputes between the two labor unions have arisen heretofore in theatres and radio stations over the employment of their members for the servicing of machines dispensing mechanized music. Ed J. Brown, head of IBEW, was on hand to declare that his organization will cooperate with the AFM.

Petrillo was renominated to the presidency for a fifth term. As there is no opposition to the office, he is certain of reelection tomorrow.

## *Monogram to Release Frank's 'Goebbels'*

Los Angeles, June 8.—Monogram will distribute "Private Life of Dr. Paul Joseph Goebbels" on its 1944-45 schedule, it was announced here today by Steve Broidy, vice-president and sales manager, following the signing of a contract with W. R. Frank.

Frank, Minneapolis circuit operator, who produced the picture independently, arrived here yesterday after conducting a preview of the film in Minneapolis. The cast includes Sigrid Gurie, Donald Woods and Ralph Morgan.

## *M. Nossaman Joins WAC*

Mary Nossaman, formerly of the staff of the Richard Condon Agency, has joined the War Activities Committee headquarters public relations staff. She replaces Marjiann Kurtz, who resigned Wednesday to be married.

# Barkley Commends Industry's Aid

Washington, June 8.—Senate majority leader Alben Barkley today declared the motion picture industry has met the wartime challenge to a degree not excelled by any industry.

Speaking before more than 200 civic leaders and organizational heads in safety who attended the presentation of the film safety award by the committee of the National Safety Council, Senator Barkley commended M-G-M for its safety leadership in producing Pete Smith's "Seventh Column," which won the 1943 award.

"The motion picture industry has rendered noble war time service on many fronts," the Senator said, "and it has helped to arouse a higher degree of patriotism. It has provided entertainment for our men and women in camps, on the fighting fronts, and it has sent its stars into the battle zones to lift morale.

"I have confidence that in many happy peace days certain to come that industry will continue to be alert to peace time service," he added.

## *Kreisler and Cowan Talking Tie-up*

Arrangements by which Bernard Kreisler, who resigned recently as short subjects sales manager for Universal, would become Eastern representative for Lester Cowan, producer, are being discussed. Cowan is preparing a Norwegian war film in which Greta Garbo is scheduled to be starred. He also has the screen rights to Ernie Pyle's "This Is Your War."

## *'Beauty' to Open Here*

M-G-M's "Bathing Beauty" will open at the Astor Theatre here June 27, following "See Here, Private Hargrove."

# Goldberg Resigns RKO Theatre Post

Louis Goldberg, RKO Theatres division manager, has resigned and will announce a new association in the near future, it was learned yesterday. Goldberg had been in charge of 23 RKO theatres in the Manhattan-Brooklyn division. He has been in theatre business for almost 30 years. Management of the Manhattan-Brooklyn division recently was reassigned to Charles McDonald, who had headed the division up to about one year ago, when he was assigned to home office duties by E. L. Alperson, former RKO Theatres general manager, who was replaced by James Brennan recently.


NEW YORK THEATRES

RADIO CITY MUSIC HALL
Showplace of the Nation Rockefeller Center
HELD OVER 5th WEEK
A Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer's Picture
"THE WHITE CLIFFS OF DOVER"
Starring IRENE DUNNE
with ALAN MARSHAL
SPECTACULAR STAGE PRESENTATION
First Mezzanine Seats Reserved. Circle 6-4600

LOEW'S STATE B'WAY & 45
ON SCREEN
RITA HAYWORTH
GENE KELLY
'COVER GIRL'
IN TECHNICOLOR!
IN PERSON
BORRAH MINEVITCH'S HARMONICA RASCALS
MARY RAYE and NALDI

RKO PALACE B'WAY & 47th St.
"SHOW BUSINESS"
Eddie Cantor — George Murphy
Joan Davis — Nancy Kelly

PARAMOUNT'S
"GOING MY WAY"
with BING CROSBY
In Person
CHARLIE SPIVAK and His Orch.
PARAMOUNT Times Square

PARAMOUNT PRESENTS
GARY COOPER in
CECIL B. DEMILLE'S
"The Story of Dr. Wassell"
★ In Technicolor ★
RIVOLI B'way & 49th St.

Anne Baxter - Wm. Eythe - Michael O'Shea
'THE EVE OF ST. MARK'
The War's Greatest Love Story
Plus on Stage—Mia Slavenska - Barry Wood
Eddie Garr - Berry Bros. - Radio Aces
BUY MORE BONDS ROXY 7th Ave. & 50th St.


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# ROGER TOUHY, GANGSTER!



"I expected a big opening! But never anything so absolutely sensational! 'Touhy' had them lined up around the block — and that's been the story ever since we opened. 'Touhy' is really a Hit!"

*HARRY BRANDT*

# IT'S A HIT!

## AT THE GLOBE THEATRE NEW YORK

"ROGER TOUHY, GANGSTER!" with PRESTON FOSTER, VICTOR McLAGLEN, LOIS ANDREWS, KENT TAYLOR and Anthony Quinn, William Post, Jr., Henry Morgan, Matt Briggs, Maroni Olsen, Reed Hadley, Trudy Marshall, John Archer, Frank Jenks, George E. Stone, Charles Lang, Kane Richmond • Directed by Robert Florey • Produced by Lee Marcus • Screen Play by Crane Wilbur and Jerry Cady
Original Story by Crane Wilbur

ANOTHER HIT FROM 20 CENTURY-FOX

NOW

...AS OUR FIGHTING MEN STORM PAST RON

PARAMOUNT is readying for release its NEW

NEW YORK HERALD TRIBUNE, TUESDAY, JUNE 6, 1944

*General Clark Leading the Conquering Allies Past the Colosseum*



; COLOSSEUM

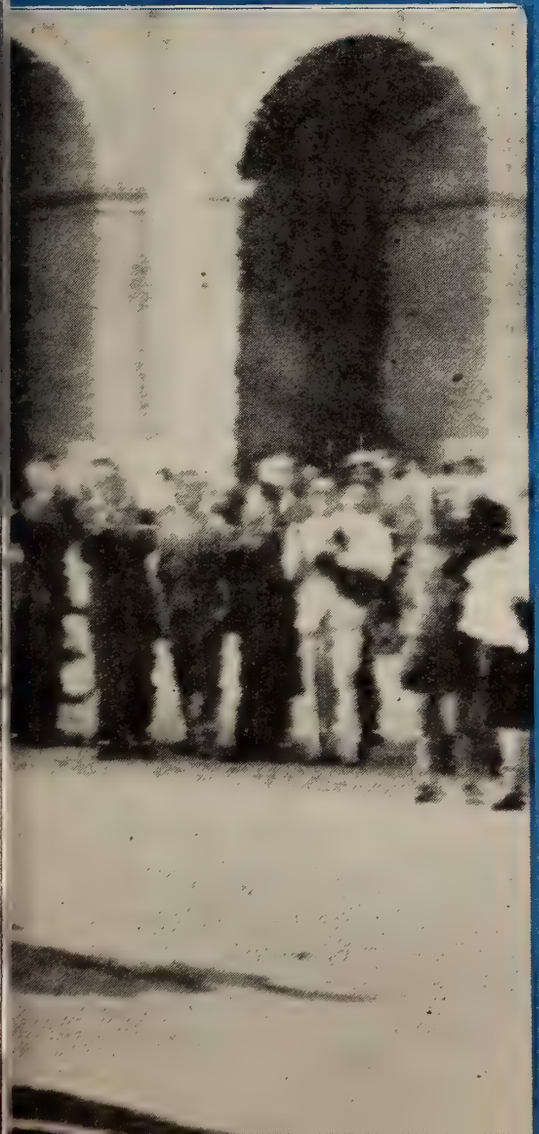
ERSION of . . .

# CECIL B. DeMILLE'S

Mightiest Spectacle

Where 2000 Years Ago
Another Dictator
Slaughtered
Christian Innocents

# the Sign of the Cross



Starring

Claudette
COLBERT

Fredric
MARCH

Charles
LAUGHTON

Elissa
LANDI

AND A CAST
OF THOUSANDS

**See** . . . the tyrant Nero set the torch to Rome as the Nazis tried to do!

**See** . . . Christians tossed to the lions by the Hitler of 2000 years ago!

**See** . . . the unconquerable faith of the Sign of the Cross smash an ancient dictator, as our armies smash tyranny now!

**See** . . . in fabulous spectacle, the glory of Rome . . . born anew today!

## 40 to Help on Shows For Servicemen

Faced with a severe shortage of talent for camp shows both in this country and abroad, USO-Camp Shows will conduct a countrywide talent search in which motion picture leaders in 40 cities will act as USO-Camp Show representatives to handle preliminaries of a series of Coast-to-Coast auditions. The War Department is asking USO-Camp Shows for 200 additional units, which will require at least 1,000 more performers and accompanists.

Oscar A. Doob of Loew's, here, public relations advisor for USO-Camp Shows, in cooperation with Lawrence Phillips, USO executive vice-president, has appointed the following film executives to help set up the auditioning of both professional and semi-professional talent in their respective cities on the dates indicated:

**The Line-Up**

William C. Aiken, Atlanta, June 24; Charles E. Kurtzman, Boston, 19; Charles Taylor, Buffalo, 21; E. V. Dinerman, Cincinnati, 19; Charles Raymond, Cleveland, 23; Charles J. Freeman, Dallas, 24; Harold E. Rice, Denver, 30; Alice Gorham, Detroit, 26; Homer McCallom, Houston, 22; M. C. Moore, Jacksonville, 26; Russell A. Bovim, Kansas City, 23.

Also: Charles Shire, Lincoln, June 28; Seymour Peiser, Los Angeles, 19; Cecil E. Vogel, Memphis, 30; Norman Pyle, Minneapolis, 19; Thomas Delbridge, Nashville, July 3; Rodney Toups, New Orleans, June 20; C. B. Akers, Oklahoma City, 27; Ted Emerson, Omaha, 26.

Also: James M. Ashcraft, Philadelphia, June 19; M. M. Mesher, Portland, 26; Rex Williams, St. Louis, 21; Helen Garrity, Salt Lake City, 22; Fay Reeder, San Francisco, 19; Vic Gauntlett, Seattle, 28; Al Baker, Spokane, 30; Carter Barron, Washington, D. C., 21.

Actual auditions will be handled by USO-Camp Show representatives sent to each city from New York. They will include Bob Wilson, Ed Lowry, George Choos, Sol Turek, Ben Piermont, Bert Wishnew and Hy Blane, all in production and booking fields prior to their joining USO-Camp Shows.

## *BIS Screens Three Documentary Films*

Three British Ministry of Information documentary films, "Lili Marlene," "Cameramen at War" and "Naples Is a Battlefield," were screened yesterday at Lloyd's Theatre here by the British Information Services.

"Lili," which will soon be released here as "The True Story of Lili Marlene," is based on a song, originally a favorite of the Germans. The melody caught the fancy of the English and they put the tune to English lyrics. Humphrey Jennings, director of the Crown Film Unit of the BMOI, handled the film.

## *AP Has New Film Service*

United Artists' "The Hairy Ape" is the first picture to be reviewed by Associated Press in its new system of reviewing one film a week for all clients of its wire service. Jack O'Brian is the AP amusement editor.

# *Reviews*

## *"I Love a Soldier"*

*(Paramount)*

*Hollywood, June 8*

PRODUCER-director Mark Sandrich requires 105 minutes to establish, develop and complete the story he undertakes in "I Love a Soldier"; he takes much too much time with final results not too happy.

What this is about is (1) Paulette Goddard, shipyard welder, who kisses the soldiers goodbye, but stops there and (2) Sonny Tufts, corporal back from action in the South Pacific, who wants to marry the girl, but is encumbered slightly with a wife. Weaving in and around the principals are other characters whose various emotional experiences all point up to the fundamental contention of the picture: That, if it's love, it's love whether in war or peace days and that the real thing is not to be thrown aside even if times are hectic and circumstances not conducive. This is what the film says and with it there could be violent agreement and equally as assertive disagreement.

Miss Goddard, at the outset, disagrees. Tuft changes her mind. In between these poles of this comedy-drama are his intervening wife, who eventually clarifies the situation by consenting to a divorce, and an assortment of incidental pieces of comedy and drama which are generally incidental to the main plot line and slow it down.

The impression persists that the prime handicap in "I Love a Soldier" rests at the base, or the story. It is slight and tenuous, although script development and directorial visualization seek to spread what there is over footage too extensive to carry it. Thus, a number of false starts are made so that it is well along in total running time before what there is of story bite begins to show its molars. In between are a long sequence in an amusement park, an extended and purposeless blackout sequence on a San Francisco-Oakland ferry boat and sudden changeovers from comedy to slapstick.

The attractive Miss Goddard gives her usual brittle, surface performance. Tufts does nicely enough, which goes for other cast members. They embrace Mary Treen, Beulah Bondi, Walter Sande, Ann Doran, Marie McDonald, James Bell, Frank Albertson and James Millican. Appearing very briefly as a cable car conductor is Barry Fitzgerald. Brief it may be, but his performance is the best in the entire picture, which is based on an original screenplay by Allan Scott.

Running time, 105 mins. "G."* Released in block No. 6.

RED KANN

## *"Henry Aldrich's Little Secret"*

*(Paramount)*

THE incorrigible Henry Aldrich endears himself still further to his screen public in his latest venture. With Jimmy Lydon lending his usual enthusiasm to the role of Henry, and Charlie Smith, as "Dizzy," "Henry Aldrich's Little Secret" looks like good boxoffice news from all angles.

Henry, engaged in the "baby-minding" business, encounters Ann Doran, whose husband has been unjustly imprisoned. The Child Welfare Board, headed by Henry's father, John Litel, seeks to take her baby, John David Robb, claiming Ann is "unfit to be a mother." Henry and Dizzy offer to care for the child at Dizzy's home while Miss Doran goes off to get evidence to prove her husband's innocence. When Dizzy's family decides to return from a vacation, the boys whisk the baby to the Aldrich attic, unknown to Mother and Father Aldrich. The secret is eventually discovered and the case of the Welfare Board against Miss Doran is brought to Court. Miss Doran arrives in the nick of time with evidence exonerating her husband, and Henry is a hero once more.

Hugh Bennett has done a keen and comprehensive job of directing from the entertaining screen adaptation, by Val Burton and Aleen Leslie, of Miss Leslie's story. Michael Kraike produced.

Running time, 75 mins. "G."* Released in block No. 6.

HELEN MCNAMARA

**"G" denotes general classification.*

## *'Glory' Premiere*

PHILADELPHIA, June 8.—The Fox Theatre today opened RKO's "Days of Glory" in connection with a 60-city world premiere in the Pennsylvania area. Highlight here was the personal appearances of Tamara Toumanova, star of the picture, and Casey Robinson, producer.

## *Para. 25th Anniversary*

TORONTO, June 8.—Plans are being formulated for the observance of the the 25th anniversary of Paramount Film Service, Ltd., Canadian distributor of Paramount Pictures. The observance program, to be held in September, will be under the direction of Gordon Lightstone, Canadian manager.

## MGM Luncheons for Detroit, Milwaukee

The first of two additional M-G-M exhibitor luncheons will be held today at the Book Cadillac Hotel in Detroit, with the second following Monday at the Schroeder Hotel, Milwaukee. William F. Rodgers, vice-president and general sales manager, will attend both luncheons on his way to the Coast.

John F. Byrne, Detroit district manager; Frank J. Downey, branch manager; and Edward M. Booth, Cincinnati exchange head, will attend the Detroit luncheon in addition to salesmen, which 75 exhibitors are expected to attend.

**Managers Present**

John E. Flynn, Western sales manager; Sam Shirley, district manager, and William Bishop, Western exploitation representative, will attend the Milwaukee luncheon in addition to the local exchange staff.

Also, on Monday night, Rodgers and Flynn will play host at a dinner at the Schroeder for exchange employes at which seven loyalty pins will be distributed to employes with the company 10 to 20 years. In addition, E. K. (Ted) O'Shea, Eastern sales manager, will be host at two luncheons next week at which loyalty pins will be distributed. The first will be held Monday at the Copley Plaza Hotel, Boston, with M. N. Wolf, district manager Tom Donaldson, exchange manager; Charles Kurtzman, Loew's district manager; George Kraska, manager of the State Theatre, and Harry Greenman, manager of the Orpheum, on the dais.

**20-Year Pins**

The following employes will be given 20-year pins: Etta F. Brady, Joseph M. Cummings, Elizabeth Dervin, Charles Repec and Harry Worden.

Ten-year loyalty pins will be given to: Victor Shenberg, Raymond Curran, Nathan Oberman, Mary Flannery, Benjamin Bebchick, Edward Dobkin, Helen Helvitz, Harry Rosenblatt, Marion Bell, Helen Reardon, Sadie Gershman, Albert C. Wheeler, Julius Waldstein, Margaret O'Brien, Katherine McGovern, Ann F. Harrington, Thomas Simone, Sadie Goldman, Grace McGowan and Jack Israelson.

On Wednesday, June 14, at the Taft Hotel, New Haven, O'Shea will distribute eight 10-year pins.

## *Mexican Film Union Opposes Dubbing*

MEXICO CITY, June 8.—Hollywood plans for expanding in South America through dubbing in Spanish by Latin film players and radio announcers on selected Hollywood films is threatened by the opposition of Pedro Tellez Vargas, secretary general of Section 1 (theatre employes) of the National Cinematographic Industry Workers Union.

Vargas said that his organization will do all in its power to prevent the screening of these films in Mexico.

## *N. Y. 'Italy' Premiere*

"What Price Italy?", compiled by the U. S. Army Signal Corps, Navy and Air Corps cameramen, will have its world premiere at the newly renovated Arena Theatre, 41st St. and 8th Ave., tomorrow.

# Hollywood

By THALIA BELL

*Hollywood, June 8*

THIS month will see unprecedented activity on the M-G-M lot, with 12 pictures before the cameras at the same time. "Anchors Aweigh," with Gene Kelly, Frank Sinatra, Jose Iturbi and Kathryn Grayson, is one of the starters. George Sidney will direct for producer Joe Pasternak. "The Home Front," starring Laurel and Hardy, is also on the calendar, as are "The Clock" and an untitled story of the Wacs which will star Lana Turner. Arthur Freed will produce "The Clock," which stars Judy Garland and Robert Walker; Jack Conway will direct.

* * *

*"Smiley" Burnette, who was voted third among the "Money-Making" Western Stars in the 1943 Motion Picture Herald-Fame poll of exhibitors, will leave Republic after 10 years at that studio. There are two more pictures on his schedule. After completing them, the cowboy plans to embark upon a personal appearance tour. . . . James B. Cassidy has left for Mexico to scout location sites for "Green Mansions." The picture, undertaken in line with the Government's "Good Neighbor" policy, will have background scenes laid in Venezuela and Argentina, as well as in Mexico. Where possible, local acting talent will be used. . . . Joan Harrison, who learned about horror from Alfred Hitchcock, will abandon the "chiller-diller" field after finishing "Dark Waters" for Benedict Bogeaus. She will try her hand at "true love" for a change. . . . The two-dimensional heroine of Walter Lantz's "Cartunes" will be named "Miss XTC," following a nation-wide contest to determine a suitable name for the character. . . .*

## 'Desert Song' Dual Over Par in Omaha

OMAHA, June 8.—Box-office receipts continued off, only the Brandeis Theatre, showing "Desert Song" and "Casanova in Burlesque," which grossed $10,100, being above par. The first real hot spell and invasion anxiety were believed responsible.

Estimated receipts for the week ending June 7-8:

**"Desert Song" (WB)**
**"Casanova in Burlesque" (Rep.)**
BRANDEIS—(1,200) (44c-60c) 8 days. Gross: $10,100. (Average: $6,500).
**"See Here, Private Hargrove" (M-G-M)**
**"Sherlock Holmes and the Spider Woman" (Univ.)**
OMAHA—(2,000) (44c-60c) 7 days, 2nd week for "Hargrove," moveover from Paramount. Gross: $8,400. (Average: $8,400).
**"Tampico" (20th-Fox)**
**"You Can't Ration Love" (Para.)**
ORPHEUM—(3,000) (44c-60c) 7 days. Gross: $9,000. (Average: $9,800).
**"Buffalo Bill" (20th-Fox)**
PARAMOUNT—(2,900) (44c-60c) 7 days. Gross: $9,100. (Average: $11,700).

## Warners Set 'Janie' As 1944-45 Lead-Off

"Janie," from the stage play, has been set by Warners as the lead-off of 1944-44. The picture is set for national release Sept. 2, with a pre-release at the New York Strand starting Aug. 4. It will receive a special campaign now being formulated by Mort Blumenstock, in charge of advertising and publicity in the East.


Paramount NEWS

AND NOTHING BUT THE NEWS



"THE HUTTONTOT!" THAT'S WHAT FRED C. OTHMAN CALLS PARAMOUNT'S BETTY HUTTON IN SENSATIONAL FULL-COLOR FEATURE IN THIS WEEK'S SATURDAY EVENING POST, BREAKING WITH KEY OPENINGS OF BETTY'S LATEST PICTURE, **"AND THE ANGELS SING."** HOLLYWOOD'S MOST FABULOUS BLONDE HAS JUST FINISHED "INCENDIARY BLONDE"--IS COMPLETING "HERE COME THE WAVES," WITH BING CROSBY.


# Coast Flashes

*Hollywood, June 8.*

ARY LIMA, Warners' manager in Brazil, is due tomorrow for conferences with Jack Warner on exhibition problems in South America.

•

The Academy board of governors will entertain Gregor Irsky, chief engineer of the Soviet film industry, at a luncheon at the Brown Derby on June 15. Irsky will present the Academy an album of Soviet achievements as a token of goodwill between the Soviet and Hollywood industries.

•

Harry Thomas, Eastern district manager, and William Onie, Cincinnati franchise owner, arrived here today for the Monogram sales convention.

•

Seymour Nebenzal, United Artists producer, has announced the purchase of "S. S. Titanic," an original by Rowland Leigh, for Fall production.

•

Erna Rubinstein, concert violinist, and George Bruce, film producer, writer and director, will be married at the Bruce home on Sunday.

•

Red Skelton, who went into the Army yesterday, has been sent to Fort MacArthur.

•

RKO signed Richard H. Berger as producer. His first assignment will be "Fabulous Invalid."

•

Larry Golob, Warners' exploitation manager, arrived today.

•

Oscar Morgan will entrain tomorrow for Denver enroute to New York.

## Complete UJA Lunch Plans on June 13

The amusement division committee of the United Jewish Appeal will hold a luncheon meeting on Tuesday, June 13, at the Hotel Astor, to complete arrangements for the industry's sixth annual fund-raising luncheon to be held at the Astor on June 20. B. S. Moss is chairman for the luncheon.

Dr. A. H. Silver of Cleveland will be guest of honor. UJA is seeking to raise $32,000,000 this year for the relief of Jewish refugees.

## King Knights King And Aubrey Smith

LONDON, June 8.—The tip of a royal sword yesterday touched two figures in the motion picture industry. C. Aubrey Smith was knighted for his work in British and American films, and Alexander Boyne King, a leading Scottish exhibitor, who is also chairman of the Ministry of Information Scottish Advisory Committee.

## Anniversary Press Book

A special press book edited by William Danziger under the direction of Howard Dietz, M-G-M advertising vice-president, will be sent to all exhibitors showing an M-G-M picture during the company's 20-year anniversary week, June 22-28. "Down Memory Lane," an article by Lionel Barrymore, is featured.



TOPS *EVERYT*

THE WAR DEPARTMENT *reveals*

# ATTA

## (The Battle for New



**The WHOLE SHOW! Filmed under front-line fire by Combat Cameramen! The sons, husbands, sweethearts of 10,000 folks-back-home blasting terror into Tojo's treachery-killers! Drama to make American hearts beat high and proud!**

# ...ING FOR REAL-THING THRILLS!



# ...ke!

...Britain)

★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★

★ Through the special co-operation ★

★ of the War Department this ★

★ sensational 6-reel feature is ★

★ made available *without cost* ★

★ to the theatres of America. ★

★ ★ ★ **BOOK IT NOW!** ★ ★ ★

Produced under the auspices of the Commanding General, Southwest Pacific area

PHOTOGRAPHED BY THE UNITED STATES ARMY SIGNAL CORPS

Released by Office of War Information and Distributed by **RKO RADIO PICTURES, Inc.**

Exhibited under the auspices of the War Activities Committee of the Motion Picture Industry

# 411 Features For 1944-45 Are Indicated

(Continued from page 1)

cials and six Westerns, in 1941-42, and jumped its output the following year to 47, including one special and six Westerns. Changes in studio management and the improved financial condition of RKO were responsible for the rise, which occurred despite raw stock quotas.

Lining up plans for next season, two of the 11 companies—Columbia and Republic—already have held their sales meetings. The former will offer 44 pictures in 1944-45, the latter 68, an increase from 55 to be delivered this year. Universal's West Coast conference, in progress this week, will end Tuesday; and it is indicated that the company will produce 55 features, 81 shorts, four serials and 104 newsreels. PRC's convention is scheduled for June 26-30 in New York, and RKO will meet here July 24-26. M-G-M, Monogram, Paramount, 20th-Fox, United Artists and Warners are making plans for sales gatherings at which new programs will be announced.

### More Reissues

Analysis of release charts for the past three years shows an increase in reissues and specials, the latter representing pictures sold separately, away from the small blocks as provided in the consent decree. This season, five companies released or are scheduled to release 16 specials, and three companies are releasing 28 reissues, compart to six specials and two reissues for 1942-43, and seven specials and four reissues in 1941-42.

Since 1941-42 two companies dropped their Western productions, Paramount and 20th Century-Fox. Columbia, RKO Radio, Universal, Republic, Monogram and PRC are maintaining their outdoor schedules. United Artists, which purchased 10 pictures from Paramount two seasons ago, including several Harry Sherman Westerns, also is continuing with its Sherman program.

Cited as another significant factor is that the number of pictures distributed each month during 1943-44 is as much as 25 per cent less than the number released monthly in 1941-42. Longer holdovers and extended playing time given to top-budget productions have resulted in fewer monthly releases and ultimately in season-end reduced totals.

### Individual Outlook

Columbia, which announced 44 for this season, probably will deliver 48 pictures, including eight Westerns. MGM, which has set dates through June, has 29, in addition to one special, "Tunisian Victory"; two other specials earmarked for this summer, "White Cliffs of Dover" and "America," plus two more pictures, "Bathing Beauty" and "The Canterville Ghost," are probable releases for July.

Paramount announced its sixth block of five, bringing the company's total to 32, including five specials and one film sold separately, "Going My Way." With its sixth block set, RKO still has two more blocks to announce for July and August, which should bring the total number of releases to 44, including four specials.

A total of 33 films will be delivered by 20th-Fox this season, including four reissues and one special, "Song of Bernadette," which will not be offered for general release until next season. With David O. Selznick's "Since You Went Away" set for summer release at advanced admission scales, United Artists will end the season with 22 pictures, according to the present schedule.

Universal probably will release 57 to 59, including six Westerns, compared to the 58 promised. Warners will deliver 19, excluding the 10 reissues distributed and six more reissues set for release in July.

Republic probably will deliver 68, all promised for this season, although it is indicated that several of the 68 will be released after the 1944-45 season has started. A total of 55 pictures is earmarked for the end of the summer, including eight Gene Autry Westerns which Republic reissued over a year-round period. Eight more are scheduled for next season.

Monogram and PRC will complete their 1943-44 schedules with 40 each. That number has been announced by PRC for next season and it is likely that Monogram also will set 40 pictures for the coming year.

# *Will Hays Voices Industry Message on the Invasion*

(Continued from page 1)

by which the motion picture is to share in the advance across Europe, serving first the morale and entertainment necessities of the fighting men, serving next the causes and interests of the peoples liberated behind the fighting front.

IT IS WITH poignant and sympathetic emotions that we consider that we are moving today to the redemption of that great nation of France which has enriched the motion picture tradition with such names of attainment as Louis Lumiere, Charles Pathe and Leon Gaumont. And so we are happy, too, that the forces of freedom are reaching that Italy which was so early to contribute of its splendors and pageantry to the art of the screen before the First World War darkened its stages.

THE motion picture functions up to the front in the turmoil of battle. Among the arts, and as the medium of the good life for the Common Man, it is the front.

—*WILL H. HAYS*

## *'U' Tribute Is Paid To Nate Blumberg*

(Continued from page 1)

States and in available foreign countries will participate, with cash prizes for winners. Managers, bookers, salesmen, front office employes, accessory managers, shippers and inspectors will share in the prizes, ranging from three weeks' salary to one-and-a-half weeks.

Domestic exchanges have been segregated into three sections. The international competition will include 20 foreign countries. Canada will compete within its own borders, Calgary, Montreal, St. John, Toronto, Vancouver and Winnipeg contesting.

Scully said that Universal anticipates the biggest box-office returns of any horror picture in its history from the "Devil's Brood," incorporating Frankenstein, the Wolf Man, Dracula, the Mummy, the Mummy's Ghost, Mad Doctor, the Vampire's Victim, the Monster and the Hunchback. Lon Chaney, Boris Karloff, John Carradine, J. Carrol Naish, George Zucco and Lionel Atwill are in the cast.

# *Films' Fifth Drive Starts*

(Continued from page 1)

ment, will march into the Square at noon. A 160-piece band and 70 army motorized equipments, will participate.

Charles C. Moskowitz, of Loew's, general chairman of the theatres' Fifth War Loan drive in New York will open the meeting. Playing of the Star Spangled Banner will be followed by an invocation by Capt. Lee Fohl, U. S. Army. The Battle Hymn of the Republic will be sung by the Ben Yost Singers from the Roxy Theatre, and will be followed by a bond appeal by Mayor LaGuardia.

At the conclusion of the rally, the infantry and bands will split up into six patrols and proceed on the "invasion" of the five boroughs and Westchester. Local banks and speakers will meet each patrol at rallying points where local theatres have set up bond booths for spot sale of bonds.

Edward C. Dowden, chairman of the local industry's special events' committee is directing the demonstrations.

### Theatremen Buy Bonds At Detroit Rally

DETROIT, June 8.—Exhibitors and distributors from this area, meeting here yesterday at the Fort Shelby Hotel to lay plans for the "Fighting Fifth" War Loan, launched their campaign by signing personal pledges to purchase additional "E" bonds.

More than 400 theatres were represented at the rally which was attended by Robert J. O'Donnell, industry national chairman; Claude F. Lee and Major Allen V. Martini. On the dais were Earl J. Hudson and Lew Wisper, exhibitor state co-chairmen; M. Dudelson, area distributor chairman; Alex Schreiber, in charge of special events for the industry committee; Ray Branch, president, Allied Theatre Owners of Michigan; J. Oliver Brooks, Butterfield Theatres; Alan Dowzer, Mutual Theatres; C. L. Buermele, General Theatres; James Sharkey, Co-Operative Theatres; Thomas L. Ealand, member of the "Honored Hundred" and Major Thomas DeMint of the Fifth Service Command. Malcolm W. Bingay, editor and publisher of the Detroit *Free Press*, was toastmaster.

## *Smuggled Films of Tito Arrive Here*

**Washington, June 8.—Pictures taken by a U. S. Navy man at the headquarters of Marshal Tito, leader of the Yugoslavian Partisans, have been received in this country and have been made available to newsreels. The films are said to have been smuggled out of Yugoslavia. Some members of the American party that took them were captured by the Germans.**

**New York newsreel representatives yesterday admitted receipt of the Tito pictures, which are the first for which the marshal has posed.**

# Reels Receive First Clips of Invasion

(Continued from page 1)

sion got under way, went through the laboratory and censorship mechanism in London and were flown to Washington by courier plane, there printed and turned over to the newsreel companies and sped on their way to New York in little more than two and one-half days.

This morning, the Department turned over some 400 feet showing paratroopers and gliders taking off, and late today two more strips, approximately 300 feet each, were made available, one showing air views of the invasion fleet and the other the aerial bombing of the Cherbourg peninsula.

A great deal more material, it was said, is on the way, although it is unlikely that as great an effort will be made to move it as quickly as the first pictures, and it is expected there will be a steady flow of real battle films from now on.

Also shortly to arrive, it is understood, is the first of the material produced by the company pool.

## *Taube to Gov't Service*

TORONTO, June 8.—S. B. Taube, executive secretary of the Motion Picture Theatres Association of Ontario, has been granted leave of absence to work with the Canadian Department of Labor where he will assist in organizing an urban auxiliary to work on farms. Arrangements for Taube's leave were made through J. J. Fitzgibbons, national chairman of the Motion Picture War Services Committee.

## *18 Air Shows for 'Wassell'*

Eighteen major network radio programs exploiting Cecil B. DeMille's "The Story of Dr. Wassell" were worked out in advance of the film's New York and Hollywood premieres by the Paramount radio department under the supervision of Robert M. Gillham, advertising-publicity director.

## *McEvoy Heads 'U' Shorts*

(Continued from page 1)

tel here. He succeeds Bernard Kreisler, who resigned last week.

McEvoy has been special sales representative for several years. He was formerly Eastern sales manager for RKO. His new appointment becomes effective immediately.

# 4 Witnesses Heard as Schine Suit Adjourns

BUFFALO, June 8.—Four witnesses testified for the Government today in U. S. Circuit here in its anti-trust suit against the Schine Circuit before the trial was adjourned by Federal Judge John Knight to Aug. 15.

Cross examined today by Saul E. Rogers, of counsel for Schine, Halmer D. Shrefler, operator of the Castamba Theatre, Shelby, O., admitted he had 20th-Fox product franchises for 1936-37, '37-'38, '38-'39. Under direct examination by the Government, he had testified he was trying to get a franchise from Fox for Cleveland. "You testified earlier you went to 20th-Fox for a franchise agreement when you already had one for three years?" Rogers asked. Shrefler said he was in error.

**Sgt. Kemper on Stand**

Also a witness today was Sgt. Richard T. Kemper, of the First Air Force, Mitchell Field, formerly of the Lafayette Theatre in Buffalo and in 1937 operator of the State and Opera House, Shelby. He told of talks with Schine's Louis Lazar, and said RKO suggested that he contact Schine for release of RKO product to him. He said he was approached by other Schine representatives with reference to the sale of the State.

Other witnesses were Milton H. Breyer of the State Theatre, Bucyrus, O.; Philip Charnas of Toledo. Final day was featured by Wright and Rogers arguing on most points, and Judge Knight's admonitions.

The name of Nikits Dipson, Buffalo theatre man, was injected into the trial today for the first time. Shrefler claimed Lazar said Dipson was planning to come into Shelby to build a house. He said Lazar told him that Dipson was "ruthless, and would smother me, and that I should hook up with Schine's." Shrefler finally sold 50 per cent in his house to Schine.

# FP-C Will Mark 25th Anniversary

(*Continued from page* 1)

in the Dominion and Newfoundland are now owned, leased or operated by Famous Players. Also brought out at the conference was the total enlistment of employees of the organization in the armed forces of both Canada and the United States now reaches 943, compared with 248 two years ago, an increase of 695 in 24 months.

Famous Players is proceeding with a postwar program. It was stated that the circuit has 11 sites ready for new theatre construction at the first possible opportunity with other projects lined up for the time when building materials will be available.

Proceedings for the third and last day of the convention were carried out with reserve in view of war invasion news, although attendance was augmented by the arrival of 200 Toronto home office employees after a morning sail across Lake Ontario.

Visitors attending were Adolph Zukor, Barney Balaban, Leonard Goldenson, Robert Gillham and Charles Reagan, all executives from Paramount's New York headquarters. Approximately 125 attended.

# Reviews

## "Take It Big"

(*Paramount*)

*Hollywood, June 8*

"TAKE It Big" not only makes available for billing the names of Jack Haley, Harriet Hilliard, Mary Beth Hughes and the Ozzie Nelson's band, but this first musical from William Pine and William Thomas also has an exhibition usefulness beyond its merit as entertainment. However, on points it is a letdown for the two producers whose chain of showmanly melodramas has made box office history not to be forgotten.

Taking a cue from here and a tip from there—not overlooking the potentialities of psychiatry, pioneered seriously in "Lady in the Dark" and utilized here for laughs—the producers cast Haley as the posterior member of a horse-act and lifted him across country on the familiar dead-uncle's will device to a dude ranch and ultimately to the back of a bucking broncho. Four original song numbers, two pick-ups and a classic are thrown into the proceedings, Nelson's band supplying all the accompaniment and Nelson cutting into Miss Hilliard's songs about the way he does on Red Skelton's radio program, the best of these being the title tune, "Take It Big." Richard Lane, Arline Judge and Nils T. Granlund are others in the cast.

Frank McDonald directed from an original screenplay by Howard J. Green, and Maxwell Shane functioned as associate producer.

Running time, 75 mins. "G."* Release date, not set.

WILLIAM R. WEAVER

## "Girl in the Case"

(*Columbia*)

*Hollywood, June 8*

THERE is more entertainment than the billing suggests in this melodramatic comedy styled after the "Mr. and Mrs. North" radio program with Edmund Lowe and Janis Carter cast as the married couple engaged unprofessionally but excitingly in the detection and apprehension of criminals. The picture, produced by Sam White and directed by William Berke, bounces along merrily for 64 minutes that compare favorably with most provided by films of many times this one's budget.

Lowe plays an attorney, famed for his avocational ability as a locksmith, who becomes involved in the plottings of a Nazi agent intent upon getting a secret formula out of a locked chest. The plot is earnest at bottom, but the comedy superimposed upon it is the predominant factor and the one that entertains the customers. The script, crisply constructed and containing plenty of laughs for all types of customers, is by Joseph Hoffman and Dorcas Cochran, based on a story by Charles F. Royal.

Running time 64 minutes. "G."* Release date April 20.

W. R. W.

**"G" denotes general classification.*

## Can Reopen Closed Houses in Canada

(*Continued from page* 1)

fixtures still under priority for war uses.

This development is the opposite to a declaration of board policy a year ago when it stated that restrictions on theatre construction would continue in effect until long after the war to give preference to more essential construction.

The board announced that no permission would be granted for changes in film rental priorities or any switch in rental contracts following the reopening or construction of theatres in any locality except under permit of the board until further notice; in other words film contracts remain stabilized.

## M-G-M Sued for $150,000

HOLLYWOOD, June 8.—M-G-M and several others were named in an action for damages filed in Superior Court by Adelyn Bushnell and Marshall Bradford alleging their story was plagiarized in producing "A Guy Named Joe."

## RKO Theatre Groups Reelect All Officers

(*Continued from page* 1)

ecutive vice-president; Gordon E. Youngman, general counsel; A. W. Dawson, treasurer; J. Miller Walker, secretary, and Garrett Van Wagner, comptroller.

Reelected officers of RKO Midwest were: Rathvon, chairman of the board; Kingsberg, president; Ben L. Heidingsfeld, vice-president; Youngman, vice-president and general counsel; Dawson, treasurer; Walker, secretary, and Van Wagner, comptroller. Kingsberg was also reelected president of RKO Proctors and Clarence Wallen was reelected vice-president of that company, with Youngman, Dawson, Walker and Van Wagner occupying the same posts in Proctor as in RKO Midwest Corp.

## Ellen Barker Dies

Ellen Frye Barker, 71, author of "Art of Photoplay Writing," "Successful Photoplay Writing" and other books, died here this week at her home. A brother survives.

# Sees Theatres In Wide Use Of Television

(*Continued from page* 1)

commercial development of theatre television in the next decade.

"Home television's effect on theatre attendance will undoubtedly follow the pattern set by the advent of radio broadcasting, which was no effect at all until several millions of sets were in operation," in the opinion of Austrian, who, with Edgar Kobak, executive vice-president of the Blue Network, spoke at the fourth meeting of the television seminar of the Radio Executives Club here last night.

"Within a year or two after home television becomes entrenched, perhaps even sooner, equipment will be available for satisfactory and showmanship-like exhibition of television images on large-size screens of motion picture theatres," Austrian said.

Austrian believes that theatre owners will avail themselves of the box office possibilities of theatre television.

**Pick-Up From Chains**

Austrian said the necessary pick-up equipment and personnel to televise the events will be supplied by telecasting chains, or "the circuits themselves could well afford their own cooperative pickup equipment and their own operating personnel, transporting them to the scene of an event just as sound newsreel cameras are today."

Austrian said that television portions of a theatre program will merely augment the film offerings. In order to foot the television theatre costs, Austrian suggests that exhibitors raise prices when offering television events on programs.

"Television need not necessarily hurt the motion picture business," Austrian said. "If motion picture producers and exhibitors continue to offer better showmanship than television, the business will not suffer, he added.

By the use of specially-adapted television channels for theatre telecasting, exhibitors will be able to receive special sports and other events which will not be available to the home television audiences, according to Austrian.

Kobak discussed the probable effects of television on the home life of America.

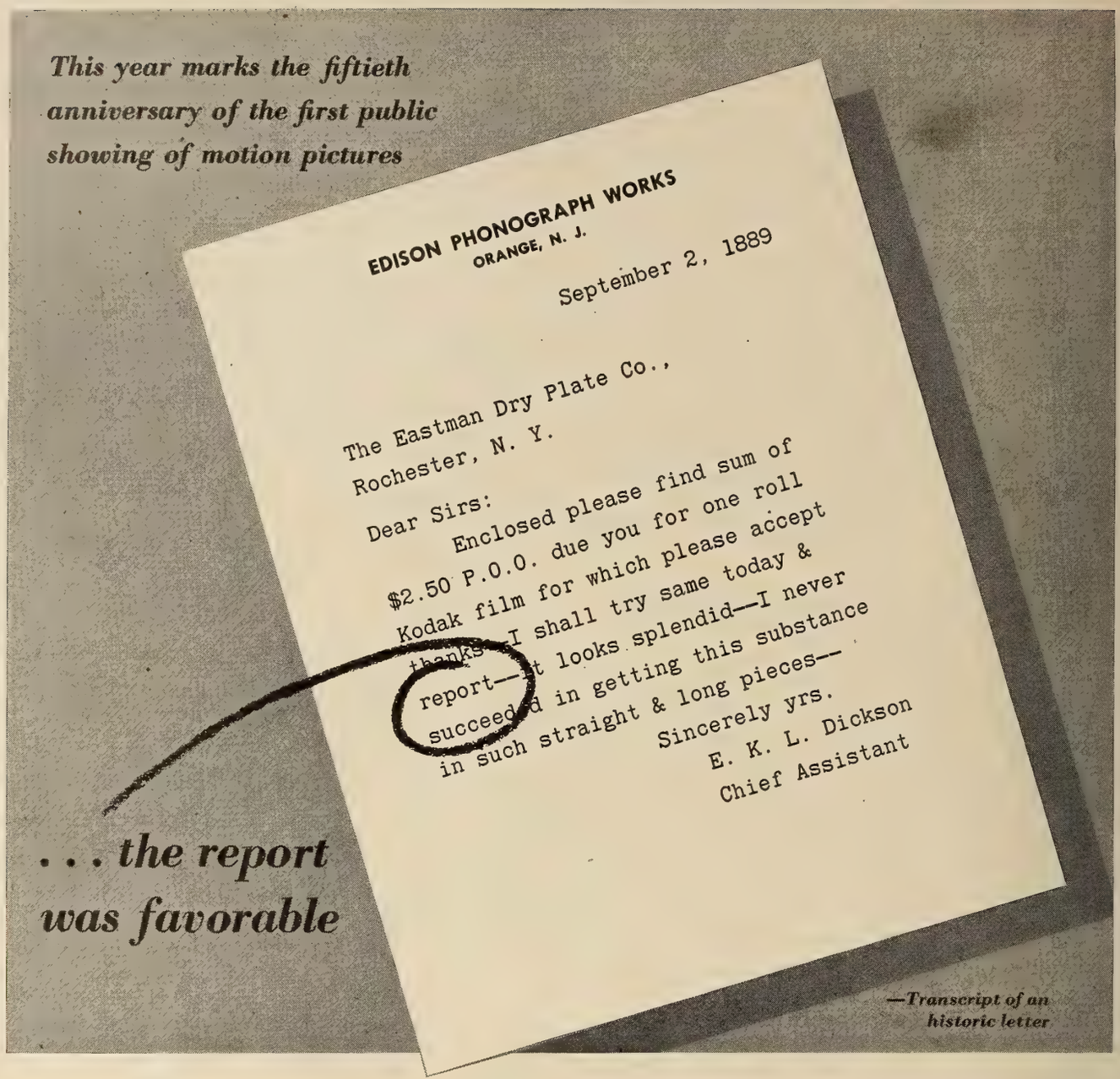
## U. A. to Salute Youth

"Hollywood Cavalcade," United Artists' radio program of Hollywood news, will devote a half hour on Saturday, June 10, at 7:30 p.m. over station WNEW, as a salute to Hollywood's youth. Martin Starr will narrate the commentary for the show, which will feature, among others, the career of Jane Powell, star of "Song of the Open Road."

## Newspaper Guild Awards

The Newspaper Guild of New York will confer "Page One Awards" on Eddie Cantor and Bob Hope tomorrow night at its annual benefit and dance at the Commodore. Both artists have been singled out for the honor for service in entertaining armed forces.

*This year marks the fiftieth anniversary of the first public showing of motion pictures*




*. . . the report was favorable*

*—Transcript of an historic letter*

**THIS $2.50 transaction in 1889 led up to the first public exhibition of motion pictures in 1894. With the help of this roll of Kodak Film, Mr. Edison and his associates were able to perfect the Kinetograph, the camera, and the Kinetoscope, the projector—the first practical motion picture equipment.**

# EASTMAN KODAK COMPANY

ROCHESTER, N. Y.

J. E. BRULATOUR, INC., *Distributors*

FORT LEE CHICAGO HOLLYWOOD

5th WAR LOAN DRIVE

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# MOTION PICTURE DAILY

Join the Fighting Fifth!

VOL. 55. NO. 114 NEW YORK, U. S. A., MONDAY, JUNE 12, 1944 TEN CENTS

## Scully Has Set 55 for 'U' For 1944-45

### Four Serials and 61 Shorts Next Season

LOS ANGELES, June 11. — Universal will release 55 features, 61 short subjects and four serials for 1944-1945, seven of the features in color, according the annual product announcement made at the weekend by W. A. Scully, universal vice-president and general sales manager, at a meeting of home office and sales executives at the Hotel Ambassador here. The commitment is only two less than the 57 promised for the current series but



William Scully

(Continued on page 8)

## Solon Asks Reason For Newsreel Shift

WASHINGTON, June 11.—A Congressional investigation was threatened at the weekend by Rep. Paul W. Shafer of Michigan to determine why the Army's "Eve of Battle" short subject was included in the invasion issue of newsreels last midweek rather than an invasion preview which the companies had prepared. Shafer said he would act unless satisfactory explanation was forthcoming from the War Department.

The Department, explaining, laid upon the industry's War Activities Committee the responsibility for using

(Continued on page 8)

## Canada Is Adding Labor Restrictions

TORONTO, June 11.—Film exchange and theatre circles here expressed concern over a warning issued at the weekend by National Selective Service officials that an immediate check-up will be made on businesses classed as non-essential to arrange for the compulsory transfer to war industries of males between the ages of 16 and 40 who are not considered to be key employes.

The government previously had

(Continued on page 8)

### ODT Demands End Of Conventions

**Washington, June 12.—The immediate cancellation of all non-war related conventions, trade meetings and conferences as well as all non-essential civilian travel is demanded by J. Monroe Johnson, director of the U. S. Office of Defense Transportation. (The film industry is presently in its annual sales convention period).**

## To Confer on UA's British Operations

A survey of United Artists British operations is scheduled to be made in the near future, it was learned at the weekend.

Current plans call for a visit to London by one of the company's ranking executives, presumably Gradwell L. Sears, vice-president, just as soon as civilian transportation overseas is resumed.

According to reports the mission will include discussions of arrangements for United Artists quota production with J. Arthur Rank, a survey of the company's Odeon Circuit interests and of U. A.'s British distribution. David H. Coplan, former United Artists Canadian distribution head, has been acting managing director for the company in Britain since the resignation of Teddy Carr early this year. According to one report, the projected mission may result in confirmation of Coplan as permanent managing director for the company in Britain..

Sears could not be reached for comment on the reports on Friday.

## Industry Hears of Plans for Solving Postwar Problems

Preliminary conversations have been held with some industry leaders by representatives of the Committee for Economic Development with a view to working out a postwar economic program for the film business in the CED's plan to gear all American industry for postwar economic problems.

The Committee for Economic Development is composed of 1,800 leaders of American business, headed by Paul Hoffman, president of Studebaker, and is a non-profit operation. M. B. Folsom, treasurer of Eastman Kodak, is chairman of the CED's committee of field development.

Already under way are 20 different studies "to help in solving transitional and long-term problems which will

(Continued on page 6)

## Columbia Managers Here for Meeting

Columbia division managers Sam Galanty and Carl Shalit, branch managers and salesmen of 10 of the company's Eastern exchanges, and representatives of Canadian offices, headed by general manager Louis Rosenfeld, are due to arrive here today to attend the company's New York sales meeting which will open tomorrow at the Warwick Hotel. The meeting, which will run through Thursday, will the second in a series being held, with A. Montague, general sales manager, presiding.

The meeting here will be attended by home office executives, division man-

(Continued on page 8)

## Fifth War Loan Begins! Star Rallies Arranged

The motion picture industry's "Fighting Fifth" and the nation's fifth War Loan campaign is under way!

Today 16,000 showmen, distributors, service and equipment companies and allied industries launch the industry's biggest drive—an effort to put over the top and exceed the Treasury quota of $6,000,000,000 in "E" bonds as part of the Government's over-all objective of $16,000,000,000.

Fully mobilized, as a result of regional mass meetings held in 19 cities which were attended by members of

(Continued on page 6)

With the $16,000,000,000 Fifth War Loan opening today, R. J. O'Donnell, national industry chairman, announced that the Hollywood Victory Committee and the War Activities Committee have arranged a program of screen and radio star participation to spark the campaign.

Veronica Lake, who has appeared at pre-drive rallies at St. Louis and Chicago, will highlight a gigantic rally in Boston. At Indianapolis, Ingrid Bergman and Paul Lukas are set to launch an 18-city tour for which the

(Continued on page 6)

## Justice Dept. Insists on Decree Change

### Lawyers Studying 'New Ideas' from Tom Clark

The Department of Justice is understood to be still sending "suggestions" to the consent decree companies looking for more liberal company concessions for a new decree, especially on cancellations and circuit expansion.

**Decree company lawyers are scheduled to meet here today to consider further suggestions forwarded by U. S. Assistant**

(Continued on page 8)

## Hirliman Buys 31 Goldwyn Pictures

Samuel Goldwyn and Film Classics, Inc., have closed a deal for the release of a number of Goldwyn productions by Film Classics. James Mulvey represented Goldwyn in the negotiations and George A. Hirliman Film Classics. MOTION PICTURE DAILY reported the opening of the negotiations on May 1 when it was said that about $1,500,000 was involved.



George A. Hirliman

Among 31 pictures to be reissued are "Wuther-

(Continued on page 8)

## Fitzpatrick Will Do Republic Features

James A. Fitzpatrick, travelogue producer, has been signed by Republic to produce a series of features to be made in Mexico and South America, it was disclosed at the weekend by Herbert J. Yates and James R. Grainger of Republic. Native talent will be employed for the films when possible.

Republic recently established its own exchanges in Brazil, Argentina, Chile and Panama, and the Fitzpatrick series is part of a plan for Republic's expansion in Mexico and South American markets in the postwar period.

# Personal Mention

EDWARD C. RAFTERY, United Artists president, is expected back from the Coast Wednesday or Thursdays.

•

CAPT. ROBERT S. BENJAMIN of the law firm of Phillips, Nizer, Benjamin and Krim, returned from an Army mission in England, has been promoted to the rank of major.

•

WILLIAM C. GEHRING, 20th Century-Fox Western sales manager, returned to the home office over the weekend after a tour of the exchanges.

•

JOSEPH H. SEIDELMAN and AL DAFF left for the Coast over the weekend to attend the company's sales meeting in session at the studio.

•

WILLIAM GEEHAN, assistant to H. J. FITZGERALD, head of the Fox Wisconsin Theatres, has returned to Milwaukee from New York.

•

JOHN A. SCHAWLM, manager of the Northio Rialto, Hamilton, O., and MRS. SCHWALM are vacationing in California.

•

ROBERT M. GILLHAM, Paramount advertising and publicity director, left for the Coast late last week.

•

JOE ROSENFIELD, district manager for Sterling Theatres, Seattle, was in Chicago over the weekend.

•

JULES FIELD, 20th Century-Fox assistant exploitation manager, was in Chicago over the weekend.

•

RICHARD MORGAN of the Paramount legal department is expected back from Detroit today.

•

JACK H. SKIRBALL, United Artists producer, is scheduled to leave for the Coast tomorrow.

•

LOUIS WIETHE, Cincinnati circuit operator, and MRS. WIETHE are visiting in California.

•

LOUIS PHILLIPS, Paramount attorney, returned from Oklahoma City at the weekend.

•

MORRIE RYSKIND, screen writer, will leave for Hollywood tomorrow.

•

HARRY M. WARNER left for the Coast over the weekend.

•

MIKE TODD, producer, left over the weekend for Canada.

## Approve Cinecolor Reorganization Plan

LOS ANGELES, June 11.—The Federal District court here at the weekend approved the proposed plan of reorganization for Cinecolor under which the par value of its capital stock will be reduced to $1 from $1.50. The stock will be exchangeable for six per cent five-year debentures.

Approval of the plan terminates a two-year rehabilitation effort.

# Tradewise . . .

By SHERWIN KANE

THE principal worry of about one out of every two exhibitors encountered about the metropolitan area these days is shortage of product. Just about the time you are ready to borrow half of the towel and weep with them, a remark is sure to be dropped about how difficult it's becoming to maintain a double feature policy in the face of the increasing product shortage.

A subsequent run exhibitor told us the other day that he had been forced into fewer changes per week, had been obliged to make repeat bookings, to date some reissues he "didn't want but that surprised him and did good business," and to make a deal with "a company I don't like" in order to maintain his double feature policy in the face of the "product shortage."

Apparently, current conditions are forcing such exhibitors to try anything—except single features.

•

There is no question about there being fewer pictures available in recent years than there were for several years before. Official industry records show that 397 American pictures received Production Code Administration seals in 1943, compared with 516 in 1942. This year the total undoubtedly will be less than last year but available product is being materially augmented by an increased number of reissues. A fairly reasonable estimate is that there will be available this year a total of 350 American-made features.

That total presents no grave problem for the average theatre making up to three changes weekly on a single feature policy. But for the double feature theatre, it does.

War conditions offered—and still offer—the exhibitor the best opportunity he has ever had to get rid of duals. Many in the industry think a switch to single features is a much wiser business move than the increase of admission scales at double feature houses. At a time when rationing and shortages are the rule rather than the exception, the public does not expect the continuation of bargain offerings by theatres any more than by meat markets or department stores. At the same time, the greater audience turnover which would result from a switch from duals to single features during a period when attendance is on the increase, in most instances, would produce grosses comparable with those from double feature programs at the presently increased admission scales. Moreover, the patron would be better served, his goodwill won by stabilized price scales, and the exhibitor, back to a sound business standard and thus in readiness for the return of business to normalcy after the war, would be freed of his major present-day headache, the so-called "product shortage."

• •

Over at the Oak Room they are saying that Bill Powers will become executive assistant to Spyros Skouras when Larry Kent takes off for London the middle of August to establish permanent headquarters as operating head of Gaumont British.

• •

There was the makings of a minor mystery for a number of interested persons when RKO's announcement of business transacted at its annual meeting of stockholders at Dover, Del., last week was issued without any reference whatever to a proposal to change the number of directors of the company, an item which had been listed as No. 1 on the agenda for the annual meeting in the company's notice to stockholders.

The explanation of the company's subsequent silence on that item of business was that the proposal to change the number of directors was not made to the meeting and, consequently, no action could be taken.

• •

When Edward C. Raftery returns from the Coast this week he is expected to bring with him the names of the nominees of Mary Pickford and David Selznick, six in all, for the new United Artists board of directors, to be elected at Wilmington, Del., next Friday. Charles Chaplin, who has been conferring with associates here for the past week, likewise is expected to have in readiness within the next day or two his own plan of action with respect to the meeting. Court action by Chaplin in connection with the current United Artists corporate change still is a possibility but is not expected to materialize until after Friday's meeting. Chaplin will not attend the meeting himself, but he does plan to remain in New York for an extended period of time.

# Coming Events

June 12—Monogram sales meetin Hollywood.

June 12-July 8—Fifth War Loa drive.

June 13-15—Columbia regional sal meeting, New York.

June 14—Quarterly meeting MPPDA, New York.

June 14—Industry rally to laun Southern California Fifth W Loan drive, Hollywood Bow Hollywood.

June 15—Monogram stockholde meeting, Hollywood.

June 16—United Artists' boa meeting, Wilmington.

June 20—Allied Theatre Owners New Jersey convention, Ho Chelsea, Atlantic City.

June 25—Industry union ral Hollywood.

July 6—'Free Movie Day' for Fif War Loan drive.

July 11-13—Columbia regional sal meeting, San Francisco.

## Liberty Purchases Hunter Magazines

*Liberty* magazine has acquired *Silv Screen, Screenland* and *Movie Sho* from Hunter Publications. The de brings the various publishing interes directed by Paul Hunter under o corporate set-up. Prior to Augu 1942, when Hunter became preside of Liberty, he was publisher of t three screen magazines which Liber purchased.

Hunter continues as president a publisher. He is now sole stockhold having acquired ownership of the e tire capital stock of Liberty Magazi Inc. and Liberty of Canada, L Edward Maher, vice-president a editor, becomes editorial direct Homer Rockwell, executive vice-pr ident of Hunter Publications, becom a Liberty vice-president and advert ing director of the entire enterprise.

## Smith in RKO Tele. West Coast Post

Appointment of Charles B. Smi as West Coast representative of t newly-formed RKO Television Cor was announced over the week-end Ralph B. Austrian, executive televisi vice-president. Smith will continue function as radio contact for RK studios.

Austrian also said that 'live' tale experimental shows will be start over the Don Lee Television stati in Hollywood beginning Monda June 26, with RKO furnishing t talent during the experiments.

## Levey in Toronto

TORONTO, June 11.—Jules Leve producer of United Artists' "The Hai Ape," was honored at a reception he at the weekend attended by the May and other civic leaders. Levey w remain here several days to arran an exhibitor screening of "The Hai Ape."

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## Monogram's Rentals Have Jumped 61%

HOLLYWOOD, June 11.—Monogram ntals on the current year's program weekend were 61 percent above e similar period last year, accordg to general sales manager Steve roidy on the eve of the company's 3th annual convention, opening in e Ambassador Hotel here tomorw and closing Thursday night.

Broidy traces the increase largely to Are These Our Children?" "Where re Your Children?" "Women in ondage," and "Lady Let's Dance."

President W. Roy Johnston will vulge the new season's program on Wednesday. A party attended by the nventioneers, players and local exbitors is slated for the Variety Club morrow afternoon. Tren Carr, xecutive director; Broidy; George . Burrows, vice-president and reasurer; and Louis S. Lifton, adertising-publicity director, will repesent the Hollywood headquarters.

**Executives Attending**

Eastern executives who will attend nclude Harry H. Thomas, Eastern istrict manager; Sol Francis, Midest district manager; Edward lorey, exchange supervisor; Lloyd . Lind, head of the contract departent and Max Fellerman, New York epresentative of Banner Productions. The field staff includes Arthur Bromberg, Atlanta; Herman Rifkin, Boston; Harry Berkson, Buffalo; rving Mandel and Ben Eisenberg, Chicago; George West and William Onie, Cincinnati; Nat Schultz, Cleveand; John Franconi and Ed Blumenhal, Dallas; Lon T. Fidler, Denver; Villiams Hurlbut, Detroit; Howard Stubbins, Los Angeles; Charles Trampe, Milwaukee; Thomas Burke, Minneapolis; Nat Furst and J. J. Felder, New York; Carr Scott, Oklahoma City; Arthur Greenblatt, Philadelphia; Walter Wessling and Ralph Abbett, Portland; Barney Rosenthal, St. Louis; Mel Hulling nd Gordon Allen, San Francisco and Harry Brown, Washington.

## *No Ansco Monopack For Film Industry*

Ansco monopack color film, now used by Army, Navy and Marine erial photographers, will probably not e made available for commercial moion pictures, according to A. M. Ross-Smith, executive of General Aniline and Film Co. Ross-Smith has just completed a survey of the Hollywood market for the film and is back in New York to report to his board of directors.

General Aniline and Film Co. is presently under control of the U. S. Alien Property Custodian, but its shares will shortly be sold to American nvestors through the stock exchange. Ross-Smith declared.

## *Miller on UNRRA Staff*

WASHINGTON, June 11.—Appointment of Neville Miller, president of National Association of Broadcasters, as senior deputy chief of the United Nations Relief and Rehabilitation Administration's Balkan mission in Cairo, Egypt, was announced at the weekend by UNRRA Director General Herbert H. Lehman. Miller will serve as chief managerial officer under William Mathews, mission head.

### *Film Anniversary Cards in Subways*

**A drawing of the Edison Kinetoscope parlor in 1894, with "Here's How" comment by Robert Swain, is now posted in all New York subway cars to help commemorate the 50th anniversary of the motion picture industry. The New York Subway Advertising Co. estimates that 5,638,000 individual riders, 375,000 of them from out of town, will see the display this month.**

## WAC Distributors' Division Changes

Ned E. Depinet, chairman of the Distributors' Division of the WAC committee, announced the following changes in the personnel of WAC distributors' chairmen and district chairmen in the field, effective immediately. Changes were necessitated through transfer and working conditions of the personnel.

In Indianapolis, Claude McKean, Warner manager, replaces L. W. Marriott. Foster Gauker, M-G-M manager will assist McKean. In New England and upstate New York, the realignment affects A. M. Kane, heretofore in Boston, who becomes district chairman over Boston, New Haven, Albany and Buffalo. Edward W. Ruff succeeds Kane in Boston. John Moore, also of Paramount, will take over in New Haven. Herbert MacIntyre, RKO district manager, replaces Len Gruenberg of RKO in the Rocky Mountain district. The latter is entering the Navy. J. B. Underwood replaces Sam Moscow (deceased) in Dallas, Memphis and Oklahoma City. All of these will also function in the "Fighting Fifth" War Loan.

## *193 Houses Set for 'Indiana' Premiere*

Premieres of 20th-Fox's "Home in Indiana" will be held June 14-28 in 193 theatres in Indiana, Ohio, Illinois and Kentucky, with state and municipal authorities, as well as Jeanne Crain and June Haver of the cast appearing at some half dozen of the openings.

Also being lined up through Rodney Bush, 20th-Fox exploitation manager, are a number of leading sulky racers whose appearances will underline the theme of the story, based on George Agnew Chamberlain's "The Phantom Filly." Extensive radio exploitation has been arranged.

## *Actors Equity Elects Ten Councilors*

The following 10 members of the regular ticket named by the nominating committee of Actors Equity have been elected to serve as councilors for five years; Patricia Collinge, Philip Merivale, Donald Cameron, Alexander Clark, Frank Wilson, Jose Ferrer, Frederic Tozere, Kathryn Givney, Harvey Stevens and E. J. Kennedy.

Paul Dullzell, executive secretary, announced an increase over last year's surplus of $61,702, bringing the total surplus to $550,687. Bert Lytell is Equity president.

## AFM Strikes Will Nullify Contracts

CHICAGO, June 11.—The American Federation of Musicians, during its convention at the Stevens Hotel here which ended yesterday, has voted favorably on a resolution introduced by the international executive board which voids any member's contract with an employer when a strike is called or a ban placed against that employer.

The action was taken as a result of the present record ban situation in which Decca has signed a new agreement with Victor and Columbia, refusing to accept the new terms. Under existing contracts, artists signed to Victor and Columbia cannot record for Decca unless released from their contracts. Under the new regulation, an artist is automatically freed of all contractual obligations when a work-stoppage order is placed against his employer. The ruling does not affect existing Victor and Columbia contracts.

**Petrillo Aides Will See Independents**

CHICAGO, June 11.—James C. Petrillo, president of the American Federation of Musicians, attending its national convention here last week, revealed to MOTION PICTURE DAILY that he will not personally negotiate an AFM agreement with the independents not covered by the producers pact signed May 17, but that he has instructed J. W. Gillette, his Los Angeles representative, and J. K. ("Spike") Wallace, president of the Los Angeles local, to handle the situation. The independents involved include David Selznick, Samuel Goldwyn, United Artists, Monogram and PRC.

Wallace said that he will start negotiations as soon as he and Gillette return to the West Coast. Over the weekend, both had trouble securing train reservations. Petrillo is returning to New York, where he will resume discussions with newsreel companies over the issue of freshly recorded newsreel music.

## *Balto. Neighborhoods Spare Cooling Units*

BALTIMORE, June 11.—Managers of 35 neighborhood theatres here faced a recent heat wave without turning on the air conditioning systems because of the shortage of freon gas. "We plan to operate the systems only when the weather becomes extremely hot," said an official of the 13-house circuit owned by J. Louis Rome. "If we started now, they might spring a leak and leave us without air conditioning for the rest of the summer." Managers of 22 other neighborhood theatres have stated that their situation is similar.

Most of the downtown first-run houses, on the other hand, will be able to operate as usual, it is said, because their cooling systems call for chemicals still available for civilian use.

## *Sudekum in Radio*

NASHVILLE, June 11.—Tony Sudekum, president of Crescent Amusement Co., has filed an application with the FCC to construct a radio station here.

# *Coast Flashes*

*Hollywood, June 11*

U. S. Senator A. B. (Happy) Chandler and his wife have arrived here from New York to confer with producer Lester Cowan regarding his starring role in United Artists' screen adaptation of the play, "Tomorrow the World."

•

M-G-M has purchased "Flat Top," an original story for production with the same cast used in "30 Seconds Over Tokyo."

•

Columbia announced "Rusty," an original boy-dog story, which Samuel Bischoff will produce.

## *Court Turns Down DeLucia Bail Bid*

The U. S. Circuit Court of Appeals here on Friday denied the motion by Theodore Rein, counsel for Paul De Lucia, one of the six Capone mobsters convicted of conspiracy to extort $1,000,000 from the film industry, to admit De Lucia to bail pending appeal from the conviction. The court stated that "so far as we can see, this appeal involves no substantial question which should be determined by the Appellate Court."

When Rein argued his motion for bail, he charged that Boris Kostelanetz, Federal prosecutor, prejudiced the jury by repeatedly referring to the defendants as 'gangsters' and 'members of the Capone ring in Chicago.'

The only defendant convicted in the case to win freedom in bail is Louis Kaufman, former business agent of Local 244, IATSE, of Newark. No date for argument on the appeal has been set.

## *Radio Reconversion Program to WPB*

CHICAGO, June 11.—The board of directors of Radio Manufacturers Association recently concluded its 20th annual membership meeting and third war production conference with the election of a new president and plans for the reconversion of radio industry plants from war to peace production, which will also be submitted to the radio and Radar industry advisory committee of WPB.

Raymond C. Cosgrove, vice-president and general manager of the manufacturing association of the Crosley Corp., succeeded Paul V. Galvin, president of the Galvin Manufacturing Corp. of Chicago, who has been head of the RMA for the last three years.

## *Rose Slaten Honored*

Rose Slaten, head of Columbia's film cutting department here, was guest at a luncheon given Friday by her co-workers on the occasion of her 24th anniversary with the company. The luncheon was held at the Hickory House. Miss Slaten was presented with a gift.

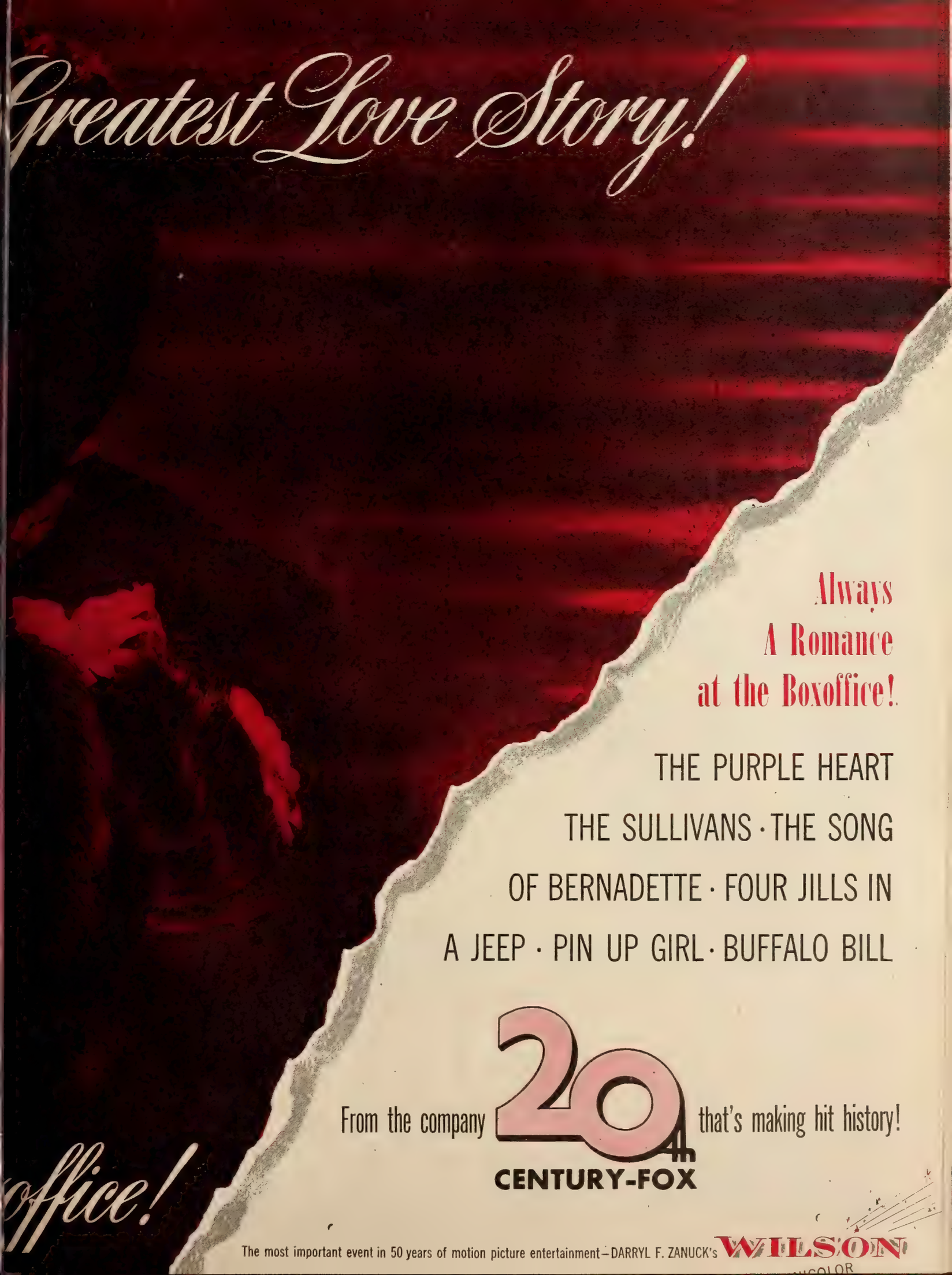
# The EVE of ST. MARK

"A PICTURE OF POWER AND WIDE AUDIENCE APPEAL!"— Daily Variety

"IT IS A GRAND FILM ... COMMERCIAL SUCCESS!"—Exhibitor

"QUALIFIED TO WRING LAUGHS, TEARS AND PATRIOTIC CHEERS!"— Boxoffice




Greatest Love Story!
Always
A Romance
at the Boxoffice!
THE PURPLE HEART
THE SULLIVANS · THE SONG
OF BERNADETTE · FOUR JILLS IN
A JEEP · PIN UP GIRL · BUFFALO BILL
From the company 20th CENTURY-FOX that's making hit history!
office!
The most important event in 50 years of motion picture entertainment – DARRYL F. ZANUCK's WILSON

# Industry Hears of Plans for Solving Postwar Problems

(Continued from page 1)

confront the national economy after the war," including a CED-anticipated record postwar Federal expenditure of $20,000,000,000, compared to $9,000,000,000 in 1939.

To be made available to the motion picture, and other large American industries, upon completion, are programs for liquidating war production, removing wartime economic controls, financing reconversion and expansion, manpower demobilization and reemployment, transition unemployment, money policies and international economic relations in the postwar. The CED's objective of each study undertaken "is the attainment and maintenance of high employment through expanded production and sales."

### Other Problems

Among other long-term problems to be studied are: Providing adequate incentives for enterprise, developing a constructive tax policy, special problems of small business, and minimizing business fluctuation and unemployment.

Chairman of the CED's research committee of business men is Ralph E. Flanders, president of Jones and Lamson Machine Co. Chairman of the research advisory board of social scientists is Prof. Sumner H. Slichter of Harvard University. Theodore Yntema, professor of economics on leave from the University of Chicago, is director of the research staff of economists.

## *Warner Discussing Pan-Amer. Market*

HOLLYWOOD, June 11.—Discussion of Pan-American relations, as well as plans for promoting goodwill between Hollywood and its Latin market, will highlight a series of conferences to be held here by Jack L. Warner, executive producer for Warner Bros., and Ary Lima, the company's Brazilian general manager, who arrived here over the weekend from Rio de Janeiro.

Future releases of Warner product in South American also will be discussed.

## *Ask 16 mm. Projector Owners to Back Bond*

**Washington, June 11.—Owners of 16 mm. film projectors are being urged to use their machines during the Fifth War Loan drive, to show battlefront films wherever possible, by Ted R. Gamble, national director of the U. S. War Finance Division. "Report from the Beachhead," "Reports from the AAF" and "What Makes a Battle" have been made available by the War Department. The films carry a trailer bond message from General Eisenhower. Prints will be made available through state War Finance Committees.**

# *Fifth War Loan Begins! Star Rallies Arranged*

(Continued from page 1)

the national film drive committee on their tour, and state and local rallies which followed, and the work of exhibitor, distributor and publicity chairmen and their committees, the industry's "Fighting Fifth" army will put forth "their mightiest effort for the industry's biggest job," bond committee headquarters declared here over the weekend.

Last minute reports by telegraph and telephone to R. J. O'Donnell, national chairman of the "Fighting Fifth" are said to reveal a high pitch of enthusiasm among exhibitors everywhere. The invasion of Europe, it was said, will act as a spur to the "Bond invasion" army.

Today is slated to be a gala day everywhere and showmen are scheduled to be in the forefront of those spearheading the "bond invasion."

"Every facet of showmanship will be used to launch the campaign," headquarters said. Military parades, rallies in theatres with governors, mayors and other high officials and war heroes on the stage are scheduled for today in numerous cities.

"Reports to national headquarters give asurance that the showmanship and energy displayed in any drive in the past will be topped during the Fifth, with the sole aim by the industry to bring the drive to conclusion with success," according to campaign officials.

### Convert Albee Square To 'Invasion Square'

With Albee Square, scene of Brooklyn's Fifth War Loan barometer, converted to "Invasion Square" for the drive, bond sales got under way there Saturday with a rally arranged by Charles B. McDonald, borough campaign chairman. Bands, speakers and veterans aided the launching.

Assisting McDonald are Irwin Gold, co-chairman; Jack Fitzgerald of the U. S. Treasury; and Al Zimbalist and Sol Handwerger, publicity co-chairmen.

### Illinois Heads Return From Regional Meets

CHICAGO, June 11.—State heads of the Fifth War Loan returned at the weekend from a two-weeks' tour, during which they attended five regional meetings. More bond premieres will be staged than in any previous drive. Ralph Lawler of Great States Theatres, co-chairman of the exhibitors' committee, stated. Others on the tour included W. E. Banford, M-G-M branch manager and state chairman for distributors, W. G. Bishop, M-G-M Western division exploitation manager and state publicity chairman. Eddie Zorn, president of United Theatres of Illinois, attended the meetings in Jacksonville, Mt. Vernon, Champaign and La Salle. The fifth meeting was held in Galesburgh, and each was attended by 40 to 75 exhibitors.

## *20th Workers Buy Bonds*

Twentieth Century-Fox home office employees have pledged 498 bonds totaling $44,150 to date, A. W. Smith, Jr., Eastern sales manager, reported to the "Fighting Fifth" War Loan headquarters at the weekend.

(Continued from page 1)

Victory Committee is enrolling other star performers.

In addition to Miss Bergman, who will stay with the star tour through Wednesday, and Lukas set through June 21, the following are definitely scheduled for appearances: Lynn Bari, June 15-21; Ray Bolger, 13-21; Susanna Foster, 15-21; Betty Grable, 17; Lana Turner, 16-17.

Touring with the stars is an Army Air Force band. Walter Pidgeon, Gary Cooper and Helen Forrest made pre-drive appearances at St. Louis and Chicago.

### Itinerary

From Indianapolis, the tour-itinerary will cover Detroit, June 13; Pittsburgh, June 14; Philadelphia, June 15; Brooklyn, June 16; New York, June 17; Atlantic City, June 19; Baltimore, June 20; Washington, June 21; Richmond, June 22; Norfolk, June 23; Atlanta, June 24; Birmingham, June 26; Memphis, June 27; Louisville, June 28; Cincinnati, June 29; Cleveland, June 30; New York, July 1.

Joining Secretary of the Treasury Henry Morgenthau in launching the drive, a cast of celebrated performers featured last night's four-network broadcast produced by Orson Welles.

Part of the program, including Secretary Morgenthau, Joseph Cotten, Gloria Jean, Walter Huston, Agnes Moorhead and Keenan Wynn, originated from Texarkana, Tex. Lionel Barrymore, Joe E. Brown, Ray Collins, Charles Laughton, Paul Muni, Thomas Mitchell and Franchot Tone were cut in from Hollywood. The program was on the air from 10 to 11 P.M., E.W.T.

### Stars at Bowl

Outstanding stars will appear with Secretary Morgenthau at the Hollywood Bowl, on June 14th at a rally for 25,000 volunteer Fifth War Loan workers.

In the presentation, produced by Sam Wood and William Cameron Menzies, will be Bing Crosby, Bette Davis, Judy Garland, Bob Hope and Jose Iturbi, with Rudy Vallee and his Coast Guard Band. A half-hour of the program, including Secretary Morgenthau's address, will be carried on the CBS coast-to-coast network from 11:30 to 12:00 P.M., E.W.T.

Each of the major networks will contribute an all-star program to aid the drive. NBC opened the broadcast series yesterday with Amos and Andy, Abbott and Costello, Jack Benny, Bob Burns, Bing Crosby, Ronald Colman, Joan Davis and Jack Haley, The Great Gildersleeve, Bob Hope, Kay Kyser, Frances Langford, Frank Morgan, Fibber McGee and Molly, John Charles Thomas and Yvette.

### First 5th Loan Show Set for Milwaukee

MILWAUKEE, June 11.—First Fifth War Loan bond spectacle will take place in Milwaukee June 17-18, it was announced here yesterday by Harold J. Fitzgerald, Wisconsin exhibitor state chairman.

The exhibition, sponsored by the *Milwaukee Journal* and to be held at the Michigan Lake front, will include a special industry display, and military equipment. Rear Admiral Carpenter and other guests will attend.

## *Exhibitor Worksheet Sent Out by WAC*

**The War Activities Committee is forwarding to exhibitors a special worksheet to facilitate prompt and full reports on bond sales. It features the number of bonds sold each day, their maturity value and suggestions for a 'School's Out' premiere and events on Flag Day, Independence Day and 'National Free Movie Day.' The worksheet was devised by Leon Bamberger of RKO, assistant national distributor chairman.**

# New York's Quota Now Million Bonds

C. C. Moskowitz, general theatre chairman of New York's "Fighting Fifth" bond army, who originally set a quota for this area of 800,000 "E" bonds to be sold, has increased the quota to 1,000,000 "E" bonds before July 31.

With "D-Day" rallies in scores of theatres and some 50 stunts in the area, it is estimated that since June 1st, 90,000 to 1,00,000 bonds have been sold.

The industry here officially launched its fifth drive on Saturday with a military demonstration with 400 infantrymen and a 160-piece band from Fort Bragg, N. C.

Under the command of Brig. General Maurice L. Miller and Lieut. Col. John L. King, the infantry "invasion" began at noon. The troops, in full battle attire, entered Broadway at 44th Street and were greeted by a crowd of more than 50,000 persons.

### The Program

The ceremonies opened with the playing of the national anthem and invocation by Capt. Lee Fohl. Charles C. Moskowitz, general chairman for the Metropolitan New York area, introduced Frank Mitchell, chairman of the speakers' bureau of the War Finance Division, who made an appeal for bond purchases. The program was then taken over by Edward C. Dowden, chairman of special events for the Fifth War Loan. Dowden introduced a group of returned war heroes. The Ben Yost Quartette from the Roxy sang the Battle Hymn of the Republic.

On the reviewing stand were: Brig. General Miller; Lieut. Col. King; Oscar A. Doob, Ernest Emerling, C. Dowden, Si Fabian, Fred Schwartz, Samuel Rinzler, Leo Brecher, Harry Brandt, Joseph Kinskey, John Friedl, Nevil Ford, Frederick Gehle, Stanley Quinn, Louis Pearson and Frank Mitchell.

More than $100,000 in "E" bonds were sold at the rally, where all Broadway theatres had bond booths. At the conclusion of the rally, the infantrymen and their band split up into six military patrols and invaded the five boroughs and Westchester. In each county, six to eight rallies greeted the "invaders."

## *Kramer to Birdwell*

Lillian Kramer, for 11 years a writer and public relations consultant with the State Department in Washington, has joined Russell Birdwell Associates here.

Your HOT HEADLINE HITS keep coming from MONOGRAM!

First . . .
"WHERE ARE YOUR CHILDREN"

Then . . .
"WOMEN IN BONDAGE"

Now →
THIS SOCKEROO 4-PAGE TABLOID IS THE OPENING BLAST FOR YOUR CAMPAIGN ON MONO'S LATEST!

EXTRA — Daily Star — EXTRA

# SCORCHING EXPOSE OF THRILL-THIRSTY ADULTS!

## IN FILM..."ARE THESE OUR PARENTS"



### BLAMES PARENTS!

Terry Salisbury, teen-age murder suspect accuses thrill-crazed adults for conditions which led to her downfall. Says Terry: "Had mother spent even a few spare moments with me I wouldn't now face disgrace."



### TELL OF THRILL DATES!

Sam Bailey, father of youthful Hal Bailey now being held by juvenile authorities, told police questioners "What's the difference if I spend a few hours of my time with women. Hal is old enough to take care of himself." Young Bailey is 17.



### NABBED IN RAID!

Shocking neglect on th part of parents leads t scenes like this. Poli trap teen-age law breaker in raid on n torious roadhouse.

**IT'S THE SHAME-STORY OF OUR TIME**

# 'ARE THESE OUR PARENTS"

Produced by JEFFREY BERNERD
Directed by WILLIAM NIGH
Screenplay by MICHEL JACOBS
Original Story by PERRY LIEF

with HELEN VINSON · LYLE TALBOT · NOEL NEIL

# Justice Dept. Insists on Decree Change

(Continued from page 1)

**Attorney General Tom C. Clark for revision of the draft of a new decree which they submitted to the Department of Justice on Jan. 20. Company presidents and the lawyers met here last Thursday but no decisions were reached after several hours of discussion on the suggestions.**

The suggestions, according to an official of one of the decree companies, deal not only with cancellation and theatre expansion, but also to Section X, relating to specific runs, and other items.

No date has been set for the second meeting between the companies and Clark, but almost daily contact is being maintained between the Department and the company lawyers, in an effort to break the apparent continuing deadlock.

As reported in MOTION PICTURE DAILY on May 18 the five decree companies are understood to be determined not to make any further major concessions on cancellations, restrictions on theatre expansion or on other standing proposals for a new decree even though that should mean prosecution of the Government's New York anti-trust suit. The companies are understood to feel that "any further concessions, especially on these provisions, would be economically unsound and would lead to eventual financial repercussions."

Discussions in recent weeks indicate that the companies might be willing to forego their provision allowing them to acquire new theatres as "show-cases."

## Film Censorship Is Agitating Mexico

MEXICO CITY, June 11.—Film censorship as applied by the Ministry of Interior has stirred up a controversy between the scenarists' union and producers on one side and the censors on the other. The producers, in newspaper advertising, have appealed to President Manual Avila Camacho, alleging that the censorship is arbitrary and violates freedom of expression. Some recent pictures have shown the effects of drastic cutting, resulting in uneven continuity.

Felipe Gregorgio Castillo, chief of censorship, has defended his division's activities, declaring that censorship has been declared legal by a Federal Supreme Court ruling. President Camacho is expected to take a hand in the controversy.

## Columbia Managers Here for Meeting

(Continued from page 1)

agers, branch managers and the entire sales personnel of the following exchanges: Albany, Boston, Buffalo, Cincinnati, Cleveland, New Haven, New York, Philadelphia, Pittsburgh, Washington, Toronto, Montreal, Winnipeg, St. John, Calgary and Vancouver.

# Scully Lists 55 Features, Four Serials, 61 Shorts

(Continued from page 1)

is nine less than the pre-Pearl Harbor season of 1941-42.

Scully reflects that the program again reflects Universal's flexible formula and that the company would continue to anticipate trends in entertainment.

Highlighting the new program will be Deanna Durbin's first outdoor musical in color, a special, titled "Can't Help Singing," with an original Jerome Kern score, now being produced by Felix Jackson. Also included is a second Deanna Durbin production, "Strangers," with Charles Boyer as co-star.

There will be three Abbott and Costello pictures, another special, entitled "Bowery to Broadway"; two color productions from Walter Wanger; Charles K. Feldman is listed for one production, "Uncle Harry;" Maria Montez will be in two color productions; two Donald O'Connor pictures; Olsen and Johnson will be represented with "See My Lawyer."

In addition, Scully announced seven Westerns. The complete feature program follows:

### "Can't Help Singing"

Deanna Durbin in "Can't Help Singing," color co-starring Robert Paige. "Bowery to Broadway," a special with an all-star cast headed by Maria Montez, Jack Oakie, Susanna Foster, Turhan Bey, Louise Allbritton, Leo Carrillo, Ann Blyth, Andy Devine and Evelyn Ankers, produced by John Grant, directed by Charles Lamont. Walter Wanger's "Salome, Where She Danced" and "Night In Paradise," with Turhan Bey and Louise Allbritton; Charles K. Feldman's production, "Uncle Harry," the stage play; Deanna Durbin and Charles Boyer in "Stangers," to be produced by Felix Jackson with Frank Shaw as associate; the three Abbott and Costellos, to be produced by John Grant; "The Naughty Nineties," "Here Come The Co-Eds" and "You Hypnotize Me;" "The Climax," in color, starring Susanna Foster, Boris Karloff and Turhan Bey, produced and directed by George Waggner; two Maria Montez productions, both in color: "Gypsy Wildcat," starring Miss Montez, Jon Hall and Peter Coe, directed by Roy William Neill and produced by George Waggner, and "Queen of the Nile," starring Miss Montez, Jon Hall and Turhan Bey, produced by Paul Malvern and directed by Jack Rawlins.

### "Sudan" in Color

Also: "Sudan," in color; the two Donald O'Connor productions: O'Connor, Peggy Ryan and Jack Oakie in "The Merry Monahans," directed by Charles Lamont and produced by Michael Fessier and Ernest Pagano, and, starring O'Connor and Miss Ryan in "Patrick the Great," directed by Frank Ryan and produced by Howard Benedict; Olsen and Johnson in "See My Lawyer" with Grace McDonald, Alan Curtis and Noah Beery, Jr., directed by Edward Cline and produced by Edmund L. Hartmann; Charles Laughton and Ella Raines in "The Suspect," directed by Robert Siodmak and produced by Islin Auster; "Frisko Kate," starring Susanna Foster, Turhan Bey, Robert Paige, Louise Allbritton, Ella Raines and George Korvin, to be produced by George Waggner; Boris Karloff and Lon Chaney in "The Devil's Brood," directed by Erle C. Kenton, produced by Paul Malvern; Jack Oakie and Peggy Ryan in musical to be produced by Michael Fessier and Ernest Pagano "That's the Spirit."

### "San Diego I Love You"

Also: Jon Hall and Louise Allbritton in "San Diego, I Love You," produced by Michael Fessier and Ernest Pagano, directed by Reginald Le Borg; "Dracula vs. the Wolf Man," starring Lon Chaney with Ford Beebe as associate producer; two comedies starring Joan Davis; two Sherlock Holmes productions starring Basil Rathbone and Nigel Bruce, both produced and directed by Roy William Neill—the first, "The Pearl Of Death," the second, "The House Of Fear."

Peggy Ryan and Ann Blyth in 'Babes on Swing Street," directed by Edward Lilley with Bernard Burton as associate producer; two Andrews Sisters productions, the first also starring Leo Carrillo, "Moonlight and Cactus," directed by Edward F. Cline with Frank Gross as associate producer, and "On Mobile Bay," to be produced by Warren Wilson; "Arsene Lupin," with Ford Beebe as associate producer, starring George Korvin; "Faith," starring Alan Curtis, Gloria Jean and Frank Craven; another starring Peggy Ryan and Ann Blyth; Lon Chaney in "The Mummy's Return," with Oliver Drake as associate producer; two Inner Sanctum Mysteries, starring Lon Chaney, titled "Dead Man's Eyes" and "The Frozen Ghost;" Bob Crosby in "The Singing Sheriff," with his orchestra, Fay McKenzie, Edward Norris and Fuzzy Knight, directed by Leslie Goodwins, with Bernard Burton as associate producer. Allan Jones in a musical with Bernard Burton as associate producer; "Reckless Age," starring Gloria Jean, produced and directed by Felix Feist; "Senorita From The West," also with Gloria Jean.

Also: "Murder in the Blue Room," with Anne Gwynne, Grace McDonald, Donald Cook, directed by Leslie Goodwins, with Frank Gross as associate producer. "Jungle Captive," with Acquanetta; two tropical musicals: "Brazilian Nights" and "Song Of The Sarong."

### 12 Marquee Productions

In addition there will be 12 Marquee productions, musicals, drama and comedies, titled: "Bluebeard of Paris," "Moonlight and Orchids," "Radio Revels," "She-Wolf Of London," "Musical Roundup," "Murder With Music," "Madam Swing," "Tornado," "Bad Sister," "Showdown," "Alibi and "Honeymoon Hotel."

The Seven Westerns are: "Rodeo Cyclone," "Riders of the Santa Fe," "Beyond the Pecos," "The Old Texas Trail," "Man from Powder River," "Renegades of the Rio Grande" and "Last of the Lawless." Oliver Drake will be associate producer, with direction by Lewis D. Collins and Roy Taylor.

The four serials are: "Raiders of Ghost City" with Dennis Moore, Wanda McKay, Lionel Atwill, Virginia Christine and Regis Toomey, and Ray Taylor and Lewis Collins directing, with Morgan Cox and Ray Taylor, as associate producers; Taylor and Cox will also produce "Jungle Queen;" "The Master Key" and "Mystery of the River Boat" will be produced by Henry MacRae.

The short subjects program will consist of 104 issues of Universal newsreel, 16 color 'Cartunes' from Walt Lantz, 15 'Person-Oddities,' 15 'Variety Views,' 13 'Name-Band Musicals' and two special 20-minute subjects, one titled "Diver vs. Devilfish," in color, and the other, "The Fight of the Wild Stallions."

## Hirliman Buys 31 Goldwyn Pictures

(Continued from page 1)

ing Heights," "Dead End," "Come and Get It," "Stella Dallas," "These Three," "The Hurricane," "Dodsworth," "Goldwyn Follies," "The Westerner," "They Shall Have Music," "Adventures of Marco Polo," "Arrowsmith," "Cowboy and the Lady," "Raffles," "We Live Again," "The Wedding Night," "Barbary Coast" and 14 others.

Some of the stars featured include Gary Cooper, Humphrey Bogart, Merle Oberon, Laurence Olivier, Joel McCrea, Zorina, Olivia de Havilland, David Niven, Barbara Stanwyck, Paul Lukas, Eddie Cantor, Brian Donlevy, Dorothy Lamour, Jon Hall, Fredric March, Ann Sothern, Edward G. Robinson, Robert Young, Ronald Colman, George Raft, Helen Hayes, Myrna Loy, Joan Bennett, and Loretta Young.

It is understood that the rights to the films will revert to Goldwyn after a period of years.

## Solon Asks Reason For Newsreel Shift

(Continued from page 1)

the newsreels' facilities to release "Eve of Battle," but no reason was given as to why arrangements for its distribution were held up until the last minute when the newsreels were ready to release their invasion reel.

Lieut. Col. Gordon F. Swarthout of the War Department bureau of public relations and officials of the Office of War Information took the 1,800-foot pre-invasion picture to New York and are said to have urged the WAC to see that it got immediate circulation. The Department, it has been revealed, did not furnish prints, and it was necessary to press every available film laboratory into service, with a consumption of nearly three times the raw stock footage the companies normally use.

## Canada Is Adding Labor Restrictions

(Continued from page 1)

classed film trade occupations in a low category on "essential" lists.

The Labor Department declared an emergency situation in view of war developments and announced that close to 200,000 workers are urgently needed for civilian war jobs. Action also is being taken to "freeze" women in war employment and to transfer females of 16 to 40 to essential occupations.

## Coplan's Mother Dies

TORONTO, June 11.—Mrs. S. Coplan, 60, mother of David H. Coplan, who is now in London as acting British managing director for United Artists, died at her home in Ottawa late last week.

# 'Way' Gets $15,000 In 3rd Boston Week

BOSTON, June 11.—"Going My Way" continued to draw here, getting $15,000 at the Metropolitan in a somewhat spotty week.

Estimated receipts for the week ending June 7:

**"Ladies Courageous" (Univ.)**
RKO BOSTON — (3,200) (50c-65c-85c-$1.10). Stage: Guy Lombardo and show. Gross: $25,500. (Average: $28,300).
**"The Hitler Gang" (Para.)**
**"Jamboree" (Rep.)**
FENWAY — (1,373) (35c-40c-55c-74c). Gross: $6,000. (Average: $8,300).
**"The Song of Bernadette" (20th-Fox)**
MAJESTIC—(1,350) ($1.10 matinee and night) 7 days, 5th week. Gross: $15,000. (Average: $13,000).
**"Tender Comrade" (RKO)**
**"Moon Over Las Vegas" (Univ.)**
KEITH MEMORIAL—(2,900) (44c-55c-65c-74c). Gross: $23,000. (Average: $24,500).
**"Going My Way" (Para.)**
METROPOLITAN—(4,367) (44c-55c-65c-84c) 7 days, 3rd week. Gross: $35,600. (Average: $28,300).
**"Up in Mabel's Room" (UA)**
**"Jam Session" (Col.)**
ORPHEUM—(2,900) (44c-55c-75c). Gross: $19,000. (Average: $23,800).
**"The Hitler Gang" (Para.)**
**"Jamboree" (Rep.)**
PARAMOUNT — (1,700) (44c-55c-74c). Gross: $16,000. (Average: $17,500).
**"Up in Mabel's Room" (UA)**
**"Jam Session" (Col.)**
STATE THEATRE—(3,200) (44c-55c-74c). Gross: $8,500. (Average: $11,300).

# *'Cobra' Pulls Pitts. Out of Doldrums*

PITTSBURGH, June 11.—The Fulton was first theatre to pull out of the doldrums here, with "Cobra Woman" promising $10,000 this week.

Estimated receipts for the week ending June 6-9:

**"Cobra Woman" (Univ.)**
FULTON—(1,700) (35c-44c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $10,000. (Average: $8,500).
**"Buffalo Bill" (20th-Fox)**
HARRIS—(2,200) (35c-44c-65c) 4 days, into 2nd week. Gross: $6,000. (Average for full week: $10,000).
**"Andy Hardy's Blonde Trouble" (M-G-M)**
PENN—(3,400) (35c-44c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $14,000. (Average: $21,700).
**"And the Angels Sing" (Para.)**
RITZ—(1,100) (35c-44c-65c) 7 days, 2nd week, moveover from Penn. Gross: $2,500. (Average: $3,000).
**"Girl in the Case" (Col.)**
**"Jam Session" (Col.)**
SENATOR—(1,750) (35c-44c-65c) 4 days. Gross: $1,600. (Average for 7 days: $3,400).
**"Between Two Worlds" (WB)**
STANLEY—(3,800) (44c-68c-85c). On stage, 6 days of vaudeville, including Ted Lewis orchestra. Gross: $20,000. (Average: $22,000).
**"Gaslight" (M-G-M)**
WARNER—(2,000) (35c-44c-65c) 7 days, 3rd week, moveover after 1 week at Penn. Gross: $6,500. (Average: $9,350).

# *'Cupid', Show Gross Splendid $21,000*

INDIANAPOLIS, June 11.—"Henry Aldrich Plays Cupid," with Sammy Kaye's orchestra on the stage, will do $21,000 at advanced prices at the Circle. Loew's will gross $12,000 with "Andy Hardy's Blonde Trouble" and "Knickerbocker Holiday."

Estimated receipts for the week ending June 8:

**"Henry Aldrich Plays Cupid" (Para.)**
CIRCLE—(2,800) (55c-70c) 7 days. Gross: $21,000. (Average: $11,800).
**"Buffalo Bill" (20th-Fox)**
INDIANA—(3,200) (32c-55c) 7 days. Gross: $10,000. (Average: $11,600).
**"Andy Hardy's Blonde Trouble" (M-G-M)**
**"Knickerbocker Holiday" (UA)**
LOEW'S—(2,800) (32c-55c) 7 days. Gross: $12,000. (Average: $11,500).
**"Phantom Lady" (Univ.)**
**"Weird Woman" (Univ.)**
LYRIC—(2,000) (32c-55c) 7 days. Gross: $5,000. (Average: $4,900).


Paramount NEWS
AND NOTHING BUT THE NEWS



FASCINATING, SWASHBUCKLING, LATIN-AMERICAN STAR DISCOVERY, ARTURO DE CORDOVA, SOON TO BE SEEN IN TECHNICOLORED **"FRENCHMAN'S CREEK"**, HAS APPEARED, IN SPACE OF ONE YEAR, OPPOSITE INGRID BERGMAN, JOAN FONTAINE, BETTY HUTTON, DOROTHY LAMOUR--- HAS COMPLETED STAR ROLE IN "INCENDIARY BLONDE" AND WAS JUST SIGNED FOR "A MEDAL FOR BENNY."


# 'Lady' Maintains Fast Pace in Philadelphia Run

PHILADELPHIA, June 11.—Business here was only fair this week. "Make Your Own Bed" at the Mastbaum points to $18,500 for the week with an additional $2,500 already in for the dual Sunday showing at the Earle. "Lady in the Dark" at the Boyd is still doing big with $22,500 indicated for the second week.

Estimated receipts for the week ending June 7-9:

**"Ladies Courageous" (Univ.)**
ALDINE—(900) (40c-45c-50c-65c-75c-85c) 7 days. Gross: $9,200. (Average: $14,600).
**"See Here, Private Hargrove" (M-G-M)**
ARCADIA—(600) (40c-45c-50c-65c-75c) 8 days, 2nd run. Gross: $7,500. (Average: $4,000).
**"Lady in the Dark" (Para.)**
BOYD—(3,000) (40c-45c-50c-65c-75c-85c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $22,500. (Average: $18,000).
**"Seven Days Ashore" (RKO) (6 days)**
**"Make Your Own Bed" (WB) (1 day)**
EARLE (3,000) (50c-65c-85c-95c) 6 days of vaudeville, including Bob Chester's orchestra, The Gay 90's Revue, Linda Moody, Betty Bradley and David Allyn. Gross: $21,000. (Average: $27,600).
**"The Imposter" (Univ.)**
FOX—(3,000) (40c-45c-50c-65c-75c-85c) 7 days. Gross: $14,900. (Average: $20,500).
**"Follow the Boys" (Univ.)**
KARLTON—(1,000) (40c-45c-50c-65c-75c-85c) 7 days, 2nd run. Gross: $6,000. (Average: $6,600).
**"Four Jills in a Jeep" (20thFox)**
KEITH'S—(2,200) (40c-45c-50c-65c-75c-85c) 7 days, 2nd run. Gross: $6,500. (Average: $5,800).
**"Make Your Own Bed" (WB)**
MASTBAUM—(4,700) (40c-45c-50c-65c-75c-85c) 7 days. Gross: $18,500. (Average: $22,500).
**"Pin-Up Girl" (20th-Fox)**
STANLEY—(3,000) (40c-45c-50c-65c-75c-85c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $15,200. (Average: $20,000).
**"Tampico" (20thFox)**
STANTON—(1,700) (40c-45c-50c-65c-75c-85c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $11,500. (Average: $9,400).

# *'Pin Up's' $16,600 Is Tops in Buffalo*

BUFFALO, June 11.—Hot Weather continues here, but theatre cooling systems are operating. "Pin Up Girl" looks like the best with an expected $16,600 at the Great Lakes. Business was generally off.

Estimated receipts for the week ending June 10:

**"Buffalo Bill" (20th-Fox)**
**"Henry Aldrich Plays Cupid" (Para.)**
BUFFALO—(3,489) (40c-50c-60c-70c) 7 days. Gross: $14,700. (Averages: $17,400).
**"Pin Up Girl" (20th-Fox)**
**"The Chinese Cat" (Mono.)**
GREAT LAKES—(3,000) (40c-50c-60c-70c) 7 days. Gross: $16,600. (Average: $16,600).
**"The Hour Before the Dawn" (Para.)**
**"Harvest Melody" (PRC)**
HIPPODROME—(2,100) (40c-50c-60c-70c) 7 days. Gross: $9,000. (Average: $9,700).
**"Show Business" (RKO)**
**"Escape to Danger" (RKO)**
TWENTIETH CENTURY—(3,000) (40c-50c-60c-70c) 7 days. Gross: $12,200. (Average: $12,200).
**"Phantom Lady" (Univ.)**
**"Chip Off the Old Block" (Univ.)**
LAFAYETTE—(3,000) (40c-50c-60c-70c) 7 days. Gross: $10,000. (Average: $12,400).

## *Lustig Wins Suit*

A New York Supreme Court jury on Friday awarded William Lustig damages of $5,000 in his suit against Feiman and Eleanor Schoonover, parents of Gloria Jean, which was based upon an alleged exclusive contract to act as the child star's agent. At the conclusion of the trial, counsel for Lustig and Universal Pictures announced that Lustig would discontinue a similar action against the company.

# Chicago Gives 'Hargrove' Big $24,000

CHICAGO, June 11. — Comedy features managed to overcome a weekend heat spell and the invasion news. At the United Artists, "See Here, Private Hargrove" was up in front with a sturdy $24,000.

Estimated receipts for the week ending June 7:

**"The Sullivans" (20th-Fox)**
APOLLO—(1,200) (55c-65c-95c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $11,000. (Average: $11,400).
**"Standing Room Only" (Para.)**
CHICAGO—(3,850) (55c-85c-95c) 7 days, 3rd week. Stage: Gil Lamb and Revue. Gross: $40,000. (Average: $51,500).
**"Tampico" (20th-Fox)**
**"Bermuda Mystery" (20th-Fox) (6 days)**
**"Address Unknown" (Col.)**
**"The Whistler" (Col.) (2 days)**
GARRICK—(1,000) (55c-65c-95c) 7 days. Gross: $7,500. (Average: $9,100).
**"Chip Off the Old Block" (Univ.) (1 day)**
**"Girls Under 21" (Col.) (Reissue)**
**"Under Age" (Col. Reissue) (6 days)**
GRAND—(1,250) (50c-60c-85c-95c) 7 days. Gross: $7,500. (Average: $9,100).
**"Hot Rhythm" (Mono.)**
ORIENTAL—(3,200) (44c-55c-60c-80c-95c) 7 days. Stage: Del Courtney and orchestra. Gross: $30,500. (Average: $24,000).
**"Show Business" (RKO)**
**"Yellow Canary" (RKO)**
PALACE — (2,500) (50c-60c-85c-95c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $21,500. (Average: $24,000).
**"Buffalo Bill" (20th-Fox) 5 days, 3rd week**
**"Passage to Marseille" (2 days)**
ROOSEVELT—(1,500) (55c-65c-95c) 7 days. Gross: $19,500. (Average: $20,000).
**"Cover Girl" (Col.) (1 day)**
**"Pin Up Girl" (20th-Fox) (6 days)**
STATE LAKE—(2,700) (55c-65c-95c) 7 days. Gross: $23,000. (Average: $29,000).
**"Song of Russia" (M-G-M) (1 day, 2nd week)**
**"See Here, Private Hargrove" (M-G-M) (6 days)**
UNITED ARTISTS—(1,700) (50c-65c-95c) 7 days. Gross: $24,000. (Average: $20,200).
**"Up in Arms" (RKO)**
WOODS—(1,200) (55c-65c-95c) 7 days, 6th week. Gross: $18,000. (Average: $10,000).

## Cleveland Take Dips To Summer Low

CLEVELAND, June 11.—Record heat interspersed with thunder showers did not do the box office any good here this week, toppling all first runs to a new Summer low.

Estimated receipts for the week ending June 7:

**"Shine On, Harvest Moon" (WB)**
ALLEN—(3,000) (44c-55c-65c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $7,000. (Average: $8,500).
**"Follow the Boys" (Univ.)**
WARNERS' HIPPODROME — (3,500) (44c-55c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $15,000. (Average: $22,100).
**"Jane Eyre" (20th-Fox)**
WARNERS' LAKE—(714) (44c-55c-65c) 7 days, 3rd wek. Gross: $2,400. (Average: $3,200).
**"And the Angels Sing" (Para.)**
LOEW'S OHIO—(1,268) (43c-65c) 7 days 2nd week. Gross: $4,200. (Average: $5,-100).
**"Jam Session" (Col.)**
RKO PALACE—(3,300) (50c-60c-85c-95c) 7 days. Stage: Harry Howards' Gay Nighties. Gross: $19,000. (Average: $25,-400).
**"Two Girls and a Sailor" (M-G-M)**
LOEW'S STATE—(3,300) (43c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $16,000. (Average: $19,000).
**"Gaslight" (M-G-M)**
LOEW'S STILLMAN—(1,900) (43c-65c) 7 days, 3rd week. Gross: $8,500. (Average: $10,000).

## Bleser to Hillman

Major Louis W. Bleser, for the past year commandant of the Farmingdale, L. I., Army Air base, will join the national advertising staff of Hillman Periodicals on July 1, upon retirement from active duty with the Army.

# Reviews

## "Goodnight Sweetheart"

*(Republic)*

"GOODNIGHT SWEETHEART" offers moderate satisfaction except for certain lapses in credibility. Robert Livingston, Republic's newest recruit from the ranks of the screen "cow-punchers," performs capably as a brash, young reporter from the big city, who acquires an interest in a small city daily newspaper. To stir up circulation, he points a finger at Thurston Hall, candidate for Mayor. His scheme backfires, however, when Ruth Terry, Hall's niece, exposes the intrigue. Livingston works out a new wrinkle which temporarily succeeds in implicating Hall with a missing "woman." He is well on his way to wriggling out of a libel suit and reestablishing himself when he finds himself on the receiving end of a murder charge. Miss Terry saves the day, however, deviously.

Joseph Santley has briskly directed a rather wild screenplay by Isabel Dawn and Jack Townley, from an original by Frank Fenton and Joseph Hoffman. Eddy White was associate producer. Other players who figure in the proceedings are Henry Hull, Grant Withers, Lloyd Corrigan and Maude Eburne.

Running time, 67 mins. "G."* Release date, June 17.

CHARLES RYWECK

## "The Invisible Man's Revenge"

*(Universal)*

*Hollywood, June* 11

IN his production and direction of "The Invisible Man's Revenge," Ford Beebe has topped the preceding four or five similar "invisible" offerings with whimsical comedy intermingled with suspense and action in the right dossages. Leon Errol stands out with his portrayal of a Cockney shoemaker with a slight tendency for blackmail while Jon Hall rises above his average roles in this one.

The story deals with an insane killer seeking revenge on a respectable English family for a fancied wrong. He is also attracted to their daughter who is engaged to a young newspaperman. The killer finds a scientist, John Carradine, who can render one invisible and submits to the treatment. Forcing Lester Matthews and Gale Sondergaard to transfer all their properties to him, he is frustrated in his love for the daughter, Evelyn Ankers, by his invisibility. The villain kills the scientist and is about to kill the newspaperman the same way when the scientist's dog breaks away and destroys the human horror. Screenplay is by Bertram Millhauser with exceptional photographic effects achieved by John P. Fulton.

Running time 78 minutes. "G."* Release date, June 9.

## "Call of the Rockies"

*(Republic)*

*Hollywood, June* 11

WITH this picture, Republic launches a new Western series which will star "Smiley" Burnette and Sonny (Sunset) Carson. The initial venture is a smoothly-contrived screenplay which Lesley Selander directed along tried-and-true lines.

The story, by Bob Williams, relates the adventures of "Sunset" and "Smiley" as they clash with a pair of crooks bent on acquiring mine properties. Smiley, disguised as a French engineer, complete with false beard and phoney accent, lends touches of comedy to the proceedings. Kirk Alyn, as a young miner, and Ellen Hall, as his fiancee, turn in competent performances, and Frank Jacquet's interpretation of the role of the scheming doctor is noteworthy.

The production, for which associate producer Lou Gray is to be credited, is satisfactory Western fare.

Running time, 57 mins. "G."* Release date, not set. THALIA BELL

*"G" denotes general classification.

## Purple Heart Awarded

Lieut. Larry Dannenberg, former member of the publicity staff at Warner Bros.' Burbank Studio, was awarded the Purple Heart for injuries while on his 21st mission over Italy, according to word received here. Dannenberg was decorated previously with the Air Medal and three Oak Leaf Clusters. He is recuperating in a hospital somewhere in Italy.

## 'Avengers' to Open

"People's Avengers," written and narrated by Norman Corwin and released through Artkino in America, will open at the Stanley Theatre here following "Taxi to Heaven." The film, a documentary on Russia's guerrilla armies in battle, was photographed behind enemy lines by 18 cameramen who were with the Russian fighters.

## 'Pin Up' Only Cincy Survivor of Heat

CINCINNATI, June 11.—"Pin Up Girl," with an approximate $15,500 at the RKO Palace, apparently is the only picture to survive the record heat wave which is retarding local grosses.

Estimated receipts for the week ending June 7-10:

**"Her Primitive Man" (Univ.)**
RKO ALBEE—(3,300) (44-50c-55c-65c-85c) 7 days, plus Saturday midnight show. Stage: Henry Busse's orchestra, Margo, Johnny Johnston, Terry and Ralph Rio, Coco, Steve and Eddy. Gross: $18,500. (Average: $22,000).
**"Follow the Boys" (Univ.)**
RKO CAPITOL—(2,000) (44c-50c-60c-70c) 5 days, plus Saturday midnight show. Gross: $7,000. (Average: 7 days, $10,000).
**"Outlaw Trail" (Mono.)**
**"Waterfront" (PRC)**
RKO FAMILY—(1,000) (30c-40c) 4 days. Gross: $1,500. (Average: $1,600).
**"Land Beyond the Law" (WB)**
**"In Old Chicago" (20th-Fox)**
RKO FAMILY—(1,000) (30c-40c) 3 days. Gross: $700. (Average: $800).
**"See Here, Private Hargrove" (M-G-M)**
RKO GRAND—(1,500) (44c-50c-60c-70c) 7 days, 3rd week. Gross: $6,500. (Average: $9,500).
**"Heavenly Body" (M-G-M)**
KEITH'S — (1,500) (44c-50c-60c-70c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $4,500. (Average: $5,000).
**"Girls Under 21" (Col.)**
**"Under Age" (Col.)**
RKO LYRIC—(1,400) (44c-50c-60c-70c) 7 days, plus Saturday midnight show. Gross: $5,000. (Average: $5,500).
**"Pin Up Girl" (20th-Fox)**
RKO PALACE—(2,700) (44c-50c-60c-70c) 7 days, plus Saturday midnight show. Gross: $15,500. (Average: $15,000).
**"Andy Hardy's Blonde Trouble" (M-G-M)**
RKO SHUBERT—(2,150) (44c-50c-60c-70c) 7 days, 2nd week, moveover from the Palace. Gross: $5,000. (Average: $5,000).

## 'Pin Up' Dual Tops In Hot Toronto

PROVIDENCE, June 11.—Business here was generally slow during the week. "Pin-Up Girl" and "Tampico" managed a nice $11,000 in a second week at the Majestic. Terrific heat was a factor.

Estimated receipts for the week ending June 8:

**"Curse of the Cat People" (RKO)**
**"The Scarlet Claw" (Univ.)**
RKO-ALBEE—(2,239) (35c-44c-55c) 7 days. Gross: $8,500. (Average: $12,800).
**"The Hitler Gang" (Para.)**
STRAND—(2,200) (44c-55c) 7 days. Gross: $9,650. (Average: $10,500).
**"Meet the People" (M-G-M)**
**"Crime Doctor's Strangest Case" (Col.)**
LOEW'S STATE—(3,232) (35c-44c-55c) 7 days. Gross: $15,000. (Average: $17,700).
**"Pin-Up Girl" (20th-Fox)**
**"Tampico" (20th-Fox)**
MAJESTIC—(2,250) (35c-44c-55c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $11,000. (Average: $12,-100).
**"The Impostor" (Univ.)**
**"South of Dixie" (Univ.)**
FAY'S—(1,800) (35c-44c-55c) 7 days. Gross: $5,500. (Average: $6,500).
**"This Is the Life" (Univ.)**
**"Moon Over Las Vegas" (Univ.)**
CARLTON—(1,526) (35c-44c-55c) 7 days, 2nd week, moveover from Loew's State. Gross: $3,000. (Average: $4,000).
**"Follow the Leader" (Mono.)**
METROPOLITAN—(3,050) (50c-60c-70c) 3 days. On stage: Count Basie's Orchestra, Harold Nicholas. Gross: $8,000. (Average: $7,900).

## M-G-M Buys 'Cheek'

Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer has acquired the film rights to "The Damask Cheek," written by John Van Druten and Lloyd Morris, which was produced on Broadway by Dwight Deere Wiman.

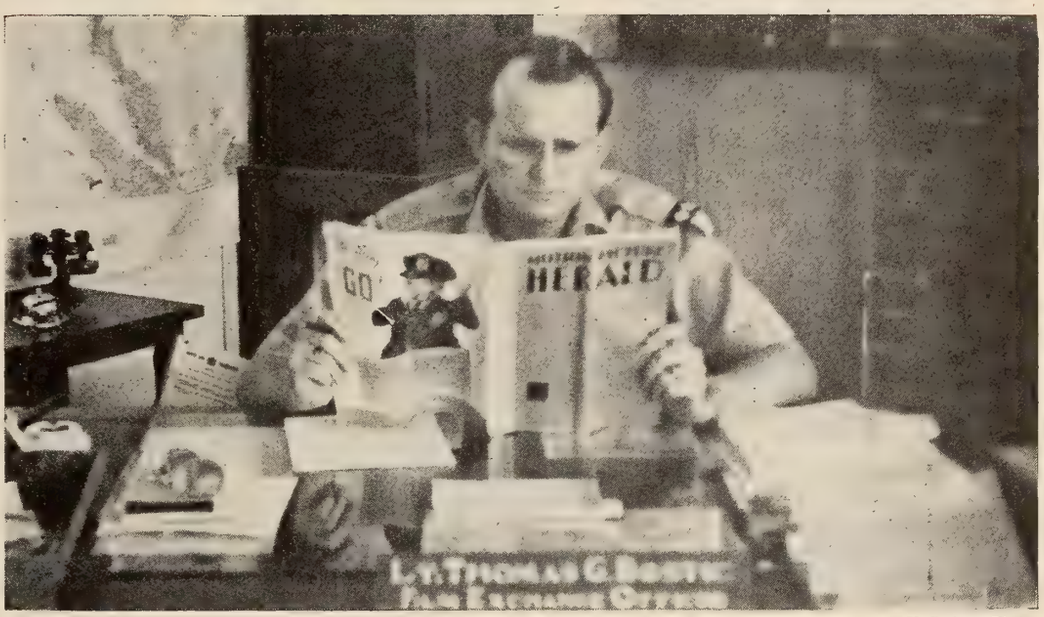
## Pickman Joins 20th-Fox

Jerome Pickman, formerly with the Eddie Cantor air show, has joined the 20th Century-Fox exploitation department here.

*To Noumea, Iceland*
*to Tahiti, to Fiji*
*to Malta, to Africa*
*India, Burma, China—*

*In War as in Peace*
*where Pictures go*
**MOTION PICTURE HERALD**
*goes—and goes ahead*
*around the world!*

# U. S. Army Hurries Herald For Service at the Front




U. S. Army Photo

BY TRAIN and plane and jeep, by sweating pack train and panting jungle runner, delivered by dog team in the snows and dropped by parachute on mountain camps, the motion picture goes to the war.

Exhibition to the armed forces is delivery of the munitions of morale.

Where the pictures go MOTION PICTURE HERALD goes—and goes first, in behalf of the show to come. It travels by dispatch boat, submarine and bomber-express, from Noumea to Iceland, from Tahiti to Malta and all the lands that are between.

This week comes demand for new, special and urgent delivery to the Indian Film Exchange, which is the army's general depot for service to the war fronts in India, Burma and China. Their shows travel by jeep and jungle runner and warplane across the Himalayas. Lieutenant Thomas G. Bostic, officer in charge, writes:

*"During the past months the* HERALDS *have arrived as many as two months after publication date. It is requested whether any special arrangements can be made to speed the* HERALD *in this direction? The writer would be willing to send a check for first class postage or any handling fees that would make this possible.*

*"The* HERALD *is invaluable in enabling us to classify and arrange the bookings for feature programs sent out on the various film circuits.*

*"The names of the stars and other data are included in the advance notices sent out preceding the films. A request has recently been received from the troops in the forward area, that they be furnished with synopses as far in advance of the screening date as possible to enable the interpreter to translate the story into Chinese. The* HERALD *has been very helpful in this connection also. . . ."*

With the assistance of the circulation department of the HERALD, the United States Post Office and the Army, the HERALD will be going through faster to the India Film Exchange—to India, China and Burma.

WHERE THE PICTURES GO THE HERALD GOES—*first!*

# MOTION PICTURE DAILY'S BOOKING CHART

| WEEK OF | COLUMBIA | M-G-M | MONO. | PARA. | PRC | REPUBLIC | RKO RADIO | 20TH-FOX | U. A. | UNIVERSAL | WARNERS |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| May 13 | UNDERGROUND GUERILLAS (British) John Clements Mary Morris—D (5041)<br>RIDIN' WEST Charles Starrett Shirley Patterson O—(5207) | (Sixth Block)<br>SEE HERE, PRIVATE HARGROVE Robert Walker Donna Reed C—101 mins. (420) | DETECTIVE KITTY O'DAY Jean Parker D—61 mins. (322) | (Fifth Block) AND THE ANGELS SING Dorothy Lamour Fred MacMurray Betty Hutton M—96 mins. (4321) | | | (Fifth Block) THE FALCON OUT WEST Tom Conway Barbara Hale D—64 mins. (421) | (April Releases—no definite date set)<br>BUFFALO BILL (Color) Maureen O'Hara Joel McCrea D—(424) 90 mins. | | COBRA WOMAN (Color) Maria Montez Jon Hall Sabu (8006)—70 mins. | |
| May 20 | STARS ON PARADE Lynn Merrick Larry Parks Judy Clark M—(5023) | THE HEAVENLY BODY Hedy Lamarr William Powell D—95 mins. (421) | THE CHINESE CAT Sidney Toler D—64 mins. (320) | DOUBLE INDEMNITY Fred MacMurray Barbara Stanwyck Edward G. Robinson D—106 mins. (4325) | | COWBOY AND THE SENORITA Roy Rogers Mary Lee Dale Evans M—78 mins. (342) | DAYS OF GLORY Tamara Touranova Gregory Peck D—86 mins. (422) | TAMPICO Ed G. Robinson D—75 mins. (425) | | PARDON MY RHYTHM Gloria Jean Patric Knowles M (8032)—62 mins. | BETWEEN TWO WORLDS John Garfield Paul Henreid D—112 mins. (316) |
| May 27 | ADDRESS UNKNOWN Paul Lukas K. T. Stevens D—72 mins. (5010) | SWING FEVER Kay Kyser Marilyn Maxwell M—81 mins. (423) | | THE HITLER GANG Robert Watson Victor Varconi D—100 mins. (4323) | | MELODY TRAIL (Reissue) Gene Autry O—(3304) | THE YELLOW CANARY (British) Anna Neagle Richard Greene D—84 mins. (423) | SHRINE OF VICTORY British Documentary 45 mins.—(426) | SONG OF THE OPEN ROAD Edgar Bergen Charlie McCarthy Bonita Granville M—93 mins. | THE SCARLET CLAW Basil Rathbone Nigel Bruce D—74 mins. (8019) | |
| June 3 | | RATIONING Wallace Beery Marjorie Main C—93 mins. (418) | FOLLOW THE LEADER East Side Kids D | HENRY ALDRICH PLAYS CUPID Jimmy Lydon Diana Lynn Charles Smith 65 mins. (4322) | SPOOK TOWN (Texas Rangers) O—(457) James Newill Tex O'Brien | SILENT PARTNER Beverly Loyd William Henry Grant Withers O—(317) | SEVEN DAYS ASHORE Wally Brown Gordon Oliver C—74 mins. (424) | (May Releases. No definite date set) | | BOSS OF BOOMTOWN Rod Cameron Vivian Austin O—(8085) | |
| June 10 | THEY LIVE IN FEAR Otto Kruger Pat Parrish Clifford Severn D—65 mins. (5043) | BROADWAY RHYTHM Ginny Simms George Murphy M—114 mins. (419) (Color) | SONORA STAGE COACH (Trailblazer) O—(365) | GAMBLER'S CHOICE Chester Morris Nancy Kelly 66 mins. (4324) | WATERFRONT John Carradine J. Carroll Naish D—(415) 65 mins. | | SHOW BUSINESS Eddie Cantor Joan Davis George Murphy Constance Moore M—92 mins. (425) | PIN-UP GIRL Betty Grable John Harvey Martha Raye Joe E. Brown M—83 mins. (427) (Color) | THE HAIRY APE William Bendix Susan Hayward D—90 mins. | THIS IS THE LIFE Donald O'Connor Susanna Foster C—87 mins. (8012) | |
| June 17 | THE LAST HORSEMAN Russell Hayden Bob Wills "Dub" Taylor O—(5208) | TUNISIAN VICTORY (Special Release) (466)—80 mins. (Documentary) | RETURN OF THE APE MAN Bela Lugosi John Carradine D | (Special release) MEMPHIS BELLE (Color) (Documentary) T3-1—41 mins. | | GOOD NIGHT SWEETHEART Robert Livingston Ruth Terry D—67 mins. (302) | (Special release) ATTACK! (Documentary) 56 mins. | BERMUDA MYSTERY Preston Foster Ann Rutherford D—65 mins. (428) | | THE INVISIBLE MAN'S REVENGE Jon Hall Evelyn Ankers Alan Curtis D—78 mins. | MAKE YOUR OWN BED Jack Carson Jane Wyman Irene Manning C—82 mins. (317) |
| June 24 | SHE'S A SOLDIER, TOO Beulah Bondi Nina Foch Jess Barber D—67 mins. (5040) | (Seventh Block)<br>ANDY HARDY'S BLONDE TROUBLE Mickey Rooney Lewis Stone C—107 mins. (424) | RANGE LAW Johnny Mack Brown O—57 mins (355)<br>JOHNNY DOESN'T LIVE HERE ANYMORE Simone Simon James Ellison D—79 mins.<br>CALL OF THE JUNGLE Ann Corio James Bush D | (Sixth Block) HAIL THE CONQUERING HERO Eddie Bracken Ella Raines C—100 mins. | | YELLOW ROSE OF TEXAS Roy Rogers Dale Evans O—(343) 69 mins. | (Sixth Block) GILDER-SLEEVE'S GHOST Harold Peary Marian Martin C | (June Releases—no definite date set) EVE OF ST. MARK Anne Baxter William Eythe Michael O'Shea (429) D—96 mins. | | GHOST CATCHERS Olsen and Johnson Gloria Jean C—68 mins. | |
| July 1 | | GASLIGHT Ingrid Bergman Charles Boyer D—(425) | | TAKE IT BIG Jack Haley Harriet Hilliard C<br>THE GREAT MOMENT Joel McCrea Betty Field D—80 mins.<br>HENRY ALDRICH'S LITTLE SECRET Jimmy Lydon Charlie Smith C—75 mins. | MINSTREL MAN Benny Fields Gladys George Roscoe Karns O—(404) | MAN FROM FRISCO Michael O'Shea Anne Shirley D—91 mins. (318) | MARINE RAIDERS Pat O'Brien Ruth Hussey D<br>A NIGHT OF ADVENTURE Tom Conway Audrey Long D—65 mins.<br>STEP LIVELY Frank Sinatra George Murphy M | LADIES OF WASHINGTON Sheila Ryan Trudy Marshall Doris Merrick D—95 mins (430) | SENSATIONS OF 1945 Eleanor Powell Dennis O'Keefe M | SOUTH OF DIXIE Anne Gwynne David Bruce D—61 mins. | THIS IS THE ARMY (Re-issue) (color) George Murphy John Leslie M—(224) 115 mins. |
| July 8 | LOUISIANA HAYRIDE Judy Canova Ross Hunter C | MEET THE PEOPLE Dick Powell Lucille Ball M—100 mins. (426) | | I LOVE A SOLDIER Paulette Goddard Sonny Tufts D | | CALL OF THE SOUTH SEAS Janet Martin Allan Lane D—59 mins. (319)<br>CALL OF THE ROCKIES Smiley Burnette Sonny Carson O—56 mins. (356) | LOOK TO YOUR CHILDREN Kent Smith Jean Brooks D | (July Releases—no definite date set) HOME IN INDIANA (color) Walter Brennan Jeanne Crain (431)—D 103 mins. | | CHRISTMAS HOLIDAY Deanna Durbin Gene Kelly M—93 mins. | THE MASK OF DIMITRIOS Sidney Greenstreet Zachary Scott D—95 mins. (318) |
| July 15 | SECRET COMMAND Pat O'Brien Chester Morris Ruth Warrick D—80 mins. | THREE MEN IN WHITE Lionel Barrymore Van Johnson D—(427) | | (Special Release) GOING MY WAY Bing Crosby Barry Fitzgerald Rise Stevens D—130 mins. | BRAND OF THE DEVIL Jim Newill Dave O'Brien O—(458)<br>DELINQUENT DAUGHTERS June Carlson Fifi D'Orsay D—(416) | COMIN' ROUND THE MOUNTAIN (reissue) Gene Autrey O—(3305) | (Special Release) GOYESCAS Imperio Argentina M—110 mins. (461)<br>SNOW WHITE and the SEVEN DWARFS (reissue) 83 mins. (492) (Disney Feature Cartoon) (Color) | ROGER TOUHY, GANGSTER Preston Foster Victor McLaglen D—65 mins. (432) | SUMMER STORM George Sanders Linda Darnell D—107 mins. | TRIGGER TRAIL O—(8086)<br>JUNGLE WOMAN Evelyn Ankers J. Carroll Naish D—60 mins.<br>THE MUMMY'S GHOST Lon Chaney D—61 mins. | |
| July 22 | SHADOWS IN THE NIGHT Warner Baxter D | TWO GIRLS AND A SAILOR Jimmy Durante Van Johnson C—(428) | | | FUZZY SETTLES DOWN Buster Crabbe Al 'Fuzzy' St. John O—(465) | SECRETS OF SCOTLAND YARD Edgar Barrier Stephanie Bachelor S. Aubrey Smith D—68 mins. (321) | | CANDLELIGHT IN ALGERIA (British) James Mason Carla Lehmann D—85 mins (433) | | TWILIGHT ON THE PRAIRIE Eddie Quillan Vivian Austin O<br>ALLERGIC TO LOVE Noah Beery, Jr. Martha O'Driscoll C | |

*Dates Are Based on National Release Schedules and Are Subject to Change. Letters Denote the Following:*
*(D) Drama, (M) Musical, (C) Comedy, (O) Outdoor, Action, Production, Number, Another, Part*

5th WAR LOAN DRIVE

# MOTION PICTURE DAILY

Join the Fighting Fifth!

VOL. 55. NO. 115 NEW YORK, U. S. A., TUESDAY, JUNE 13, 1944 TEN CENTS

## First Invasion Reels Shown On Thursday

### *Companies Receive Over 15,000 Ft. of Film*

The American public will see their first newsreel invasion pictures on Thursday. The five American newsreels had received between 15,000 and 20,000 feet of invasion shots up to yesterday, both from the regular newsreel war pool and from military authorities, including actual pictures of the landings on barges, arrival at the beachheads, landings of paratroopers and actual battling, in addition to invasion preparations, it was learned here yesterday.

The full newsreel length of the issues to be released on Thursday will be devoted exclusively to the films. Included in the 15,000 to 20,000 feet of film received by the companies are

(*Continued on page 6*)

## *Monogram's First Ready*

Los Angeles, June 12.—Monogram's production situation is so favorable that the company on Tuesday will be able to show three of its top pictures for 1944-45 as its convention now under way at the Ambassador Hotel here. Company officials declare this is the first time this has prevailed in Monogram history.

The attractions are: "A Wave, a Wac and a Marine," with Elyse Knox, Anne Gillis, Sally Eilers, Richard Lane, Alan Dinehart and Ramsay

(*Continued on page 3*)

## *Anniversary Field Slate Nearly Filled*

Selection of state chairmen for the promotion of the 50th anniversary of commercial motion pictures is nearing completion, it has been learned here following a meeting of the industry's Public Relations Committee. The key posts in only a few states remain to be filled, and national chairman Harold J. Fizgerald expects acceptances to reach 100 per cent within a few days.

Although the anniversary period began officially on April 14, observations in the field are scheduled to be held at various dates throughout 1944.

### *London Sees First Invasion Newsreels*

**London, June 12.—First invasion newsreel pictures were on view here today. From early morning on there were long lines at all London newsreel houses. Consensus of opinion was that the joint news-Service Units' cameramen, had done a magnificent job.**

**Attendance at British houses has been surprisingly good despite public preoccupation with the invasion. London West End houses suffered most owing clearly to the absence of Allied troops.**

**Odeon and Gaumont British came in for special attention in view of elaborate plans and immediate announcements of news flashes during invasion performances.**

## Scully Calls Nine Universal Meetings

Los Angeles, June 12.—A schedule of nine Universal regional sales meetings was announced here today by W. A. Scully, vice-president and general sales manager, at the close of the sales meeting which has been held during the past week at the Ambassador Hotel. In addition to sales managers and district managers, branch managers, salesmen and bookers will attend the regionals.

The first meeting, which will be

(*Continued on page 6*)

## Big $112,000 for 'White Cliffs' in 5th at Music Hall

Business at downtown New York first-run theatres continued spotty this week with a few exceptions. "The White Cliffs of Dover" teamed with a stage show at Radio City Music Hall is an outstanding grosser with business this week even better than last, when the theatre did excellent business. With $71,000 taken in on the first four days ending Sunday night, the Music Hall expects a gross of $112,000 for the fifth week, which is $3,000 better than last week. The film will continue.

"Going My Way" and a stage show headed by Charlie Spivak and his band at the Paramount have been tentatively set for 10 weeks. The combined bill is expected to gross over $65,000 for the sixth week. "Lady in the Dark," which played the Para-

(*Continued on page 6*)

## 13 Film Areas 100% For Red Cross

Reports of 100 per cent collection for the 1944 Red Cross drive have been received from 13 of the country's 33 exchange territories. All but about 1,500 of the approximately 15,000 theatres participating have now sent full reports to industry headquarters, Joseph Bernhard, national industry

(*Continued on page 3*)

## *Theatres Sell Millions In Bonds on Opening Day*

Telephone and telegraphic flashes arriving at the industry's Fifth War Loan national committee headquarters here yesterday told of a record war bond "gross" sale by theatres on the opening day of the drive. Hundreds of exhibitors were described by headquarters as having gone "all-out" in staging opening rallies and other events. They sold millions of "E" bonds through the day. In numerous situations, however, theatres are deferring their special events for two or three weeks at the request of the Treasury War Finance Committees, which have launched Bond-selling activities which will maintain the momentum until all theatres swing into action with "Bond Premieres" and similar events.

Sam Pinanski, Massachusetts ex-

(*Continued on page 6*)

### *Legion of Merit to Lt. Col. Clark*

**Washington, June 12.—Dispatches reaching here from Rome today reported that Lt. Col. Kenneth W. Clark, who handled publicity for the MP PDA from 1936 until he entered the Army in 1942, has received the Legion of Merit from Lt.-Gen'l. Mark W. Clark. The Legion is the highest award given for non-combatant service.**

**Clark has served as head of public relations for the Fifth Army, joining General Clark two years ago during the North African Invasion.**

## Clark Meets With Decree Counsel Here

### *Discussions May Reach Climax This Week*

Counsel for the five consent decree companies met here yesterday with Assistant U. S. Attorney Generals Tom C. Clark and Robert L. Wright, but failed to reach an agreement on further revisions of the decree after several hours of discussion.

Following the meeting, Clark told Motion Picture Daily that an effort will be made to continue the discussions later this week. He indicated that he expects to hear from company counsel tomorrow and that arrangements for a subsequent meeting, either here or in Washington, may be made then. However, he intimated that there was a possibility that the next consultation might be conducted by telephone.

Elsewhere, it was learned that the

(*Continued on page 6*)

## *Dismiss New Momand Suit*

Oklahoma City, June 12.—Formal dismissal of the second A. B. Momand anti-trust suit against Griffith Amusement Enterprises and 13 distributor defendants was filed in Federal court here today. The suit, brought by Momand with two other Oklahoma independent exhibitors in January of this year, had sought damages totaling $606,000.

The motion to dismiss, approved by Judge Bower Broaddus, was without prejudice to refile the action in a different form or different court. It was sought by Momand and J. D. Wineland, the remaining plaintiff after the withdrawal of M. L. Riggs, Vinita, Okla., several weeks ago. Wineland operates the Mystic at Picher.

Whether the dismissal indicates Mo-

(*Continued on page 3*)

## *Hugh Owen Will Join Vanguard Monday*

Hugh Owen will assume his post as assistant to Neil Agnew, vice-president in charge of distribution for Vanguard Pictures, next Monday.

Owen left his post as Eastern division manager for Paramount last Friday and is taking a week's vacation before assuming his new post.

# Personal Mention

E. C. GRAINGER, president of the Shea Circuit, will return here on Friday from a tour of the company's theatres.

•

JAMES ARTHUR, St. Louis Amusement Co. secretary, has been commissioned a Marine second lieutenant and will report to Quantico, Va., tomorrow. His brother, EDWARD B. ARTHUR, Fanchon and Marco assistant general manager, is an Armored Division officer.

•

RICHARD DE ROCHEMONT, March of Time producer who was a war correspondent with the French army in 1939-40, has arrived in North Africa as a U. S. correspondent and will represent MOT in a tour of various fronts.

•

ROLAND MOON, district manager of the Lockwood and Gordon circuit, suffered a broken ankle during a recent visit at the home of ED HASKINS, manager of the State Theatre, Calais, Me.

•

STANLEY KRENITZ, son of JOE KRENITZ, Universal Cleveland branch manager, will be married July 1 to MISS SUE KURLANDER of that city.

•

HARRY C. ARTHUR, JR., Fanchon and Marco general manager, returned to St. Louis at the weekend from a New York business trip.

•

PETER COLLI, Warners' supervisor for Cuba, Puerto Rico, Trinidad and the Caribbean area, arrived last night for home office conferences.

•

HOWARD WAUGH, Warners' Memphis zone manager, has returned to that city following a home office visit.

•

JACK SHEA of Shea Circuit will leave Monday on a Midwest tour.

## Hebert Gets Release From Goldwyn Post

HOLLYWOOD, June 12.—William Hebert has requested and reeeived release from his post of advertising-publicity director for Samuel Goldwyn, Inc. His contract had three years to run. Hebert will remain until July 8, pending appointment of a successor.

## 20th-Fox Sets U. K. 'Bernadette' Deal

LONDON, June 12.—Twentieth Century-Fox has set a deal with both Odeon Theatres and Gaumont-British for "Song of Bernadette," starting Sept. 11.

## Burnette Quits Republic

HOLLYWOOD, June 12.—"Smiley" Burnette will leave Republic June 30, after a 10-year association with that studio. He is scheduled to make a personal-appearance tour beginning in Baltimore.

# Montague Presiding At Columbia Meet

Columbia will open the second of a series of three regional sales meetings today at the Warwick Hotel here. The convention will run through Thursday. Jack Cohn will open the session and then will turn the meeting over to Montague.

Besides salesmen, the following division and branch managers will attend: Central division manager Carl Shalit and branch managers Joe Miller, Albany; Harry Rogovin, Boston; Phil Fox, Buffalo; Allen Moritz, Cincinnati; Lester Zucker, Cleveland, and Tim O'Toole, New Haven; division manager Nat Cohn and branch managers Irving Wormser and Saul Trauner, New York; Harry Weiner, Philadelphia; A. H. Levy, Pittsburgh; Mideast division manager Sam Galanty and branch manager Ben Caplon, Washington.

From Canada will come general manager Louis Rosenfeld, and H. Allen, S. Glazer, H. H. Harnick, Abe Cass, Toronto; I. Levit, Winnipeg; J. Lieberman, St. John; W. Elman, Montreal; N. Levant, Vancouver; H. Call, Calgary.

## Para. SOPEG Dispute Before Arbitration

Arbitration hearings were resumed at the Paramount home office yesterday in the job classifications and wage adjustment dispute between Paramount and the Screen Office and Professional Employes Guild, Local 109, involving 400 home office 'white collar' workers. Meetings are expected to continue daily this week.

A report on progress on the negotiation of job classifications with other companies with whom SOPEG has contracts was made at a general membership meeting held here last night.

## Paramount Shorts at New Contract Peak

CHICAGO, June 12.—Paramount this season will have the largest number of short subject contracts in its history, Oscar A. Morgan, general shorts sales manager, stated at a meeting in the Ambassador East Hotel here today. Morgan will hold a Cleveland meeting tomorrow and return to New York on Wednesday.

## Ohio Seeks Relief From 3% Gross Tax

COLUMBUS, O., June 12.—Repeal of Ohio's three per cent retail sales tax, which applies also to theatre grosses, will be sought through a constitutional amendment at the polls in November, it was revealed when a Northern Ohio group indicated that it had submitted such a proposal to Secretary of State Edward J. Hummel, and would immediately take steps to obtain signatures to petitions necessary to place the issue on the November ballot. The impost currently yields approximately $80,000,000 a year, a large part of which comes from theatres.

## M.P.Herald Reporter Takes Junction

**Tank Lieut. George H. Spires, former reporter on the staff of *Motion Picture Herald*, with the Fifth Army near Lake Bolsena, on Saturday night, with two tanks, a couple of tank destroyers and a handful of soldiers, captured the large road junction of Montefiascome, press despatches from Rome reported here yesterday.**

## Senate Cuts CIAA Funds $2,000,000

WASHINGTON, June 12.—The Senate Appropriations Committee today cut another $2,000,000 from the appropriation for 1944-45 operations of the Coordinator of Inter-American affairs. The Committee recommended a fund of $16,000,000, against the House-approved appropriation of $18,000,000 and CIAA requests for $19,174,000.

In dealing with the Office of War Information, the Committee provided an increase of $264,633 for operations of the domestic branch, for printing and publications.

## 'Lili Marlene' Set for Release by Universal

In the latest pooling of British Information Services films, Universal has received, and set for early release, "The True Story of Lili Marlene," 29-minute documentary built around the tune soldiers have been humming on their return from Italy and Africa following its "capture" from Rommel by the British Eighth Army. Others distributed in the pool, according to Thomas Baird, BIS director, are: "Naples Is a Battlefield," 11 minutes, to Columbia; "Minefield," 15 minutes, to Paramount; and "The Volunteer," 21 minutes, to RKO.

## "Thunder Rock" for U. S.

English Films reported here yesterday it has acquired distribution rights for the U. S. and will shortly release the British Charter production, "Thunder Rock," starring Michael Redgrave and Barbara Mullen (stars of "Jeannie") and made by the producer-director team of John and Roy Boulting. They also produced "Pastor Hall."

## 'Canteen' to Reopen

The Stage Door Canteen, sponsored by the American Theatre Wing, will reopen today following reconditioning.

## Rose to Leave for N. Y.

LONDON, June 12.—David Rose, British managing director for Paramount, will leave here shortly for New York.

## Broadcasters to Convene

CHICAGO, June 12.—National Association of Broadcasters will hold its annual convention here during the week of Aug. 28 at the Palmer House.

## Robinson, Toumanova Feted by RKO Here

RKO honored Tamara Toumanova and Casey Robinson, star and producer of "Days of Glory," at a reception at the Casino Russe here yesterday.

Among those who attended were Adrienne Ames, Ralph Austrian, Walter Branson, Leon J. Bamberger, Charles Boasberg, Ned E. Depinet, Major L. E. Thompson, S. Barret McCormick, Rutgers Neilson, Arthur Brilant, Terry Turner, Major Martini, U. S. Air Force, Ralph Doyle, John Hertz, Jr., Robert K. Hawkinson, Michael Hoffay, Phil Hodes, Nat Levy, Vladimir Lissim, Robert Mochrie, James Mulvey, Mike Poller, A. A. Schubart and Gordon E. Youngman.


# NEW YORK THEATRES

RADIO CITY MUSIC HALL
Showplace of the Nation Rockefeller Center
A Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer's Picture
"THE WHITE CLIFFS OF DOVER"
Starring IRENE DUNNE
with ALAN MARSHAL
SPECTACULAR STAGE PRESENTATION
First Mezzanine Seats Reserved. Circle 6-4600

LOEW'S STATE B'WAY & 45
ON SCREEN
RITA HAYWORTH
GENE KELLY
'COVER GIRL'
IN TECHNICOLOR!
IN PERSON
BORRAH MINEVITCH'S HARMONICA RASCALS
MARY RAYE
and NALDI

RKO PALACE B'WAY & 47th St.
"SHOW BUSINESS"
Eddie Cantor — George Murphy
Joan Davis — Nancy Kelly

PARAMOUNT'S
"GOING MY WAY"
with BING CROSBY
In Person
CHARLIE SPIVAK and His Orch.
PARAMOUNT Times Square

PARAMOUNT PRESENTS
GARY COOPER in
CECIL B. DEMILLE'S
"The Story of Dr. Wassell"
★ In Technicolor ★
RIVOLI B'way & 49th St.

"ROGER TOUHY GANGSTER!"
20th CENTURY-FOX PICTURE
AIR-CONDITIONED
BRANDT'S B'way & 46 St. GLOBE


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# No Immediate Tax Rise in Kentucky

FRANKFORT, Ky., June 12.—The general budget bill, including a 10 per cent additional state theatre tax, will not be considered during the special session of the General Assembly recently convened, it was learned late last night, when Governor Simeon Willis refused to expand the session, despite resolutions of party leaders in both the Senate and House asking that this be done. It was claimed earlier that the Governor was favorable to such action.

"The special session will be devoted entirely to the school-financing bill," Governor Willis declared, but indicated that the general budget would be taken up at a future session should an emergency arise to justify it.

# Monogram's First Production Ready

(*Continued from page* 1)

Ayes; "Alaska," with Kent Taylor, Margaret Lindsey, John Carradine, Dean Jagger and Nils Asther, and "I Married A Stranger" with Kim Hinter, Neil Hamilton and Jagger. To be screened as well is "The Girl Next Door," current season release, with Edmund Lowe, Marjorie Rembeau, Jean Parker and Dinehart.

W. Ray Johnston, Monogram president, will preside at the second day of the four-day meeting. Charles P. Skouras, president of National Theatres, is slated to deliver a welcoming address. Monogram executives who will talk in the afternoon include Harry H. Thomas, Eastern district manager; Edward Morey, supervisor of exchanges; Sol Francis, Midwest district manager; Lloyd L. Lind, head of the contract department; Arthur Greenblatt, special representative and, Steve Broidy, vice-president and general sales manager, who will review the remainder of the 1943-44 program.

**Closed Meeting Scheduled**

Franchise holders will hold a closed meeting in the evening while Broidy will conduct a meeting of home office sales executives and managers of company-owned exchanges.

Treasurer George Burrows today told the delegates, "The company's financial condition is stronger than at any time since its inception. This has been brought about by an increase in capital and retention of all earnings. To meet the increased financial requirements, the company arranged sale of approximately $252,000 additional stock and reset its revolving bank credit at a substantially higher figure. It is anticipated that in financing production for 1944-45 the company will use an aggregate in excess of $5,000,000 bank funds."

## *Bernard Levy Resigns*

HARTFORD, June 12.—Bernard Levy, manager of the Liberman Circuit in Connecticut and Massachusetts for the last eight years, has resigned to join Amalgamated Theatre, New Haven, in association with Louis Ginsberg.

Lieberman's Proven Pictures Theatre in Hartford has been leased to Al Dow for stage productions.

## *Balaban Cites Aid To the Liberated*

**Buffalo, June 12.—Barney Balaban, president of Paramount, while here from New York attending a convention of Famous Players-Canadian, in nearby Niagara Falls, Ont., declared American-made films are saving American lives and shortening the war.**

**"By sending carefully selected, up-to-the-minute Hollywood pictures in foreign languages to European countries as they are liberated, we are keeping a contented and understanding population at the backs of our advancing Army.**

**Balaban forecast that leaders of the industry have lost their "insularity" and will, in peace time, "retain the community consciousness they have developed through their participation in the war effort."**

## *Red Cross Registers 100% in 13 Areas*

(*Continued from page* 1)

chairman, stated yesterday. Latest theatre collections tabulated continue to average over $400 per house, close to double last year's collections.

A full report showing the part the industry played in the drive is being prepared by Harry Goldberg of Warners, national campaign manager.

The 13 100 per cent territories, with local exhibitor chairmen, are: Albany, Lou R. Golding; Chicago, John Balaban; Delaware, A. Joseph De Fiore; Detroit, Earl J. Hudson; Indianapolis, Marc Wolf; Milwaukee, Harold J. Fitzgerald; New Haven, I. J. Hoffman; Newark, Don Jacocks and Harry Lowenstein; Oklahoma City, L. C. Griffith; Philadelphia, Earle W. Sweigert; Portland, Ore., Albert Finke; Rhode Island, Ed Fay, and Washington, D. C., John J. Payette and Carter Barron. They worked in cooperation with Ned E. Depinet, national distributor chairman.

## *Lew Kelly, Actor, Is Buried on West Coast*

LOS ANGELES, June 12.—Funeral services were held today for Lew Kelly, actor, who died at the age of 65 Saturday night in Cedars of Lebanon Hospital. Surviving are his widow, Rita, and a daughter, Lewrita.

Some of the pictures in which Kelly appeared include "Barnum Was Right," "Diamond Jim," "Woman Racket," "The Overland Express," "Saga of Death Valley," "The Man on the Flying Trapeze," and others.

## *Mature in Spars Show*

ROCHESTER, N. Y., June 12.—Chief Boatswwain's Mate Victor Mature of the U. S. Coast Guard, formerly of Hollywood, and 60 Spars were feted at luncheon in Loew's Rochester Theater at the weekend by manager Lester Pollock. Here for a week's run of "Tars and Spars," Coast Guard musical being staged at Loew's in connection with a recruiting drive for Spars.

# Rodgers, Flynn at Milwaukee Meet

MILWAUKEE, June 12.—More than 200 theatre owners and trade and news press representatives today attended an M-G-M exhibitor luncheon at the Schroeder Hotel, where William F. Rodgers, M-G-M vice-president and general sales manager, was the principal speaker. John E. Flynn, Western sales manager; Sam Shirley, district manager, and G. J. Kemptgen, acting branch manager here, were on the dais.

On Friday, Rodgers spoke to 75 theatre owners in Detroit at an exhibitor luncheon at the Book Cadillac Hotel. Rodgers will return to Chicago tomorrow and tomorrow night will leave for the Coast for a week's visit at the M-G-M studio. On his return from the Coast he will stop over at Kansas City, St. Louis and Cleveland.

## *Momand Second Suit Dismissed by Judge*

(*Continued from page* 1)

mand is discouraged by the probable outcome of his $4,500,000 "old" suit against Griffith et al, was the subject of discussion here. In a hearing last week on Judge Broaddus' tentative findings of fact and conclusions of law, Momand's attorney, George S. Ryan of Boston, was unable to gain any concessions from Judge Broaddus. Apparently the opinion in that case will not net any return to Momand in proportion to the damages sought.

Jim Blakeney, another Momand attorney with headquarters here, said Momand's portion of the civil complaint might be consolidated with a suit he now has pending in Federal court in Massachusetts. Blakeney says Wineland may file a separate suit in Northern Oklahoma Federal court, Tulsa.

## *Frederick Griswold, Inventor, Is Dead*

PORT JEFFERSON, L. I., June 12.—Frederick C. Griswold, inventor of a film slicer and owner of the Port Jefferson Theatre died here late last week at his residence in his 67th year. He was born in Madison, Conn.

The slicer which the deceased invented 20 years ago and he was the exclusive manufacturer. At present the entire output now is being taken by the War and Navy Departments.

Surviving are his widow, the former Olive Oneker; a daughter, Mrs. Elizabeth W. Delf of San Fernando, Calif., and a son, Clifford L. Griswold of Port Jefferson.

## *Ampere Clearance Award Is Appealed*

Ampere, Ltd., operating the Ampere Theatre, East Orange, N. J., has filed an appeal from arbitrator Lionel S. Popkin's award rendered in favor of the plaintiff in its clearance complaint against the five consenting companies, the American Arbitration Association reported here at the weekend.

## *New Post for Kaufman*

Ben Kaufman will become managing editor of *Television* magazine, having resigned from *Radio Daily.*

# *Coast Flashes*

*Hollywood, June* 12.

THE SCREEN Writers Guild last night elected John Cromwell, president; Mervyn LeRoy, first-vice-president; Edward Dmytryk, second vice-president and Irving Pichel, secretary. Edward F. Cline was reelected treasurer. New board members reelected were: Tay Garnett, Rouben Mamoulian, William Seiter, Norman Taurog, and Charles Vidor. Board members reelected were: Clarence Brown, Victor Fleming, George Marshall, Lewis Milestone, Wesley Ruggles, and King Vidor.

•

Herbert Moulton has been moved up from associate producer to producer of M-G-M shorts by Jerry Bresler, general manager of the short subject production department.

•

"Copper Camp," written by the WPA Writers' Project, has been acquired by M-G-M and will be made with an all-star cast. "Flat Top" is another story buy.

•

James R. Grainger, Republic president, was in Dallas today following a series of conferences at the studio. He will stop off at New Orleans and other Southern cities en route to New York.

•

Jack L. Warner announced today that he has purchased "The Two Mrs. Carrolls," stage starring vehicle for Elisabeth Bergner. This is the fourth play bought by Warners recently.

•

Robert M. Gillham, Paramount director of advertising and publicity, arrived here today from the East. He will go to San Francisco on Thursday.

•

Lewis Milestone checked out of the Hollywood Hospital today after three weeks convalescing from a ruptured appendix.

•

Warners today added "Frontiersman," an original, to its 1944-45 schedule.

•

Producer Irving Starr's contract has been extended two years by 20th-Fox.

## *Rostron of RCA Dies*

HEWLETT, L. I., June 12.—John B. Rostron, vice-president and traffic manager of RCA Communications, Inc., RCA subsidiary, died today in his home 1530 Hewlett Avenue. He was 67 years old.

Surviving are his wife, Mrs. Anna Pentone Rostron; a son, Robert Rostron and four daughters; Mrs. Joseph E. Schneider, Mrs. W. Boyd, Mrs. Arthur Duehle and Mrs. G. H. Blattmachr. A funeral service will be held at 10 a. m. Friday in the Mesrole Funeral Home, Valley Stream, L. I.

## *Two More WB Reissues*

"Brother Rat" and "Polo Joe" are the two previously unnamed films in the six films which Warners will re-release on Thursday. The other four are: "Manpower," "They Made Me a Criminal," "The Walking Dead" and "Tiger Shark."

# Boys— Here's BASIC BOXOFFICE!

"A production of so many
merits the spectator is inclined
to rub his eyes in disbelief!"
—Los Angeles Daily News

"Here is dramatic meat
for those who want solid fare
offers fine entertainment!"
—Showmen's Trade Review

"A production so ne
flawless from every aspe
to merit rating as somethi
a masterpiece . . . it has dy
power and gripping suspe
—Hollywood Repor

"It's
the talk of
the industry!"
—Walter Winchell



ANGELUS PICTURES
presents

GEORGE SANDERS
and LINDA DARNEL


"An excellent film of exceptional dramatic portions . . . exhibitors will find this an unusual attraction!" —M. P. Daily
"One of the events of the year . . . a terrifically interesting experience!" —Los Angeles Times
"A strong woman's picture . . . class production for mass appeal!" —Daily Variety
in Anton Chekov's
"Summer Storm"
with ANNA LEE
HUGO HAAS • LORI LAHNER • JOHN ABBOTT • SIG RUMAN
JOHN PHILLIBER and EDWARD EVERETT HORTON
Produced by SEYMOUR NEBENZAL • Directed by DOUGLAS SIRK
IT'S FROM U-A

# Big $112,000 for 'White Cliffs' in 5th at Music Hall

(*Continued from page* 1)

mount before "Going My Way," was the first film to go 10 weeks at the theatre, and although the present film has not equalled the week-to-week pace set by "Lady in the Dark," grosses have been handsome. At the Roxy, "The Eve of St. Mark" and a stage bill featuring Barry Wood and Eddie Garr are headed for $68,000 for a second week with $55,000 recorded on the first five days ending Sunday night; the combination will continue.

The initial week of "The Story of Dr. Wassell' at the Rivoli, ending last night, brought close to $53,000, which is excellent. A moderate third week's $30,000 for "Make Your Own Bed," with Cab Calloway and his band on the stage, is expected by the Strand on the basis of a weekend business of $18,000; the bill will continue. "Mr. Skeffington" continues to register mild business at the Hollywood with $25,000 expected on the third week; it will continue.

### "Roger Touhy" Surprises

"Roger Touhy, Gangster" is rolling up surprising grosses at the Globe, with $24,000 expected on the second week after an initial week's take of almost $30,000; it, too, will continue. For its fifth week and an extra two days of a sixth week, "Show Business" at the Palace is expected to bring in about $20,000. RKO's "Days of Glory" will open there Friday. "Tender Comrade" will make way for M-G-M's "Two Girls and a Sailor" at the Capitol tomorrow after poor business. Sammy Kaye and his orchestra will head the "in person" show at the Capitol.

"See Here, Private Hargrove" will gross about $11,000 for its 11th week at the Astor. M-G-M's "Bathing Beauty" will follow but no date has been set. The pace of "It Happened Tomorrow" at the Gotham is satisfactory, with $7,500 expected for the third week; it will continue. The 10th reissue week of "Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs" at the Manhattan ended with a gross of $6,200. The film will remain until June 30 when "Fantasia" will take over as another revival. Business is profitable at the Rialto, with $11,000 expected for the first week of "Invisible Man's Revenge"; it will hold over.

## *First Invasion Reels Shown on Thursday*

(*Continued from page* 1)

the shots which were shown to correspondents attached to Supreme Headquarters of the Allied Expeditionary Force on Sunday night. They were taken from the air, automatically, as pilots of the American fighter aircraft dive-bombed, strafed and harrassed German trains, tanks, armored vehicles and military installations.

During the first five days of the invasion, military censorship authorities passed almost 106,000 feet of film showing invasion preparations, the invasion and actual battle scenes following the landings. In addition, some 25,000 still photographs passed through censorship, together with some 2,500,000 words of invasion copy.

# *Theatres Sell Millions in Bonds on Opening Day*

(*Continued from page* 1)

hibitor chairman, reported that Boston opened the drive by auctioning off the services of Mayor Maurice Tobin, his wife, and Veronica Lake to the largest Bond purchaser in Boston Common at noon yesterday. The auction sold $1,000,000 in bonds. The Mayor and his wife will be servants to Tom Pappas, who bought $100,000 in bonds. Pappas is giving a dinner today at the Mayor's residence. The Mayor will be the butler, his wife, the housekeeper and Veronica Lake, the maid.

Charles M. Thall, Northern California exhibitor chairman, reported a Bond premiere at the United Artists Theatre in Berkeley, Cal., with a 1,600 capacity, sold 115 percent.

The opening gun in San Francisco was at the 4,600-seat Fox Theatre, with a special show consisting of "The Story of Dr. Wassell" and a stage presentation backed by the 53rd Infantry band. There was a street parade at noon and a rally at Union Square.

### Minneapolis Over the Top

Minneapolis will be "the first territory to go over the top," Al Steffes, exhibitor state chairman, told national chairman R. J. O'Donnell by telephone. "It's much bigger than any War Loan, and everything is 'Buy War Bonds' out here," he said.

With 15,000 solicitors selling bonds from door to door, and all stores and banks pushing bond sales, theatres of the Twin Cities are holding their "fireworks" for the time being. All theatres are decorated and selling bonds.

In Washington, all theatres held rallies and some put on bond auctions, reported Sidney Lust, exhibitor chairman. Military bands and color guards were features, along with war heroes and prominent speakers. Bond pledges were taken from audiences.

The four-network kickoff broadcast from Texarkana, Tex., with President Roosevelt, Secretary Morgenthau and Hollywood personalities was piped into theatres in Washington, Denver, Minneapolis, New York, Chicago, Los Angeles, Dallas and many other cities. The majority of Texas theatres tuned in on the broadcast.

### Texas First Day Active

John Q. Adams, Texas exhibitor chairman, reported much first-day activity throughout the territory. In Corsicana, the Palace Theatre sold $50,000 in "E" bonds by noon. The Sunshine Theatre in Albuquerque, N. Mex., sold $51,000 in "E" bonds. Abilene, Tex., sold $800,000 in bonds at an Army show from Camp Barkley. Numerous Texas theatres held bond premieres last night.

Theatres in the New Orleans territory are also holding their heavy artillery until after the local War Finance Committee has completed its special events. Concentration at present is on retailers, with that group reporting $5,500,000 in bonds sold early the first day. There was much individual solicitation, and sales at theatres were brisk.

Jules J. Rubens, Illinois exhibitor chairman, reported the start of the drive in that state "bigger than ever before." In Denver, Harold E. Rice, state publicity chairman, reported unprecedented publicity. Rick Ricketson, exhibitor state chairman, aided in lining up a big week-long show of captured German materiel in the City Center. The display is tied in with the Army, Navy, Marine Corps, local industries, and theatres.

### Times Sq. Bond Register Dedication Today

Today at noon, the National Cash Register Co. will turn over to Charles C. Moskowitz of Loew's, general chairman of the New York War Activities Committee for the Fifth War Loan, the 40-foot high cash register in Times Square, for registering Bond sales. Strauss Corp. will complete the register today and the first "E" bond sales will be rung up at noon. Representatives of the city government, the War Finance Committee and the industry will take part in the ceremonies. A special program has been arranged by James Sauter, head of United Theatrical War activities.

Each day, at noon, traffic will be halted while the new sales figures are registered for the five boroughs of New York. Loud speakers will amplify the signal, and most of the city's 20 radio stations will carry it as a news event, daily during the campaign.

### 'U' Turns Allied Booths Over to 5th War Loan

Universal has turned over two of its three display booths for New Jersey Allied's convention at the Chelsea Hotel, Atlantic City, June 20-22, to the "Fighting Fifth" War Loan Committee for Fifth War Bond sales. The booths were made available to the committee by Maurice Bergman, Universal's Eastern advertising-publicity director.

Harry H. Lowenstein, president of Allied of New Jersey, who will be in charge of the convention, is exhibitor state chairman for the Fifth War Loan in Northern New Jersey.

### Chicago Starts Big In 5th Loan Drive

CHICAGO, June 12. — Industry's Fifth War Loan Drive got off to a big start today with most houses reporting a definite spurt in bond sales. Many neighborhood houses have made tie-ups with local merchants, who gave away free merchandise with the purchase of bonds.

State-Lake, Palace and Oriental theatres will join in a Loop bond premiere at the State-Lake on June 23. In addition to "The Story of Dr. Wassell," it will offer the stage show now at the Chicago Theatre with Harry Richman and Dave Apollon.

### Cinema Circuit $186,000

The New Amsterdam Theatre and Cinema Circuit Corp. "shot the gun" on the opening day of the drive by selling $186,000 in war bonds, according to James B. Zabin, general manager.

## *Lodge Sponsors LSM*

Cinema Lodge No. 1366, B'nai B'rith, sponsored a Navy landing craft (LSM) in ceremonies held yesterday at Pier 42, North River. Mrs. Annette Senft, wife of Cinema's president, Al Senft, represented the lodge.

# Clark Meets With Decree Counsel

(*Continued from page* 1)

Department of Justice still is seeking changes in several arbitration provisions, notably in Section 10, in the new provisions governing circuit expansion, and in cancellation phraseology. Decree companies, however, have evidenced no disposition to revise these provisions in any material respect, and, as reported in MOTION PICTURE DAILY May 18, feel that they have gone as far as they possibly can within the limitations of sound business procedure.

### Near Conclusion

It was apparent from comments made following yesterday's meeting that the discussions between company counsel and the Department of Justice have about reached their conclusion. It can safely be assumed that the proposals for a revised decree, unchanged materially from the draft of Jan. 20, will be in final and formal phraseology within the next few days. When delivered to the Department then, Clark will submit the draft to Attorney General Francis Biddle, with recommendations that they be either accepted or rejected. The Attorney General's decision then would determine the future procedure. If rejected, the Department presumably would have no alternative but to proceed with its pending anti-trust suit against the decree companies here, or to file a new action.

Wright returned to Washington yesterday. Clark will leave for Washington today after attending to other business on his agenda here.

# Scully Calls Nine Universal Meetings

(*Continued from page* 1)

held in San Francisco June 15-17, will be attended by Scully, who will preside over the meeting with Western sales manager A. J. O'Keefe and district manager Charles J. Feldman, and by the staffs of Seattle, Portland, Los Angeles, Denver and Salt Lake City.

### Dallas Meet June 15

The Southern sales meeting will be held at Dallas on June 15. F. J. A. McCarthy, Southern sales manager, and Peter Rosian, district sales manager, will preside. Dallas and Oklahoma City representatives will be included in this meeting. The Atlanta and the Cincinnati meetings will follow. Harry Graham, district sales manager for Atlantic, will also participate in the Atlanta meeting.

Cleveland and Pittsburgh offices will be represented at a meeting beginning June 19 at Cleveland to be conducted by Fred Meyers, Eastern sales manager, and David Miller, district manager. Meyers will also hold meetings in Boston with John Scully, district manager, and in Philadelphia with Salem Applegate, district manager. A meeting in Chicago will be attended by Minneapolis and Milwaukee branches and will be attended by district manager Manuel Gottlieb. In Kansas City the meeting will be presided over by O'Keefe and district manager Joseph Garrison.

E

5TH WAR LOAN

# Voice of VICTORY!




## Buy and Buy" War BONDS for "Bye and Bye!"

**12 MILLION FIGHTERS! 12 MILLION SEATS!**
**12 MILLION BONDS! A BOND FOR EVERY FIGHTER – IS A BOND FOR EVERY SEAT!**

*Join the Fighting 5th... Sell Invasion Bonds*

**5th WAR LOAN 5th**

**JUNE 12th – JULY 8th**

CONTRIBUTED BY NATIONAL SCREEN SERVICE

# Thank you, Mr. Goldwyn—

## FILM CLASSICS Inc.

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Mr. Samuel Goldwyn
Samuel Goldwyn Studios
Los Angeles, California

Dear Mr. Goldwyn:

May I take this opportunity on behalf of my associates and our franchise holders to thank you for your confidence in our organization.

We regard your selection of Film Classics to re-release your outstanding productions as a tribute to the progress we have made in creating our new national organization.

The entire industry as well as the motion picture going public have come to know that the name of "Samuel Goldwyn" is a mark of high quality in production. "Dead End", "Kid From Spain", "Barbary Coast", "Wuthering Heights", "Cowboy and the Lady", which will be among our first releases and all the other outstanding Goldwyn productions to come are truly "classics of the screen".

Again, thanks Mr. Goldwyn.

Cordially yours,

George A. Hirliman

George A. Hirliman
President
FILM CLASSICS, INC.

**FIRST RELEASE—JULY 15th**

# "DEAD END"

**SYLVIA SIDNEY · JOEL McCREA · HUMPHREY BOGART**

5th WAR LOAN DRIVE

# MOTION PICTURE DAILY

Join the Fighting Fifth!

VOL. 55. NO. 116 NEW YORK, U. S. A., WEDNESDAY, JUNE 14, 1944 TEN CENTS

## 47 Listed by Monogram, an Increase of 7

### *Johnston Discloses New Program Tomorrow*

LOS ANGELES, June 13.—Monogram will list 47 features on its 1944-45 program, W. Ray Johnston, president, will disclose tomorrow to delegates attending the company's 13th annual franchise-holders' convention at the Ambassador Hotel here. The company this season is committed to 40 features. Monogram is the third company to make known product totals for the new year. On June 5, MOTION PICTURE DAILY listed



W. Ray Johnston

(*Continued on page 7*)

## *Plan 31 More Tele. Outlets*

Thirty-one applications for commercial television stations and four for experimental stations are now pending RKO Television Corp. reported here at the weekend. At present there are only 14 licensed television stations and only nine are operating. There are 15 licensed relay stations with applications for two pending.

The licensed television stations now operating are all in New York, Philadelphia, Chicago, Los Angeles and Schenectady.

Television stations will be located

(*Continued on page 6*)

## *WMC Ruling Lines Up 'Lineman'*

WASHINGTON, June 13.—The War Manpower Commission's decree effective July 1, in which all unemployed persons must seek clearance for their services through Government agencies set up for the purpose, shook a vigorous stick today at the ranks of theatrical artists of all categories.

Night club singers will be referred

(*Continued on page 7*)

## 2,578 Bond Premieres For the 5th

Exhibitors have pledged 2,578 "Bond Premieres" and 443 children's bond shows in the first few hours of the industry's patriciation in the Fifth War Loan campaign, Robert J. O'Donnell, industry campaign chairman, disclosed here yesterday, following comparison of tabulations received here at headquarters by Ned E. Depinet, national distributor chairman.

**O'Donnell emphasized that the figures represent premieres actually booked and confirmed, adding that, at the request of the U. S. War Finance Committee, most of the premieres will be held later in the cam-**

(*Continued on page 6*)

## Siegel, Abbott and Herbert in Tie-up

HOLLYWOOD, June 13.—Sol Siegel has relinquished his Columbia producership to form a new company with George Abbott and F. Hugh Herbert, producer and author, respectively, of the Broadway comedy "Kiss and Tell," which they will film as the first of an unspecified number of pictures for Columbia release. The second will be an untitled Technicolor musical starring Rita Hayworth.

Siegel entrained for New York tonight to confer with his new asociates.

### *No Lifting of Price Ceiling in Canada*

**Toronto, June 13.—There is no indication of any relaxation of the Canadian wartime ceiling on theatre admissions, precluding the showing here of 20th-Fox's "The Song of Bernadette" and Paramount's "For Whom the Bell Tolls" before 1945 when the advanced admission requirements now prevailing in the U. S. for both pictures will be replaced by regular admissions for general release.**

## Alperson to Coast To Start UA Deal

Edward Alperson becomes a United Artists producer with his consummation of a deal pending for several weeks whereby he acquires the Edward Peskay-Salkay Corp. contract to produce six features for U.A. this year. Alperson will leave for Hollywood on Friday and will start actual shooting within four weeks.



E. L. Alperson

Alperson's first production will be "Sheppey Goes to Heaven," based on Somerset Maugham's "Sheppey," stage play, to be followed by an original musical. The scripts of both are

(*Continued on page 6*)

## Film Lawyers Weigh Final Decree Change

### *Fate of Decree May Be Decided in Few Days*

Counsel for the five consent decree companies met here yesterday to further discuss the suggestions made by Assistant U. S. Attorney General Tom C. Clark for a liberalization of their "final" proposals of Jan. 20, for a new decree, but no conclusions were reached.

The attorneys plan a further meeting today and expect to contact Clark later in the week but it is not expected that they will offer any major concesions on the cancellation, theatre expansion and arbitration provisions as they now stand. The present series of meetings started on Monday afternoon

(*Continued on page 6*)

## *First Invasion Shots Shown*

From the raw material of 4,300 feet of film passed by the London censors and shot by the U. S. Signal Corps, Army Air Forces, U. S. Navy, Coast Guard, Royal Canadian Naval Films Unit and the American newsreel pool, there has emerged a forceful, compelling picture of the first hours of the invasion that dwarfs in dramatic content the millions of words filed by newspaper correspondents. Yesterday

(*Continued on page 7*)

## *'IA' Local Insists Its Orders to Theatre Workers Precede Those of Owners*

**St. Louis, June 13.—Testimony in police court here that orders from the IATSE stagehands union supercede orders from theatre owners or managers has won dismissal for six members of the union here on charges of trespassing at the Shubert Theatre, a Fanchon and Marco first-run.**

**Frank Menetree, one of the union men, told the court that in accordance with a National War Labor Board ruling, the union assigned men to their jobs and dictated the duties to be performed.**

**James Arthur, official of Service Group Theatres, Fanchon and Marco subsidiary, filed the charges against the men on May 17 when they refused to leave the theatre. Arthur testified at the police court hearing that he had discharged two of the men, George Stevens and Eugene Popp, when they refused to refrain from turning on and off the theatre lights after each performance of the feature picture. The other union members were charged with trespassing when they refused to leave the theatre. They told the court they were acting for the union business agent, Elmer Moran, who had ordered the lights turned off and on after each show.**

## *1,000 Expected at UJA Fund Luncheon*

One thousand from the film and amusement industries in New York are expected to attend a fund-raising luncheon for the United Jewish Appeal at the Hotel Astor next Tuesday. B. S. Moss will preside.

Plans for the luncheon were set at special meeting held at the Hotel Astor here yesterday, at which the following attended: Barney Balaban, David Bernstein, Maurice Silverstone, B. S. Moss, Max Blackman, Harry Brandt, Arthur Israel, Jr., Harry Mandel, Irving H. Greenfield, Carter Blake, Emil Friedlander, Maxwell Gillis, Jesse Kaye, Samuel Machnovitch, Larry Morris, John Mannheimer, Abe Olman, Eugene Picker, Sam Rinzler, Jack Robbins, Ed Rugoff, David Weinstock and Max Wolff.

# Personal Mention

MAURICE BERGMAN, Universal Eastern advertising-publicity director, is expected back from the Coast on Monday.

•

JACK LEVEL, editor of RKO Radio's house organ, "Flash," will be away next week on vacation. ARTHUR BRILANT, RKO trade press contact, will edit the paper during his absence.

•

H. M. BESSEY, Altec Service vice-president, has returned from Cincinnati, where he conferred with WARREN CONNOR, Altec district manager, who is recovering from a long illness.

•

JOHNNY JONES, executive of the Jones, Linick and Schaefer Circuit, will return to Chicago July 4 from a two-week vaction in California.

•

SAMUEL H. STIEFEL, Philadelphia exhibitor, has returned from an extended visit to the West Coast and Hollywood.

•

PVT. HARVEY SCHWARTZ, former film auditor for the Warner circuit in Philadelphia, was married there last week to BEATRICE KLINE.

•

HARRY F. SHAW, Loew's New England zone manager, and LOU BROWN, New England publicity director, were recent visitors in Hartford, Conn.

•

HAROLD HUTCHINS, advertising director of the Hillman women's group magazines, returned yesterday from the Midwest.

•

LORRAINE OFFITTO of the 20th-Fox exploitation department, will be married Sunday to CPL. KENNETH B. HOWARD of Oceanside, I. I.

•

ED CLIFFORD, manager of the Roger Mahan circuit, Pennsylvania, is in Waterbury, Conn., on business.

## 'U' Executives Off To Field Meetings

LOS ANGELES, June 13.—Universal's key distribution executives, having concluded a week-long pre-seasonal sales meeting at the Ambassador Hotel here yesterday, will scatter tomorrow to their respective offices and to cities where imminent regional sales meetings will be held.

W. A. Scully, vice-president and general sales manager, and A. J. O'Keefe, Western sales manager, will leave for San Francisco, where one of the first of the regionals is scheduled for Thursday and Friday. Scully will return here on Friday to take the *Superchief* for New York. Maurice A. Bergman, "U's" Eastern advertising-publicity manager, will leave here for the East tomorrow.

## 25c Technicolor Dividend

The board of directors of Technicolor has declared a dividend of 25 cents per share, payable July 1, to stockholders of record on June 21.

# Insider's Outlook

By RED KANN

*Hollywood, June* 13

THE weather's been cloudy enough. Confirmed Southern Californians, whether by birth or adoption, have been grousing for weeks about the May-June climate. The weatherman in sweet accuracy's sake, had to report 27 foggy days in May.

Not terrestial and not celestial, however, is another kind of cloud and fog now enveloping a tidy number of distributors who, being distributors and not exhibitors as well, have to rely upon the Los Angeles-Hollywood circuit situation for playing time and living space.

■

The history of this probably is more peculiar to this territory than to any other in the United States. Paramount has namesake theatres in Los Angeles and Hollywood and can take care of itself. Warners is in the same position with namesake houses in both cities and the Wiltern geographically in between. RKO, Universal and Columbia play off many of their top attractions at the Hillstreet downtown and the Pantages, Hollywood. Metro and 20th-Fox enjoy Loew's State, Grauman's Chinese and the Uptown, with the Carthay Circle hooked on by Fox West Coast when it isn't playing extended runs.

■

But UA, Republic, Monogram and, occasionally, PRC had a time of it until last October. So did RKO, Universal and Columbia product for which the Hillstreet and Pantages could not find time. The booking lines were not always as rigid or as inflexible as this perforce brief summation indicates, but generally what it explains is how first run time is divided up.

It was to relieve this serious product jam, therefore, that Fox West Coast last Fall swelled its State-Chinese-Uptown-Carthay circuit by throwing open to first run time the Los Angeles downtown, the Egyptian in Hollywood and the Ritz.

■

A few days ago, however, Louis B. Mayer and Charles Skouras got themselves together on a deal which thus far puts those distributors who groused and grumbled prior to October where they were at that point on the calendar. The deal, covering the Los Angeles, Egyptian and Ritz, as of Tuesday next sets up "show case" windows for that portion of Metro's product which the company puts aside as super to its supers. For instance, "The White Cliffs" comes first, then "Gaslight," "An American Romance," "Dragon Seed," "Mrs. Parkington," "Thirty Seconds Over Tokyo" and others, depending upon how they turn out. The expectancy is that each one will average three to four weeks whereas other Metro releases, which don't make this grade, will continue to play the State-Chinese-Uptown-Carthay group.

■

What this will do is quite obvious. It will give Metro two sets of outlets and will answer that company's repeated contention that many of its topflighters have been moved in and then out of first runs before values have been extracted. Of course, other distributors assume the same attitude about their product, too. What this also does is to confront those who now find first run time closed to them with the question: "Where do we go now?"

The situation further complicates itself, however, in the light of Fox West Coast operations.

■

One of the reasons advanced as to why that dominant circuit has stuck pretty religiously to one-week stands regardless of attraction traces to its structure. Its tophole position in this area is widely known, of course. Some of its cities and towns play pictures seven days, first run. In Greater Los Angeles, all of its houses after first run change twice weekly and all of them run double features. The chain, therefore, requires an average of 208 films per theatre annually.

But concentrations of theatres in the same localities and zones also mean FWC houses which are competitive with each other need different product, the result being that 208 releases don't fill the quota either. Consequently, it seems logical and it is also hopefully anticipated that Skouras will undertake action of some kind on two grounds. One will be to placate distributors now out of first run time by dating their product elsewhere. The other will be to clear all sources of film on a schedule designed to keep the insatiable maw of his city subsequents and his out-of-town situations fully nourished.

# Coast Flashes

*Hollywood, June* 13

DIRECTOR Archie Mayo's contract, which had two years to run, has been amicably terminated at Mayo's request, 20th-Fox confirmed today.

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Jerry Wald will produce "Dark Eyes," New York stage play, for Warners. Lou F. Edelman will make "Wallflower," another Broadway play, as his first since returning to the studio.

•

Harriet Parsons, RKO Radio producer, will handle production on "Who Could Ask for Anything More?" comedy drama with music which will be based on the story by Kay Swift. Jack Gross will supervise.

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Jules White, who has produced 182 and directed 42 comedy shorts during 11 years at Columbia, has been signed to handle 14 more on the 1944-45 program.

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Warners has bought "The Frontiersman," original Thames Williamson gold rush story, and added it to Jesse L. Lasky's production schedule. Zachary Scott will play the lead.

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A. C. Artin, Paramount studio comptroller, has retired after 26 years in the post and will be succeeded by Morris Simpson.

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Under a change of plans, Benjamin Kalmenson, Warner's general sales-manager, will not arrive here from New York for several weeks.

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George L. Bagnall, United Artists' vice-president, will leave for New York on the *Superchief* Friday.

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Robert F. Sisk will produce "Hold High the Torch," which has been added to the M-G-M schedule.

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With "Double Furlough" now cutting, Lou Lusty will leave for Mexico City shortly on vacation.

•

Harry Warner has returned from an extended New York trip.

## Davis Is Named to Rank Directorate

LONDON, June 13.—John Davis, managing director of Odeon Circuit, has been named to the board of directors of Manorfield Investments, Ltd., the private trust company through which J. Arthur Rank's investments in the film industry are channeled and their control is exercised.

Other directors are: Rank, Mrs. L. E. Rank, Leslie Farrow, and G. I. Woodham-Smith.

## WE Dividend Declared

Directors of Western Electric declared a dividend of 50 cents on the common stock at a meeting held here yesterday, payable June 30 to stockholders of record June 23.

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## *Cromwell Heads Directors' Guild*

**Hollywood, June 13.—John Cromwell, director of "Since You Went Away," this season, and other important productions, will take over the presidency of the Screen Directors' Guild, following his election early this week. First and second vice-presidents, respectively, are Mervyn LeRoy and Edward Dmytryk. Irving Pichel was elected secretary and Edward F. Cline was reelected treasurer.**



John Cromwell

## *Columbia Managers In Special Meeting*

Today's morning session of Columbia's three-day sales meeting at the Warwick Hotel here will be devoted to a managers' meeting with the following attending: Mid-Eastern division manager Sam Galanty; Central division, Carl Shalit; New York, Nat Cohn and branch managers Joe Miller, I. H. Rogovin, Phil Fox, Tim O'Toole, Irving Wormser, Sol Trauner, Harry Weiner, Allen Moritz, Lester Zucker, A. H. Levy and Ben Caplon.

This will be followed by an individual meeting with delegates from the four exchanges under Sam Galanty's supervision: Cincinnati, Cleveland, Pittsburgh and Washington.

On Thursday (June 15) there will be individual meetings with the representatives of the following offices: Albany, Boston, Buffalo, New Haven, Philadelphia and New York.

## *Wallis Seeks 'Electra' As First Production*

HOLLYWOOD, June 13.—Hal Wallis has launched negotiations with the Theatre Guild for the film rights to Eugene O'Neill's trilogy, "Mourning Becomes Electra," the producer stated here today. If the deal goes through, he intends seeking Katharine Hepburn for the leading role. This may be Wallis' first for Paramount.

## *RKO's Exploiteers to Attend Sales Meet*

RKO Radio's field exploitation staff, headed by Terry Turner, will attend the company's 13th annual sales meeting, it has been announced by S. Barret McCormick, director of advertising and publicity. The meeting is scheduled to be held at the Waldorf-Astoria here July 24-26.

## *Berlin's Show in Rome*

Irving Berlin's "This Is the Army" left Naples for Rome, according to press dispatches reaching here yesterday from Italy. It will open tonight in the Italian capital with a new song dedicated to the infantry. Maj. Gen. Arthur Wilson, commander of the peninsula base section, ordered the cast to Rome because the Fifth Army offensive had advanced too far north of Naples.

# Equity Names Loeb As Cameron Quits

Philip Loeb, whose unsuccessful candidacy in the recent Actors Equity election resulted in charges of racial bias within the organization, yesterday was appointed an Equity councillor following the resignation of Donald Cameron. The latter had just been elected for a five-year term. Loeb will serve until the next election.

The Equity council also authorized the purchase of $25,000 of Fifth War Loan bonds by the organization and $15,000 by Chorus Equity, bringing their combined total of war bonds held to $240,000.

### Dulzell Re-Elected By Chorus Equity

Paul Dullzell was re-elected chairman of the executive committee of the Chorus Equity Association, it was announced today, following elections held here last Friday at the 25th annual meeting of the association.

Other officers elected included Gerald Moore, recording secretary, to serve one year; Xenia Bank, to serve for five years on Actors' Equity Council; Jean Cumming, Charles Dublin, Roger Gerry, Philip Gordon, Juanita Hall, Jean Woods and Miss Bank to serve three-year terms on the executive committee.

## *Wm. Jay, 52, 'U's British Head, Dies*

Universal reported here yesterday the sudden death in London of William Jay, Universal's special sales representative in Great Britain since 1938, being stationed in General Film Distributors' headquarters. News of Jay's passing on June 3 was not known by Universal in New York until this week, apparently because of delays in cable transmission.

Prior to Jay's post with Universal, he was for many years general sales manager of RKO in Great Britain. He was 52 years old and is survived by his wife, Mrs. Lilly Jay of Hove, England.

## *Samuel Rosen, 51, Dies in Phila.*

PHILADELPHIA, June 13.—Samuel Rosen, 51, died this morning in Mt. Sinai Hospital. The funeral will be held Thursday.

Rosen was local Monogram branch manager, having been with the exchange since it first started here. He was previously with First Division and RKO. David Rosen, his brother, is supervisor of Clark Film. Also surviving are his wife and two sons. One of his sons, Nauric, formerly a Monogram booker, is now with the armed forces in Italy.

## *Wm. Gell Named to PCA London Post*

HOLLYWOOD, June 13.—William Gell, well known British distributor representative, who is visiting in this country, has been named London representative by Producers Corporation of America.

## *Dindas Back at Strand*

George Dindas returned yesterday to his former post as manager of Warner's New York Strand, following an honorable discharge from the Army.

## *Studios Helped With Incendiary Bomb*

**Washington, June 13.—Hollywood studios played a part in the effectiveness of the world's most devastating incendiary bomb, now in use by U. S. Air Forces, it was revealed for the first time today.**

**After development for the chemical warfare service, Hollywood was called upon to determine the effect the bomb would have on German and Japanese buildings. Architects familiar with structures in enemy countries, duplicated them down to the detail of interior furnishings. Research departments of studios furnished the designs and specifications for furniture which was then made in American factories.**

## *Says Public Wants New Personalities*

The public wants new screen personalities rather than new screen faces, Casey Robinson, producer-writer whose "Days of Glory" for RKO marks the screen debuts of Tamara Toumanova and Gregory Peck, said in an interview here yesterday.

Robinson will produce under the International Pictures setup and plans two films a year. His first for International may be an adaptation of "The Little Green Hussar," by Molnar, which he owns. He also hopes to do a film based on the life of John Barrymore. Recently, he completed two screen adaptations for M-G-M: "Hoodlum Saint," which is being considered for Clark Gable's return to the screen, and "The Romance of Henry Menafee," which is to star Spencer Tracy.

## *300 Reservations for N. J. Allied Meeting*

Three hundred reservations are reported for the Allied of New Jersey convention at Hotel Chelsea, Atlantic City, June 20-22, E. Thornton Kelly, convention manager, disclosed here yesterday at a meeting of the arrangements committee.

At the convention's highlight banquet for founders and past presidents, the following will be honored: Joseph M. Seidler, Leon Rosenblatt, Lee Newbury, Pete Harrison, Sidney E. Samuelson, Irving Dollinger and George Gold.

## *Nine Theatres Spark 'Indiana' Premiere*

Nine theatres in Indiana, Ohio and West Virginia will spearhead the world premiere of 20th Century-Fox's color production, "Home in Indiana," today. Theatres include the Palace, Cincinnati; Keith's, Dayton; Kearse, Charleston; Smoot, Parkersburg; Washington, Fayette; Warner, Youngstown; Marion, Indiana; Indianapolis and Sipe, Kokomo, Ind.

## *Luncheon War Casualty*

HOLLYWOOD, June 13.—After issuing engraved invitations, M-G-M today cancelled its elaborate 20th anniversary luncheon scheduled for the studio June 21. War conditions were responsible.

# Para. Urges Holders To Approve Note Sale to Balaban

Improvements in Paramount's financial record aggregating more than $132,600,000 have been achieved since Barney Balaban became president of the company eight years ago, it is pointed out in a letter to the company's stockholders by Austin C. Keough, secretary, for the board of directors.



Barney Balaban

The letter sets forth the board's reasons for believing it to be "vitally necessary" that stockholders vote in favor of the proposed purchase by Balaban of a $2,000,000 convertible note from Paramount. It relates that he served as president of Paramount from 1936 to 1942 receiving compensation only under a contract with Balaban & Katz, Chicago, and since the expiration of that contract, he received "substantially less" from Paramount. "Compared to what is paid the heads of other companies similarly situated, his compensation is extremely low," the letter states.

### Could Leave Company

"Your directors know that the success or failure of Paramount depends to a large extent on having an able president," it continues. "They know that men of Balaban's proven ability are hard to find and hard to keep. They know that he could leave the company, build up his own business. . . . They know that his experience and leadership will be of greatest value in solving the vast post-war problems of the company."

It declares that the directors have been trying for several years past to furnish Balaban with "a strong incentive" to remain as president of the company "for many years to come," but that the granting of common stock options did not provide the answer. The letter points out that under the proposed sale of the convertible note, Balaban "would be tied to the company with a $2,000,000 investment on which he would make no profit unless your company's stock rose above the conversion price and unless he remained with the company long enough to exercise the options."

The proposal is scheduled to be acted upon by stockholders at their annual meeting here next Tuesday.

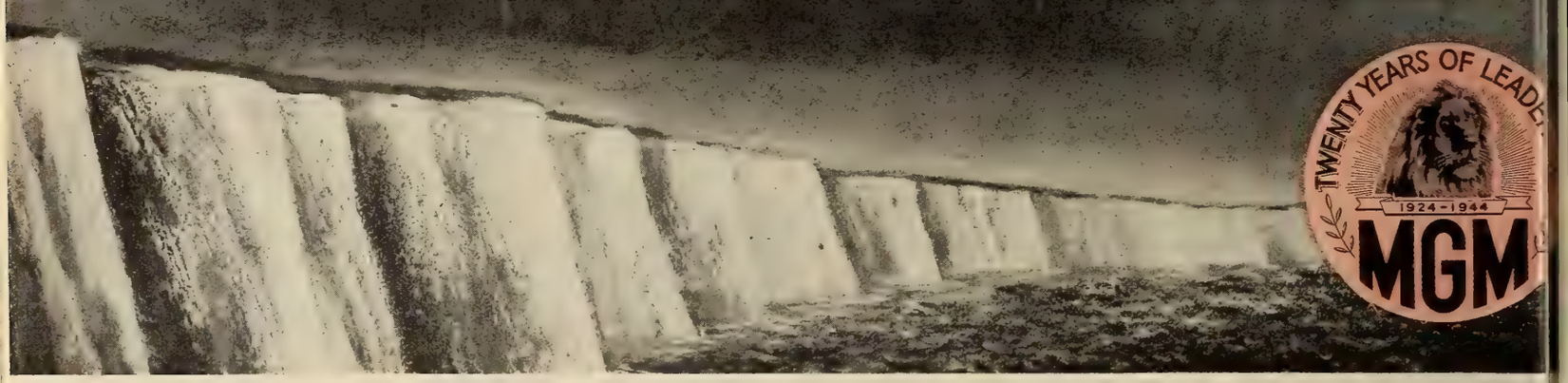
## *Film Carriers Get Two More Trucks*

WASHINGTON, June 13.—The War Production Board yesterday issued certificates making available two new trucks for the Film Carriers Association of New York, thereby partially alleviating the situation brought on by a breakdown of trucks used in film delivery.

H. M. Richey, M-G-M exhibitor contact, participated in discussions with the WPB officials with a view to securing new trucks to expedite film shipments in the New York area.

# Twenty Years of Hits from M·G·M and the greatest of them all is...

# The White Cliffs of Dover




## BIGGEST CAMPAIGN OF SCREEN ANNALS FOR M-G-M's "WHITE CLIFFS OF DOVER" IN A BRILLIANT BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION

(1) "White Cliffs of Dover" 24-sheets from Coast to Coast and Canada.

(2) Exclusive to M-G-M! Traveling posters for "White Cliffs" on 5000 American Express Trucks covering America.

(3) 100-line "White Cliffs" teaser ads in 129 key cities! Quarter-page ads in newspapers listing future M-G-M hits also.

(4) Full page "White Cliffs" ads in two colors in Life, Redbook, Cosmopolitan, Liberty, Look, Woman's Home Companion, McCall's, Good Housekeeping, Parents' Magazine and Canadian publications.

(5) "Lion's Roar" Anniversary Column in 26 national magazines features "White Cliffs of Dover."

(6) "Anniversary Salutes" on Key City Radio Programs of M-G-M's 52-week-a-year-airwaves activities keyed to local playdates.

(7) Anniversary Inaugural of M-G-M's network program "Screen Test" over 87 Mutual stations and WHN.

(Continued)

(Continued)

(8) Two-page, two-color "White Cliffs of Dover" spreads in fan magazines.

(9) M-G-M launches Anniversary Key City Radio Programs announcing that Leo the Lion will be on the air 52 weeks a year.

(10) At press time, close to 100% of the nation's theatres have booked the Lion to roar on their screens in a Feature, Short or Newsreel during M-G-M's Anniversary Week.

(11) M-G-M's "Picture of the Month" Anniversary column in National Magazines features "White Cliffs of Dover."

(12) Full page mat service on M-G-M's Anniversary serviced to 300 great American Newspapers.

(13) Deluxe Anniversary Pressbook with stills, free mats, stories by famed writers.

(14) "Study Guide" special M-G-M Anniversary Edition. For the first time, it will be sold on 40,000 American News Company stands.

(15) $1000 War Bond Promotion for Anniversary "Bathing Beauty" in National tieup with Swim-for-Health-Week.

(16) Giant studio ceremony to mark Twenty-Year Anniversary.

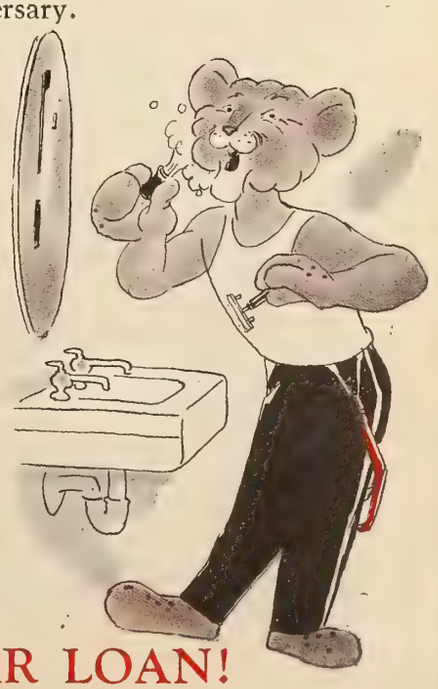
(17) "Romance of Celluloid" special short subject reviews exciting "Twenty-Year History of M-G-M.

(18) M-G-M's travelling "Show Builder" starts Anniversary Tour.

(19) Charles A. Midelburg, of Charleston, West Virginia, representing Twenty-Year Exhibitors, visits Studios.

(20) Redbook selects "The White Cliffs of Dover" as its "Picture of the Month." Modern Screen Magazine devotes entire August issue to M-G-M's Anniversary. Screen Guide and others go all out for M-G-M.

*"We're twenty and just a little shaver. Next year we'll be twenty-one!"*



# Studios Busy On 57 Films, Increase of 5

HOLLYWOOD, June 13.—During the week production rose to 57 in work, against 52 in the week preceding. Four films were completed, eight started, Warners resuming work on "Hollywood Canteen" after many weeks of inactivity. The production scene follows:

**Columbia**

*Started:* "The Return of the Durango Kid," with Charles Starrett, "Cowboy Eddie" Evans, The Jesters, Jean Stevens.

*Shooting:* "Stalk the Hunter," "Boston Blackie's Appointment with Death," "Death Walks Alone," "Meet Miss Bobby Socks," "Ever Since Venus," "Tonight and Every Night."

**M-G-M**

*Finished:* "Lost in a Harem," "Mrs. Parkington."

*Shooting:* "Airship Squadron 4," "Music for Millions," "Son of Lassie," "The Thin Man Goes Home," "Ziegfeld Follies," "The Picture of Dorian Gray," "Thirty Seconds Over Tokyo," "Secrets in the Dark" (suspended), "National Velvet."

**Monogram**

*Started:* "Fool's Gold," with Johnny Mack Brown, Raymond Hatton, Nan Halliday. "Muggs Meets a Deadline," with the East Side Kids, Leo Gorcey, Huntz Hall, Gabriel Dell, Billy Benedict and Buddy Gorman, Jimmy Strand, Ann Stirling.

*Finished:* "I Married a Stranger."

*Shooting:* "Marked Trails."

**PRC**

*Started:* "Swing Hostess," with Martha Tilton, Charles Collins, Iris Adrian, Betty Brodel, Cliff Nazarro, Harry Holman.

*Shooting:* "Bluebeard."

**Paramount**

*Shooting:* "Fear," "Here Comes the Waves," "Murder, He Says," "Two Years Before the Mast."

**RKO-Radio**

*Started:* "The Girl Rush," with Frances Langford, Wally Brown and Alan Carney, Vera Vague, Robert Mitchum.

*Shooting:* "The Master Race," "The Pumpkin Shell," "Farewell My Lovely," "Having Wonderful Crime," "Tall in the Saddle," "Heavenly Days," "The Woman in the Window" (International), "The Princess and the Pirate" (Goldwyn).

**Republic**

*Started:* "My Buddy," with Don Barry, Ruth Terry.

*Shooting:* "Brazil," "San Fernando Valley," "Cheyenne Wildcat," "Atlantic City."

**20th Century-Fox**

*Shooting:* "Thunderhead," "A Tree Grows in Brooklyn," "Laura," "Something for the Boys."

**United Artists**

*Shooting:* "Dark Waters" (Bogeaus), "Story of G. I. Joe" (Cowan), "Guest in the House" (Stromberg), "Double Furlough" (formerly "With All My Heart") (Vanguard).

**Universal**

*Started:* "Queen of the Nile," with Maria Montez, Jon Hall, Turhan Bey. "Riders of the Santa Fe," with Eddie Dew, Ray Whitley.

*Finished:* "San Diego, I Love You."

*Shooting:* "Be It Ever So Humble," "Bowery to Broadway."

**Warners**

*Shooting:* "Christmas in Connecticut," "Strangers in Our Midst," "Objective Burma," "Roughly Speaking," "The Conspirators," "Hollywood Canteen" (resumed).

# *2,578 'Bond Premieres' Set Already for the 5th*

(*Continued from page* 1)

**paign, when they will serve to give the drive added impetus.**

Following is the breakdown of "Bond Premieres" and children's premieres as reported by the distributor chairmen in the field:

Albany, 26 bond premieres, 4 children's premieres; Atlanta, 71 bond premieres; Boston, 141 bond premieres, 34 children's premieres; Buffalo, 5 and 18; Charlotte, 113 and 16; Chicago, 92 and 3; Cincinnati, 36 and 11; Cleveland, 15 and 5; Dallas, 359 and 16; Denver, 96 and 27; Des Moines, 120 and 5; Detroit, 16 and 5; Indianapolis, 7 and 5; Kansas City, 89; Los Angeles, 113 and 1.

Also: Memphis, 69 and 8; Milwaukee, 150 and 60; Minneapolis, 160 and 58; New Haven, 33 and 19; New Orleans, 41 and 4; New York, 82 and 1; New Jersey, 2.

Also: Oklahoma City, 20 and 4; Omaha, 42 and 8; Philadelphia, 311 and 1; Pittsburgh, 89 and 44; Portland, 2; St. Louis, 73 and 28; Salt Lake City, 58 and 13; San Francisco, 86; Seattle, 8 and 3; Washington, 52 and 42.

### Paramount Home Office Holds War Bond Rally

Barney Balaban, Adolph Zukor and the heads of the national motion picture industry Fifth War Loan committee were speakers at a special Paramount "Pep Club" war bond rally at the Paramount home office yesterday, called by Arthur Israel, Jr., chairman of Paramount's war bond committee, who presided.

Balaban said that five of the seven key positions on the industry's Fifth War Loan committee were held by Paramount men, including R. J. O'Donnell, John J. Friedl, R. M. Kennedy, Joe Kinsky and Claude Lee. O'Donnell spoke briefly at the meeting. Friedl introduced Major Allen V. Martini, veteran of 27 Flying Fortress missions over Europe, who said: "There's too much complacency, too much over-optimism in the U. S." Carrol Thurston, appearing in "The Story of Dr. Wassell," was present.

### 50,000 at Dedication Of Big Cash Register

Some 50,000 saw the industry's Fifth War Loan cash register dedicated yesterday in Times Square here at a ceremony presided over by national chairman Robert J. O'Donnell. Bond appeals were made by O'Donnell, Nevil Ford, chairman of the New York State War Finance Committee; Major Allen V. Martini, bomber hero; Edgar J. Nathan, Jr., president of the Borough of Manhattan, and James Sauter, chairman of united theatrical war activities.

The Astor Theatre manned the bond booths in the register and brought the total sales for New York State up to $19,500,000.

### *Hollywood Stars on Air for Bonds*

**Four transcribed programs made by Hollywood stars through the Hollywood Victory Committee will be broadcast over 800 independent radio stations during the Fifth War Loan, R. J. O'Donnell, national "Fighting Fifth" War Loan chairman, reports here.**

**Two programs have already been distributed—one produced by Arch Oboler and featuring Franchot Tone and Hans Conried, the other with Paul Lukas and Erich Von Stroheim and produced by William Robson. Fred MacMurray is scheduled for a second Oboler program.**

# Lawyers Weighing Decree Changes

(*Continued from page* 1)

after the lawyers had met with Assistant U. S. Attorney Generals Clark and Robert L. Wright.

As reported in MOTION PICTURE DAILY May 18, the companies feel that they have gone as far as they possibly can and that any further concessions of the theatre expansion and cancellation provisions are "economically unsound."

It is increasingly apparent that the discussions between company counsel and the Department of Justice have about reached their conclusion. Some informed industry quarters predict that the future of the decree may be settled, one way or the other, within the next few days, possibly by the time the next conference is held with Clark.

Meanwhile, it is reported in some quarters that the chances of an agreement being reached between the companies and the Department of Justice appear to be "rather slender" at this point. Predictions are that the companies will not concede anything approaching the demands made by exhibitors for decree changes and that, if the Department is insistent upon a decree vitally different from the Jan. 20 draft, no agreement will be possible.

Clark stated this week that he would send the distributors' formal proposals to the Attorney General, with recommendations, as soon as they are received.

# *Alperson to Coast To Start UA Deal*

(*Continued from page* 1)

understood to have been completed with contracts for production facilities to be signed when Alperson arrives on the Coast early next week. Filming will probably be at General Service Studios, Hollywood.

The original Peskay-U.A. contract which Alperson has acquired from the former provided for the delivery of six features this year, each one hour long. Alperson's arrangements, however, are said to eliminate specifications on length.

# *Hollywood*

By THALIA BELL

*Hollywood, June 1*

NOW that more and more discharged veterans of World War II are to be seen on the streets of Hollywood, rehabilitation of these men is coming in for attention from the studios. "When the Lights Go On Again," scheduled for early production at PRC, tells the story of a discharged Marine and the trials and troubles confronting him as he attempts to readjust himself to civilian life. Jimmy Lydon, whose name has for so long been synonymous with that of Henry Aldrich, plays his first serious, grown-up role in the film. Another picture dealing with the problem from quite a different angle is Republic's "My Buddy," now before the cameras. It relates the experiences of a returned veteran of World War I and the ending presents a strong plea for immediate action to forestall such tragedies as befell those men who were unable to take up their peacetime lives where war had interrupted them.

•

**Grace McDonald, who has finished her role in "See My Lawyer," Universal's next Olsen-Johnson comedy, is to star in the same studio's "My Lady Loves Music" with Bob Crosby, accompanied by his band, appearing opposite. . . . Producers William Pine and William Thomas have signed Nancy Kelly, last on the screen in RKO's "Show Business," for the feminine lead in "Double Exposure," the next picture they are to produce for Paramount. . . . Martha Tilton, whose swinging of popular ditties has been making kilocycle history, is to star in PRC's "Swing Hostess," which is a picture about just the kind of entertainer Miss Tilton is.**

# *Plan 31 More Tele. Outlets*

(*Continued from page* 1)

in 24 cities in 17 different states when pending applications are granted. Licensed experimental stations are located in New York, Cincinnati, West Lafayette, Ind., and Iowa City, Ia. Additional cities where experimental stations will be located include Albuquerque, Salt Lake City, South Charleston, Va., and Chicago. Additional cities where television stations will be located when applications are granted include Washington, Boston, Rochester, Pittsburgh, Cleveland, Spokane, San Francisco, Denver, Richmond, Va., New Orleans, Oklahoma City, Riverside, Calif. and Hartford.

Investment of approximately $100,000,000 within the next few years by Bell Telephone Co. in the construction of 6,000 to 7,000 miles of coaxial telephone cables, to transmit television images was indicated late last week by Edith S. McHugh, vice-president of American Telephone and Telegraph Co. It will make possible the linking of the above mentioned cities and others in television networks.

# First Invasion Shots Shown

(Continued from page 1)

News of the Day" screened for the rade and daily press for approxiately 10-and-one-half brief moments 50 feet compiled from the footage ade available to the five reels. All e newsreels were furnished with pies of identical material.

The transports and gliders with heir cargoes of fighting men; airorne and sea-borne troops; a feeling f the punitive power of 4,000 ships nd 11,000 planes that smashed at the Westwall are all depicted here.

The most telling shots are those herein an invasion barge loaded with Canadians nears the beach with he men huddling behind the slim rmor of the barge's sides. They file ne by one into the waters with full ear into a hail of bullets from the Nazi defenders. Many drop like straw dummies, but the rest push forward onto the beaches.

### General Brereton Shown

In the air, tracer bullets find their nark on German planes on the ground. General Brereton of the Ninth Air Force is shown in one sequence giving a crew a rabbit's foot. They needed it, for the Westwall exacted a toll before it was breached.

Generals Eisenhower, Bradley and Montgomery are shown on the pitching deck of a battleship planning further for the defeat of the Nazis. Other shots show German prisoners streaming in, and Allied wounded being transported back to England. The first precarious foothold is shown, with the troops digging in on the sandy beach before towering cliffs that had to be taken—and were.

Sgt. Dick Taylor of the U. S. Signal Corps was hit, but not before he captured some fine shots. John Brockhorst and Jack Leib of "News of the Day," together with other cameramen, contributed many fine shots. Footage will be incorporated in the regular issues of the five newsreels and will be shown starting tomorrow. Here is a rousing bond-seller for showmen. Quentin Reynolds did special commentary for "News of the Day."

Reynolds also handled the narration for M-G-M; Jackson Beck and Douglas Weist for Pathe; Bob Harris and Gregory Abbott for Paramount; Ed Herlihey for Universal and Ed Thorgenson for Fox. C. R.

# WMC Ruling Lines Up 'Lineman'

(Continued from page 1)

to jobs as telephone operators, while musicians will be translated into welders. Dancers will be classed as linemen.

"Job Family" lists will be made available to interviewers in all the employment offices, in which jobs will be classified by some characteristic similarity to the present employment of applicants. Thus, it was explained tonight by WMC officials, "Dancers might be referred to a number of essential jobs, including linemen which requires foot dexterity." Dishwashers employed in night clubs could be referred to a score or more jobs in essential industry, it was also said, and at a pinch could be employed in war-plant cafeterias as dish washers.


Paramount NEWS

AND NOTHING *BUT* THE NEWS



HEAVENLY MUSIC ON OPENING DAY--

**"AND THE ANGELS SING"** 20% BETTER IN HOUSTON; 27% SWEETER IN DES MOINES; MORE THAN TWICE AS GOOD IN WHEELING, W. VA., AND AHEAD OF THE CHORUS IN DALLAS, AS LAMOUR--MAC MURRAY--HUTTON SMASH BEATS OPENING DAY FIGURES FOR "MIRACLE OF MORGAN'S CREEK" IN SAME THEATRES, SAME CITIES.


# 47 Listed by Monogram, an Increase of 7

(Continued from page 1)

58 and two specials for Columbia, compared to 52 in the current season —both totals including Westerns. On June 12, Universal's 1944-45 program was listed at 55, two less than the 57 of the current year, and likewise including Westerns.

Johnston tomorrow will announce the following program for 1944-45 for Monogram:

### London's 'Alaska'

"Alaska," Jack London story produced by Linseley Parsons with Kent Taylor and Margaret Lindsay; "A Wave, a Wac and a Marine," produced by Edward Sherman of Biltmore Prod., with Elyse Knox, Anne Gillis and Salley Eilers; "The Secret Life of Goebbels," produced by W. R. Frank, with Sigrid Gurie, Donald Woods, Frank Morgan; "I Married a Stranger," King Brothers production featuring Dean Jagger and Kim Hunter; "They Shall Have Faith," infantile paralysis story produced by Jeffrey Bernerd with Gale Storm, Mary Boland and Johnny Mack Brown; and "Black Beauty," from the book of the same name, another Lindsley Parsons production.

Also: "Rhapsody On Ice," Scott Dunlap production, starring Belita; "Sunbonnet Sue," another Dunlap production, featuring Gus Edwards' music; "Little Devils," produced by Grant Withers; "John Dillinger, Killer," King Brothers production; "Bowery Boys," Sam Katzman-Jack Dietz film with the East Side Kids, who will appear in three more not yet titled; three Philip N. Krasne-James S. Burkett Charlie Chan productions starring Sidney Toler; two featuring the radio character, "The Shadow," to be produced by A. W. Hackel.

### More for Parsons

Also: "Army Wives," comedy-drama to be made by Lindsley Parsons; "G. I. Honeymoon," another Parsons film; three Billy Gilbert-Shemp Howard-Maxie Rosenbloom comedies to be produced by Katzman-Dietz; "Twenty-four Hours Leave," another from Katzman-Dietz, based on a *Saturday Evening Post* story; "Dollar Chasers," an A. W. Hackel production of an Earl Derr Biggers story; "Carry On," comedy from Biltmore Prod.; two Kitty O'Day detective-comedies featuring Jean Parker and Peter Cookson, produced by Parsons, whose commitments also include "Rhythm Ranch," a musical presenting 'N. T. G." and girls.

There will also be a series of eight Cisco Kid pictures, to be produced by Krasne-Burkett and eight starring Johnny Mack Brown and Raymond Hatton, to be supervised by Charles J. Bigelow.

# 'Hairy Ape' Overseas

Jules Levey, producer of United Artists' "The Hairy Ape" has donated 75 16mm prints of the film to the Army Overseas Motion Picture Service for exhibition in combat areas.




# JOIN THE FIGHTING FIFTH WAR LOAN

REPUBLIC PICTURES CORPORATION

5th WAR LOAN DRIVE

# MOTION PICTURE DAILY

Join the Fighting Fifth!

VOL. 55. NO. 117 NEW YORK, U. S. A., THURSDAY, JUNE 15, 1944 TEN CENTS

## Studios Seen Exempt from Hiring Order

### *Central Casting, Unions May Be Unaffected*

WASHINGTON, June 14.—Continuance of Hollywood studios' present policy of employing talent and labor through the Central Casting Bureau and union hiring halls was seen as probable today by War Manpower Commission officials here, but they said the actual arrangements will have to be made with the director of the California regional office.

Although responsibility for the

(*Continued on page* 11)

**Hollywood, June 14.—The new WMC ruling will not affect production employment processes in any way, Pat Casey, studio labor contact, told *Motion Picture Daily* today, pointing out that provision is made for continuance of special setups such as have been established in the production field. E. C. Rinehart, Regional WMC director, has called a Tuesday meeting to hear applications for exemption.**

## Stone on Coast to Start UA Program

HOLLYWOOD, June 14.—Producer-director Andrew L. Stone today went to work on a new $3,750,000 production program of three major pictures for release through United Artists during the next 18 months.

The first two will be "Miss America," technicolor musical displaying the beauty champions of the 48 states, and "Sensations of 1946," backed by acts from many fields of entertainment. The third will be taken from a best-seller novel or a Broadway play.

Stone has just returned from New

(*Continued on page* 11)

## *Floods in Nebraska Menacing Business*

OMAHA, June 14.—Flash floods, even more devastating to film business than those that struck two weeks ago, hit in Eastern Nebraska over this week, giving film distributors one of their biggest headaches in years.

West bound trains were halted and

(*Continued on page* 11)

## SOPEG Demand Set For New Pacts for 2,000 Film Workers

M-G-M, 20th Century-Fox, Paramount, RKO Radio and Columbia are expected to receive proposals for a new contract covering some 2,000 of their home office workers from the Screen Office and Professional Employes Guild, Local 109, CIO, this week. SOPEG contracts with the five companies will expire July 27.

SOPEG proposals for a new contract include demands for a closed shop; dues checkoff; three weeks' va-

(*Continued on page* 11)

## *$15,000,000 Mono. Quota*

LOS ANGELES, June 14.—Monogram will deliver 100 per cent of the 47 feature length films on its 1944-45 program and will do so far ahead of schedule, executive director Trem Carr told franchise holders in convention at the Ambassador Hotel today, following which Steve Broidy, vice-president and general sales manager, set a sales quota of $15,000,000 for the new season. Monogram's new season's product was detailed in MOTION PICTURE DAILY yesterday.



Steve Broidy

Predicating his assurance of delivery

(*Continued on page* 9)

# AGREE TO REVISE DECREE WORDING

### *Studio Unions Pledge Fealty*

**Hollywood, June 14.—Herbert K. Sorrell, president of Hollywood Conference of Studio Unions, has sent the following telegram to President Roosevelt:**

**"We, as Americans are proud to be among the peoples united for a free world. We renew our pledge to our government to carry on and render every aid that is humanly possible. We will refuse to stop work. We will contribute every dollar we can spare for the purchase of bonds. We will give our blood to save the lives of those men and women making the greatest of all contributions on the battlefields. We are behind you as our Commander-in-Chief."**

## *Para. Lawyers Honor Keough at Luncheon*

Members of the Paramount legal department tendered a testimonial birthday luncheon to Austin C. Keough, Paramount vice-president and general counsel, at the Hotel Astor here yesterday and presented him with several old and rare editions of British sporting prints. Mrs. Keough was present at the luncheon. Arrangements were handled by Charles Brouda.

Among those who attended were Henry Anderson, George A. Barry, Brouda, Clark Brown, J. L. Brown,

(*Continued on page* 11)

## *Companies Will Waive 'Showcase' Clause In the Final Draft*

By MILTON LIVINGSTON

In a final effort to meet Department of Justice suggestions for revision of the Jan. 20 draft of a new consent decree, counsel for the five decree companies met with presidents of the companies here yesterday, and certain alterations in phraseology of the draft will be made in order to clarify some of the provisions, but few alterations will be made in cancellation and theatre expansion clauses, it was learned. The companies agreed to forego the theatre "show case" provision of the new proposals governing circuit expansion.

**To Clark Next Week**

It is expected that the revised draft will be in the hands of Assistant U. S. Attorney General Tom C. Clark early next week for submission to Attorney General Francis Biddle. The decision as to whether there will be a new consent decree or whether the Department of Justice will prosecute its anti-trust suit against the five ma-

(*Continued on page* 9)

## Golden, Cagney On MPPDA Board

Edward A. Golden and William Cagney were elected members of the MPPDA board of directors at the quarterly meeting of the Association here yesterday, following the admission of Edward A. Golden Prod., Inc., and Cagney Prod. to membership in the Association.

The board of directors authorized the purchase of an undisclosed amount

(*Continued on page* 9)

## *Court Rules on Tax For Screen Rights*

The U. S. Circuit Court of Appeals here yesterday, in two opinions holding different views but reaching the same verdict, held that the money received by an author for film rights to a copyrighted work is ordinary income subject to personal income tax, and not capital gain, subject to lower tax rates.

The circuit court ruled that the tax

(*Continued on page* 11)

## *$50,625,000 Company Bond Buys; 4 Millions to RKO*

Leonard H. Goldenson, chairman for motion picture industry corporate subscriptions in the Fifth War Loan, reported yesterday that a total of $50,625,000 in bonds had been subscribed through his committee by film and allied corporations with headquarters in New York. Additional amounts are expected.

RKO has bought $4,000,000 in war bonds for the Fifth War Loan Drive, according to notification from Malcolm Kingsberg, company treasurer. The corporate buy includes RKO Theatres, RKO Radio Pictures and other RKO subsidiaries, but does not include purchases by the more than 7,000 RKO executives and employees.

In addition to subscriptions already announced by Goldenson, he revealed yesterday that Warner Bros., including theatre subsidiaries, which originally had pledged $4,000,000, has in-

(*Continued on page* 9)

# Personal Mention

EDWARD C. RAFTERY is expected from the Coast today.

•

JOHN J. GALVIN, manager of the Orpheum, Wilkes-Barre, Pa., has been named to head the war industries division of the Luzerne County Fifth War Loan Drive. JOHN COMERFORD, district manager of Comerford Theatres, is heading the theatre interests division.

•

A. H. BLANK of Tri-States Theatre Corp., Des Moines, and FRANK ROGERS of Florida State Theatres, Inc., Jacksonville, arrived here yesterday for three or four days of busines.

•

CHARLES BAILEY, JR., whose father is assistant to NORMAN H. MORAY, Warners short subjects sales manager, will report to Holy Cross College next month for Navy V-12 training.

•

MAX FINN, general manager of E. M. Loew's circuit in New England, visited Hartford, Conn., this week on business.

•

WALT DISNEY left for Hollywood yesterday with MRS. DISNEY following a two-week vacation here.

•

JAMES J. MURPHY, JR., assistant executive director of the motion picture arbitration system, is on vacation.

•

EDWIN F. ZABEL, National Theatres executive, is in New York from the Coast.

•

JAMES R. GRAINGER is expected back from the Coast at the weekend.

## Scribes See D-Day Uncensored Films

LONDON, June 14.—Selected war correspondents here were shown uncensored newsreel shots of the D-Day attack and Normandy beachhead scenes today. The footage comprises not only an exceptional historic record but also is a tribute to the newsreel cameramen who provided it. One camera caught another cameraman at the moment he was hit.

After censoring, the films will be released to theatres throughout the nation tomorrow on a scale expected to establish a new distribution record.

## Warner Home Office Workers Get Bonus

Mid-year bonus checks were distributed to Warner Bros. home office employes yesterday following the company's policy in previous years.

Employes receiving up to $50 a week received a week's salary and those receiving over $50 received a maximum of $50.

## Terrytoon Trip Friday

Paul Terry, president of Terrytoons, will entertain the trade press at a luncheon and trip through his cartoon studio, New Rochelle, N. Y., tomorrow.

## Clearance Complaint Filed; Two Appeal

A new clearance complaint has been filed in the New York tribunal and appeals filed in the Boston and Buffalo tribunals, the American Aribtration Association reported here yesterday.

East Islip Theatre, Inc., operating the East Islip Theatre, East Islip, N. Y., filed a clearance complaint yesterday against the five consenting companies, alleging that the seven days' clearance granted the Amityville, the Babylon, the Bayshore and Regent at Bayshore; the Sayville, and the Smithtown are unreasonable, with the exception of the seven days to the Bayshore, and should be eliminated. Further, complainant asks, that if some clearance of one or more of the theatres is reasonable, clearance be reduced to one day. Complainant further petitions that a ceiling be put on the waiting time between Bayshore and East Islip on product availability.

In the Buffalo tribunal, Basil Brothers appealed arbitrator Louis B. Dorr's award cutting the clearance of Schine's Granada over its Varsity from four to 10 days to five. In Boston, Arlington Theatres, an intervenor, appealed the clearance reduction granted E. M. Loew's Winchester Theatre, Winchester, Mass., by arbitrator Charles S. Bolster.

## Air Convention Tele. Films Within 12 Hrs.

Television set owners in the New York, Philadelphia and Schenectady areas are expected to see the films of the Republican National Convention in Chicago, which are to be made specially by RKO Television Corp., within 12 hours after they are taken rather than 24 hours as anticipated originally, according to C. L. Menser, NBC vice president in charge of programs.

Originally it was believed that 24 hours must elapse between the filming of convention activities and the telecasting of sequences over WNBT and other stations, but further study revealed that express planes and rapid processing will reduce the interval materially. On the June 26 program, WNBT will lead up to its on-the-spot coverage with a film, specially made for telecasting by RKO Television Corp., and presenting scenes from past conventions and relating incidents from the early careers of the presidential candidates.

## Baldridge a Candidate

WINCHESTER, Va., June 14.—The Winchester Board of Trade has nominated Tom Baldridge for president of the United States Junior Chamber of Commerce. The nominee since 1941 has been promotion and public contact representative for M-G-M. He is also serving as a dollar-a-year" man for the War Finance Committee of Virginia and in this capacity directs the theatre section participating in War Loan drives.

## Broadcasters Had 50% Income Rise

WASHINGTON, June 14.—Broadcasting stations of the United States received a service income of $46,481,397 in 1943, or more than 50 percent more than in 1942, the Federal Communications Commission reported here yesterday. The report was issued simultaneously with one by James L. Fly, FCC chairman, that tomorrow will mark one year of operation under FCC anti-monopoly regulations.

"NBC which in 1942 earned 137 percent on the value of its property, in 1943 earned a return, before income tax, of 190 percent," Fly said in his report. "CBS went up from a 97 percent return in 1942 to 158 percent in 1943. The Blue Network went up from eight percent to 149 percent."

## Bid for Goldwyn's British Film Rights

LONDON, June 14.—Two Cities Films is endeavoring to purchase from Samuel Goldwyn the world distribution rights, exclusive of Britain, South Africa and Australia, to its new production, "The Way Ahead," which Goldwyn holds. A first purchase offer was rejected by Goldwyn and a second has drawn no response from him as yet.

The film stars Lt. Col. David Niven who, under contract to Goldwyn, was released from military duties to make the film which was designed by the War Office as an aid to public morale and as Army propaganda. Under the terms by which Niven was loaned to Two Cities, Goldwyn acquired the distribution rights to the film despite Two Cities' protests. It is reported that British authorities once rejected a suggestion that Washington be asked to endeavor to influence Goldwyn to relinquish his distribution rights in view of Niven's military status.

## Loew's Offers Stern Sportcasts on WEAF

Loew's, Inc., has signed Bill Stern and his sportscasts for 52 weeks on a Monday through Friday basis on station WEAF, New York outlet of the National Broadcasting Co.

Stern is sports commentator for M-G-M's "News of the Day" newsreel and recently signed a new two-year contract.

## Ziemer Joins OWI

George Ziemer, author of "Education for Death," filmed as "Hitler's Children," has been appointed to the Office of War Information, with headquarters in London, where he will broadcast to the German people. Ziemer has been a news commentator on radio stations WLW and WSAI.

## Rank Is Reelected

LONDON, June 14.—J. Arthur Rank was reelected president of the British Film Producers Association at the organization's annual meeting here today. William Glenville Hall, M.P., was reelected vice-president.

# Coast Flashes

*Hollywood, June 14*

MAJOR CLARK GABLE, who has returned to civilian clothes, does not immediately plan to resume making films, according to M-G-M. Gable will be occupied until mid-July completing an air training film, a studio spokesman said.

•

Paramount has purchased "Double Trouble," an original by Ruth McKinney, author of "My Sister Eileen," and her husband, Richard Barstem. "Double Trouble" will be incorporated with Harry Tugend's story, "Cross My Heart," and the two will work with Tugend on a screenplay.

•

Gregory Ratoff, whose latest for 20th Century-Fox is "Irish Eyes Are Smiling," has been signed to a two-year producer-director-writer contract by the company. His next for the company, under the new pact, will be "Where Do We Go From Here?"

•

Sidney Buchman and Nate Spingold, Columbia executives, arrived here today from New York, the former to resume production duties, the latter to confer on release details of important features.

•

Olin Clark, M-G-M story head, arrived here today from New York for studio conferences.

•

Warners today assigned Jesse L. Lasky to produce "The Two Mrs. Carrolls" and "Don't Ever Leave Me."

•

H. J. Yates, Consolidated Film Industries' president, will leave for the East Tuesday.

## Army Booklet By Jock Lawrence

Col. Jock Lawrence, Army public relations officer attached to Headquarters, European Theatre of Operations, is the author of a booklet entitled "Know Your War Correspondent." Prepared for the field commanders of the European Theatre, U.S.A., the booklet discusses the status of the war correspondent.

Col. Lawrence before the war was in public relations work in Hollywood.

## Van Praag Manager For PRC in Chicago

CHICAGO, June 14.—Morton Van Praag, former general sales manager of Universal and sales manager of National Screen Service, has been appointed PRC branch manager here by Henri Elman, local franchise holder. Of late, Van Praag has been doing war work for the Government.

## Weill to Film Classics

Carol Weill, formerly with Republic Pictures and the Milton Rubin agency, has been appointed head of the Film Classics publicity department by president George Hirliman.

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# NEWS story:

**ERROL FLYNN IN 'UNCERTAIN GLORY' GETS TIMELIER**

**EVERY HOUR AS DARING FRENCH RESISTANCE MOUNTS!**

**FAST-THINKING SHOWMEN ARE GIVING THIS VERY BIG ANGLE**

**PLENTY OF ATTENTION IN THEIR CAMPAIGNS! ARE YOU?**

*The front page company!*

WARNERS
WARNERS
WARNERS
WARNERS!



ERROL FLYNN IN 'UNCERTAIN GLORY'

JACK L. WARNER with JEAN SULLIVAN • PAUL LUKAS • LUCILLE WATSON • Directed by RAOUL WALSH • Screen Play

# 63 Training Films Made by Air Force; 15 More in Work

Sixty-three training films have been completed by the First Motion Picture Unit of the Army Air Forces Motion Picture Services at Culver City, 23 subjects have been partially treated, 15 are in production, and a backlog of over 100 subjects waits production, according to a report released by the War Department.

The hundreds of thousands of feet of film exposed by AAF combat cameramen have served the dual task of training future air and ground replacements for the great aerial offensive swarming over Fortress Europe and of recording for the home front pictorial records of air combat.

**Public Sees Some**

The major portion of air combat footage has been reserved for military use, the report states, although the public, through the newsreels and special films like "The Memphis Belle," has seen much of it. Overseas footage is photographed by combat camera units attached to 10 of the 11 Air Forces stationed abroad. Lieut. Col. Ralph Jester, formerly with Paramount, is in charge. Training films are produced by the AAF First Motion Picture Unit at Culver City, Col. R. M. Jones, commanding, with Lieut. Col. Owen Crump, in charge of production.

The Air Forces film unit has expanded from a technical unit maintained at Wright Field, Dayton, O., to the production of training films. The old Vitagraph studios in Hollywood were acquired for this purpose in 1942 with Lieut. Col. William Keighley in charge. The unit then took over the Hal Roach studios.

**Recruits from Industry**

The Training and the Combat Units were recruited from the industry through the cooperation of the newsreels and the technicians' unions. These men, experts in their field, required only military training.

After combat footage is exposed it is dispatched to the First Army Air Forces Combat Film Detachment, New York, where writers, cutters, sound and music editors process and assemble the material. Major Bertram Teitlebaum is in charge here. In a year 750,000 feet pass through for processing, most of it 35mm. black and white, with a smaller amount of 16mm. both in color and black and white. Roughly half of the footage is actually combat material, the balance records ground operations. This is supplemented by technical reels, called AAF firm reports.

## Commons Sees RAF Training Film

LONDON, June 14.—The first important use to which the motion picture projector donated by J. Arthur Rank to the House of Commons will be put will be the private showing of "The RAF in Combined Operations," which depicts intensive RAF training for D-Day.

The film has not been shown publicly but a strong movement is afoot to have it released generally in view of intense public interest in invasion happenings.

# Reviews

## "The Black Parachute"

(*Columbia*)

*Hollywood, June 14*

COLUMBIA adds a timely chapter to the story of the accomplishments of the underground movement in occupied countries with this tense tale of spies and saboteurs. Jack Fier's production is a neat contrivance and Lew Lander's direction achieves a sense of mounting excitement. The cast deserves much credit and the performances of John Carradine as the Nazi general, Larry Parks as the young American, Jeanne Bates as the peasant girl, and Osa Massen as the Fascist sycophant are to be commended.

The screenplay is by Clarence Upson Young, and the story, by Paul Gangelin, concerns the efforts of a band of patriots in an occupied country to rescue their king, who has been taken into protective custody by the Nazis. With the aid of a young American who can think fast and shoot straight, the mission is accomplished and the Nazis are successfully outwitted.

Running time, 65 mins. "G."* Release date, May 4. THALIA BELL

## "The Pinto Bandit"

(*PRC*)

*Hollywood, June 14*

DAVE O'BRIEN, Jim Newill and Guy Wilkerson are teamed in this Alfred Stern production, which is not up to par in action and excitement. Newill's rendering of three songs adds a pleasant note.

Director Elmer Clifton wrote the original, which presents the trio as rangers in search of a mysterious bandit who rides a pinto horse. The heroine is Mady Lawrence, who brings considerable skill to her part of the postmistress whose mail riders are being killed off by the bandit. The rangers help her to solve her problems by exposing the group responsible for the killings. An exciting relay race brings the picture to a fast finish.

Running time, 55 minutes. "G."* T. B.

**"G" denotes general classification.*

## Five Ross Federal Field Men Promoted

Promotions of five Ross Federal Service representatives are reported by the company here. Scott Hillam, branch manager in Salt Lake City, has been named to an executive position at the home office. Kenneth A. Derby, former Seattle manager, succeeds Hillam in Utah.

Other advancements include the appointment of H. C. Keddy, Dallas service manager, to head the Indianapolis office, succeeding E. A. MacKenna. H. M. Ratcliff has taken over at Cincinnati and Walter C. Morey has been transferred to Los Angeles.

## Eastman Kodak Gets Third Star 'E' Award

ROCHESTER, N. Y., June 14.—Eastman Kodak Co. has been granted a third star for its Army-Navy 'E' pennants flying at Kodak Park, Camera Works, Hawk-Eye and Kodak Office, four local divisions of the company.

Bulk of Kodak's present production goes either directly to the Army or Navy or for use in other ways considered essential by the Government. A new downtown plant in the recently-acquired Duffy-Powers Building this week went into production of fire-control equipment for the Army.

## Marriott Moved to L.A.

LOS ANGELES, June 14.—William Marriott, Republic's Indianapolis branch manager, has been named manager of the company's branch here.

## Abraham Reelected By Mgrs. and Agents

Saul Abraham has been reelected president of the Theatrical Managers and Agents Union, it was announced this week. Others elected were Ben Boyar, vice president; Milton Weintraub, secretary and treasurer, and Oliver M. Sayler, business agent. Elected to the board of governors for a term of one year were Morris Jacobs, Herman Bernstein, Robert Milford and Frank L. Smith, representing the managers; Bernard Simon and Arthur J. Levy, for the New York press agents; Howard Herrick and Charles Mulligan, for the road press agents, and Nathan Parnes and William Mercur, for the Yiddish group.

## Medal for Joe E. Brown

Joe E. Brown, whose book, "Your Kids and Mine," describing his tour of over 10,000 miles to visit every battlefront in the world, will be published by Doubleday Doran Sept. 26, tonight will be awarded the Eisenhower Medal as the "1944 Father to All Men Overseas." The presentation will be made by Mayor Fletcher Bowron of Los Angeles on Brown's "Stop or Go" radio program.

## Moore Films to Museum

Colleen Moore has presented 15 of her starring pictures, including "Flaming Youth" to the Museum of Modern Art, where it will be added to the collection which includes films of William S. Hart, Douglas Fairbands, Harold Lloyd and Mary Pickford.

# Short Subject Reviews

## "Back Door to Tokyo"

(*March of Time*)

With a motley force of U. S.-trained Chinese troops and "G. I.'s" operating on a shoestring, General Joe Stilwell is smashing through the jungle separating India and China. Objective is to reopen the Burma Road, China's lifeline, which must be retaken before the large-scale landfighting, a necesary adjunct to the frontal attack now being undertaken against Japan by MacArthur and Nimitz, can be realized. In "Back Door to Tokyo," March of Time's latest release, the hardships attendant on hacking the way through the dual enemy of the jungle and the Japs, are vividly depicted. When this supply route is again secured, China's hard-pressed armies will once more have access to the modern equipment and supplies so sorely needed. MOT cameraman Victor Jurgens has supplied many exciting shots making this one on a par with the comprehensive, pictorial journalism which has become a MOT tradition.

Running time, 19 mins. Release date, June 16.

## 'Our Frontier in Italy'

(*Warners*)

A fitting subject following the capture of Rome. An American soldier, of Italian descent, fighting in the country of his fathers, recalls the Italy his family knew. Flashbacks are employed, and effectively, to show Italian cities and historic landmarks as they were prior to the Nazi invasion. The narrative, written by Saul Elkins, is a bit outdated now since it was written as the Allies were fighting their way into the interior of that portion of the country which they now hold. Running time, 20 mins.

## Legion Passes Four, Objects to One

The Legion of Decency this week rates Paramount's "And the Angels Sing" in Class B, because of "suggestive dialogue and song." Four others are held to be unobjectionable.

Approved by the Legion are: "Song of Nevada," Republic; "Candlelight in Algeria," 20th Century-Fox; "Follow the Leader," Monogram, and "Secret Command," Columbia.

## MGM Contest Starts

Yesterday marked the start of the first M-G-M annual novel award contest, to run until July 7, with a minimum prize of $125,000 and a possible maximum of $175,000.

Judges will be Harry Hansen, literary critic of the New York *World-Telegram*, Amy Lovemah, associate editor of *The Saturday Review of Literature* and Sidney Franklin, M-G-M producer.

## Traveltalk Deal Stays

M-G-M's series of FitzPatrick Traveltalks will not be affected by James A. Fitzpatrick's newly signed pact with Republic covering feature productions to be made in Latin America. According to M-G-M home office, the FitzPatrick short subjects will be continued under the existing contract which has four years to run.

# It's the top

LADY IN THE DARK
STAR SPANGLED RHYTHM
REAP THE WILD WIND



# The BIGGEST Grossing Picture (at popular prices) that Paramount has yet produced

# it's the top...

AT THE PARAMOUNT THEATRE IN NEW YORK – IT'S THE TOP! – SENSATIONAL BUSINESS OF FOURTH AND FIFTH WEEKS, EXCEEDING PREVIOUS RECORD-BREAKING "LADY IN THE DARK," EXTENDS BOOKING TO 10 WEEKS. WILL OUTGROSS ANY PICTURE THAT HAS EVER PLAYED THE HOUSE.

GO
WY

AT THE METROPOLITAN THEATRE IN BOSTON—IT'S THE TOP!—BIGGEST GROSSING BUSINESS TO EVER PLAY THE HOUSE... THIRD WEEK'S BUSINESS SO TERRIFIC IT GOES TO THE PARAMOUNT FENWAY FOR A LONG RUN.

AT THE PARAMOUNT THEATRE IN BROOKLYN—IT'S THE TOP!—SMASHES ALL PREVIOUS RECORDS SET BY "LADY IN THE DARK" OPENING DAY... SECOND WEEK SO COLOSSAL PICTURE IS BOOKED FOR AN INDEFINITE RUN.

AT THE PARAMOUNT THEATRE IN GLENS FALLS—IT'S THE TOP!—SMASHES ALL PREVIOUS RECORDS AND THAT GOES FOR ROAD SHOWS AND HOLIDAY PLAYING TIME.

# Wings Way

# BING CROSBY

"Having hit about as high in his profession as any average man would hope to hit . . . Bing gives the Best Show of His Career . . . in 'GOING MY WAY'"

*—Bosley Crowther, New York Times*

# LEO McCAREY

"There is never any mistaking the McCarey touch. He has made outstanding pictures in the past . . . *but this is one of his finest*"

*—Howard Barnes, N. Y. Herald Tribune*

# BARRY FITZGERALD

"His performance is one of the half dozen finer things seen in motion pictures as they complete their first fifty years" *—LIFE*

# RISË STEVENS

"Is lovely to look at and a delight to the ear"

*—Kate Comeron, Daily News*

They're off to the top

## "GOING MY WAY"

with **BING CROSBY**

**BARRY FITZGERALD** · Frank McHugh · James Brown
Jean Heather · Gene Lockhart · Porter Hall · Fortunio Bonanova

and **RISË STEVENS**

Famous Contralto of Metropolitan Opera Association

B. G. DeSYLVA, Executive Producer

Screen Play by Frank Butler and Frank Cavett

Produced and Directed by **LEO McCAREY**

# $15,000,000 Sales Goal Set by Mono.

(Continued from page 1)

upon the fact that "of the 26 features on our current production schedule, all but two have already been completed," Carr said, "within a short time we will be devoting our energies entirely to production for next year, and will thus have gained the extra time required for the making of the most ambitious program in the history of the company."

Broidy said of the sales quota, described as largest in company history, "It is my opinion that we should have no difficulty whatever in attaining this figure. Indeed, it should be substantially surpassed, due to two important factors which are plainly in evidence —the steady expansion in bookings which is now coming to Monogram as a result of the enhanced quality of its product, and our lineup for the season of 1944-45, not only as it exists on paper but also as demonstrated in top productions for next year which have already been completed and screened. It is only reasonable to assume that heightened quality, as reflected in increased production costs, will result in increased receipts for our new product, both to our customers and ourselves."

### Monogram Holders Will Vote on Bonus Today

HOLLYWOOD, June 14.—Monogram stockholders, meeting here tomorrow in a session that coincides with one for the company's franchise holders, will consider an executive employes' bonus, death benefit and stock option plan, plus extension to Feb. 28, 1950, of the contract of Steve Broidy, vice-president and general sales manager, whose present tenure runs until Dec. 2, 1948, at $20,800 per year.

The bonus plan, commencing with the year ending July 1, 1944, involves payment of 20 percent of the annual net profits over $200,000 to eight executives, allocated as follows: W. Ray Jonhston and Trem Carr, five percent each; Steve Broidy, three percent; George D. Burrows and Scott Dunlap, two percent each; and Edward Morey, Harry Thomas and Norton V. Ritchey, one percent each.

The stock option plan provides 12,500 shares each to Johnston and Carr; 10,000 to Broidy; 7,500 to Burrows; 5,000 to Dunlap; 2,500 to Ritchey; 2,000 to Sam Wolf; and 1,500 each to Thomas and Morey.

The death benefit plan, applicable to Johnston, Broidy and Carr, provides their survivors with $200 a week for the remainder of their respective contract periods.

## Golden, Cagney On MPPDA Board

(Continued from page 1)

of war bonds by the Association during the Fifth War Loan Drive, adding to its holdings of these bonds. A general discussion of foreign market conditions occupied the meeting also, it was stated.

In attendance at the meeting were: Barney Balaban, George Borthwick, Jack Cohn, Earle Hammons, Will Hays, Carl Milliken, N. Peter Rathvon, Nicholas M. Schenck, Spyros Skouras, Albert Warner and John J. O'Connor.

# $50,625,000 Company Bond Buys; 4 Millions to RKO

(Continued from page 1)

creased its subscription to $5,000,000. Additional amounts announced include: Prudential and Playhouses Operating Co., $50,000; Fabian Theatres, $65,000; Skouras Theatres, $100,000; Randforce Amusement Corp $250,000.

Previously reported New York film corporate bond purchases for the Fifth War Loan follows: Paramount Pictures and theatre partners, $15,000,000; 20th Century-Fox and National Theatres, $11,000,000; Loew's and affiliates, $10,000,000; Universal, $3,500,000; United Artists, $500,000; National Screen, Republic, United Artists Theatres, $200,000 each; J. J. (N. Y.) Theatres, Skouras Theatres, United Artists, $100,000 each; Telenews Theatres, TransLux Theatres, each $75,000; Shea Enterprises, $60,000.

### First 3 Days' Reports Indicate Big Sales

The industry's "Fighting Fifth" War Loan campaign is gaining momentum throughout the country, in large and small situations alike, third-day reports to national chairman R. J. O'Donnell offering an indication that the landslide with which the theatres' drive started on Monday is rising in volume.

Incomplete reports on bond premieres held in theatres the first two days are evidence that the public is responding as never before to the theatres' slogan: "Join the Fighting Fifth!" and "Provide More Power for Eisenhower!"

Typical of the reports received by O'Donnell yesterday was a telegram from Charles M. Thall, Northern California general chairman.

San Francisco's theatre drive got off to a flying start, Thall reported, citing the following figures for Monday night's Bond premieres: Fox Theatre, San Francisco, 5,200 Bonds against 4,600-seat capacity, $600,000; T & D Enterprises, Oakland, 3,500 Bonds, 2,800-seat capacity, $515,000; California Theatre, San Jose, 2,300 Bonds, 1,700-seat capacity, $162,000; United Artists Theatre, Berkeley, 2,050 Bonds, 1,640-seat capacity, $200,500; Esquire Theatre, Sacramento, 1,250 Bonds, 993-seat capacity, $115,000.

Thall also stated in his wire that "our goal of 225 bond premieres in Northern California against 183 in the Fourth War Loan is a cinch. We are trying to get 250." Fully 250 theatres are guaranteed to stage Free Movie Day on July 6, and pledges are coming in fast for Junior Matinees, with a minimum of 300 as the goal.

### Lust Appoints District Of Columbia Aides

WASHINGTON, June 14. — Sidney Lust, exhibitor state chairman for the "Fighting Fifth" War Loan in this area, has announced his committee, as follows: John J. Payette and Carter T. Barron, co-chairmen; Joseph B. Brecheen, exchange chairman, War Activities Committee; Frank La Falce, area publicity chairman; John Allen, exchange chairman, and Nat B. Browne, WAC secretary.

The planning committee consists of Harry Anger, Harry Bachman, Graham Barbee, Nelson Bell, Louis Bernheimer, A. Julian Brylawski, Jay Carmody, Walter Cersley, George Crouch, Gene Ford, E. F. Harloff, William Hoyle, Andrew Kelley, Fred Kogod, Hugh Lynch, John Maynard, Fred McMillan, Hardie Meakin, E. N. Read, John Reilly, Roland Robbins, Alexander Sherman, Lawrence Snoots, Frank Storty, A. M. Tolkins, Lloyd Wineland, Charles Zurhost, George Shepp and members of the WAC staff.

### Banks Asked to Aid Theatres on Bonds

**The U. S. Treasury is asking the banks of the country to cooperate with small-town exhibitors with the aim of greatly increasing the number of Fifth War Bond issuing sub-agencies, John J. Friedl, "Fighting Fifth" War Loan campaign director, reveals in a report to all exhibitor bond state chairmen.**

**It was pointed out that while theatres make up only 10 per cent of the total of 60,000 official Treasury Bond issuing agents, they are responsible for 20 per cent of bond sales.**

### Illinois Allied to Figure Bond Sales

CHICAGO, June 14.—Allied Theatres of Illinois will again compile weekly bond sale totals for the Fifth War Loan drive, "in order to stimulate greater results," Joe Abramson, head of Allied's bond staff, disclosed here recently. Returns will be computed by means of weekly questionnaires to be mailed to the association's 135 members in this territory.

Allied, which sold close to $1,000,000 in bonds during the Fourth War Loan campaign, will act as bond issuing agent for any theatre not issuing its own bonds.

### Free Trailers Ready For 'Bond Premieres'

George Dembow, general sales manager of National Screen, has advised the industry's Fifth War Loan Committee that National is ready to release the regular advance trailer on any films which exhibitors will feature for "Bond Premiere." The trailer is offered gratis.

Dembow suggests that as a bond picture is booked the exhibitor notify his nearest National Screen office and the trailer will be sent automatically without charge.

## Altec Signs Bartelstein

Altec has signed a contract for sound service with the Bartelstein Circuit in Chicago and Cicero, Ill. R. Hilton, Altec's Chicago district manager, negotiated the agreement.

## 'Romance' Showings Set

M-G-M will trade show "An American Romance" in all exchange centers June 26, with mornings and afternoon runnings in Boston, New York and St. Louis.

# Will Revise Decree, Drop 'Showcases'

(Continued from page 1)

jor companies or institute a new one, will then be made. The decree companies are understood to be unanimous in the view that most concessions sought by the Department would be economically unsound for the conduct of their business were they granted.

Discussion at the meeting held yesterday at which the decree counsel informed company presidents of their decisions, centered around a suggestion by the Department that the clauses of Section 10 be rewritten to enable any person building a theatre to secure films with run and clearance provisions commensurate with the type of theatre constructed. The feeling among the companies is that in no other industry does a situation exist where a person desirous of entering a business is aided in doing so by his future competitors. The consent decree companies have refused to incorporate this provision in Section 10 on the ground that it would be against sound business practice.

### Recent Suggestions

Recent suggestions by the Department included requests for liberalization of the cancellation and restriction of circuit expansion provisions. A request also was made, it was learned, that the companies sell one film at a time. The suggestions which have been forwarded to the companies by Clark came from the Department and exhibitor organizations, but beyond altering phraseology, the companies are understood to have refused to make any further major concessions.

### Clark Awaits Word From Attorneys

WASHINGTON, June 14.—Exact date for the next meeting between Assistant Attorney General Tom C. Clark and the distributors was in doubt today because of the possibility that Clark might have to go out of town. It was indicated, however, that in that event the meeting would probably take place next Monday or Tuesday, the details to be settled by a telephone talk with Joseph Hazen which Clark planned to make some time tonight.

The reason for the failure to get anywhere at the meeting last Monday in New York was the raising of points on which the company lawyers had to go back to their principals. Those points have been under consideration since the meeting, and Clark today expected that he might hear from the companies tomorrow.

### Same Points at Issue

The major points at issue continue to be cancellations and arbitration, Clark said. The companies have indicated a willingness to surrender the "show case" provision, and there are several minor points on which it is believed an agreement can readily be reached. The fate of the negotiations, he said, is in the hands of the companies and what course they will take will depend upon the distributors' position on the few points still unsettled. However, he indicated, there is a very good chance that a decree agreement will be reached, and no thought is being given to any other eventuality.

## 'Two Girls' Captures Robust $18,000

ST. LOUIS, June 14.—At St. Louis theatres this week "Two Girls and a Sailor" at Loew's State is leading the way with $18,000.

Estimated receipts for the week ending June 14:

**"And the Angels Sing" (Para.)**
**"Henry Aldrich Plays Cupid" (Para.)**
AMBASSADOR—(3,154) (40c-50c-60c) 7 days. Gross: $17,500. (Average: $15,700).
**"The Cowboy and the Senorita" (Rep.)**
**"Jam Session" (Col.)**
MISSOURI—(3,514) (40c-50c-60c) 7 days. Gross: $8,500. (Average: $9,900).
**"Two Girls and a Sailor" (M-G-M)**
**"The Black Parachute" (Col.)**
LOEW'S STATE—(3,162) (40c-50c-60c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $18,000. (Average: $18,900).
**"Pin Up Girl" (20th-Fox)**
**"Bermuda Mystery" (20th-Fox)**
FOX—(5,038) (40c-50c-60c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $17,000. (Average: $18,700).
**"Gaslight" (M-G-M)**
LOEW'S ORPHEUM—(1,900) (40c-50c-60c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $6,500. (Average: $7,100).
**"Lady in the Dark" (Para.)**
SHUBERT—(1,900) (40c-50c-60c) 7 days. Gross: $6,800. (Average: $6,100).
**"Nothing Sacred" (UA)**
**"Young in Heart" (UA)**
ST. LOUIS—(4,000) (45c-50c) 7 days. Gross: $5,300. (Average: $5,200).

## Emperor Cites Actor

Haile Selassie, Emperor of Ethiopia, has issued an award of appreciation to Leigh Whipper for his portrayal of the monarch in the Warner Bros. production of "Mission to Moscow."

Citation was received yesterday at the State Department in Washington for transmission to the actor.

# Review

## *"Song of Nevada"*

*(Republic)*

"SONG OF NEVADA" is an outstanding Roy Rogers contribution by virtue of a story that progresses logically and which offers some catchy Western and novelty tunes and strong support by Thurston Hall, Lloyd Corrigan, Dale Evans and Mary Lee. For once, Rogers' horse, Trigger, has been crowded out.

In Gordon Kahn and Olive Coopers' screenplay, Hall, an elderly rancher returning to his native Nevada after leaving his daughter, Dale Evans, in the East, is thought to be dead after the plane in which he was a passenger crashes. Miss Evans and her fiance, John Eldredge, proceed West to sell the family ranch. Rogers is persuaded by Hall to try to break up the romance. A thrilling stagecoach race, some nice singing by Bob Nolan and the Sons of the Pioneers and comedy relief by Lloyd Corrigan and Mary Lee, are interspersed without detracting from the story, which is concluded in the traditional expose of the villains and Miss Evans' resolution to remain in the West. Harry Grey was associate producer and Joseph Kane directed.

Running time, 75 mins. "G."* Release date, Aug. 5.

CHARLES RYWECK

**"G" denotes general classification.*

## *Exhibitors in Golf Meet*

BALTIMORE, June 14.—Invitations have been accepted by Philadelphia and Washington exhibitors to attend the annual golf tournament of the Variety Club, Baltimore Tent, No. 19, at Woodholme Country Club, on June 23. The outing will end with a dinner and dance in the evening. Rodney Collier is chairman of a committee which includes Frank Durkee, Nick Weems and Sam Diamond.

## *$20,000 for 'Girls' in Providence Run*

PROVIDENCE, June 14.—Grosses have jumped back into the higher brackets, with "Two Girls and a Sailor," grossing $20,000 at Loew's State, and "Show Business" taking $17,500 at the RKO-Albee leading.

Estimated receipts for the week ending June 15:

**"Show Business" (RKO)**
**"Action in Arabia" (RKO)**
RKO-ALBEE—(2,239) (35c-44c-55c) 7 days. Gross: $17,500. (Average: $12,800).
**"Hour Before the Dawn" (Para.)**
**"Timber Queen" (Para.)**
STRAND—(2,200) (44c-55c) 7 days. Gross: $10,800. (Average: $10,500).
**"Two Girls and a Sailor" (M-G-M)**
**"Black Parachute" (Col.)**
LOEW'S STATE—(3,232) (35c-44c-55c) 7 days. Gross: $20,000. (Average: $17,700).
**"The Eve of St. Mark" (20th-Fox)**
**"Ladies of Washington" (20th-Fox)**
MAJESTIC—(2,250) (35c-44c-55c) 7 days. Gross: $12,000. (Average: $12,100).
**"Pin-Up Girl" (20th-Fox)**
**"Tampico" (20th-Fox)**
FAY'S—(1,800) (35c-44c-55c) 7 days, 3rd week, moved over after two weeks at Majestic). Gross: $5,000. (Average: $6,500).
**"Meet the People" (M-G-M)**
**"Crime Doctor's Strangest Case" (Col.)**
CARLTON—(1,526) (35c-44c-55c) 7 days, 2nd week, moved over from Loew's State. Gross: $3,500. (Average: $4,000).
**"Return of the Ape-Man" (Mono.)**
METROPOLITAN—(3,050) (50c-60c-70c) 3 days. On stage: Frankie Carle and orchestra. Gross: $10,800. (Average: $7,900).

## *'Mark' Hits $19,000 Mark in Buffalo*

BUFFALO, June 14.—"The Eve of St. Mark" looks like a good $19,100 at the Buffalo, coupled with "Ladies of Washington."

Estimated receipts for the week ending June 17:

**"The Eve of St. Mark" (20th-Fox)**
**"Ladies of Washington" (20th-Fox)**
BUFFALO—(3,489) (40c-50c-60c-70c) 7 days. Gross: $19,100. (Average: $17,400).
**"Pin Up Girl" (20th-Fox)**
**"The Chinese Cat" (Mono.)**
GREAT LAKES—(3,000) (40c-50c-60c-70c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $12,000. (Average: $16,600).
**"Buffalo Bill" (20th-Fox)**
**"Henry Aldrich Plays Cupid" (Para.)**
HIPPODROME—(2,100) (40c-50c-60c-70c) 7 days, 2nd week moveover. Gross: $7,000. (Average: $9,700).
**"Show Business" (RKO) (2nd week)**
**"Coastal Command" (RKO)**
TWENTIETH CENTURY—(3,000) (40c-50c-60c-70c) 7 days. Gross: $9,000. (Average: $12,200).
**"Ladies Courageous" (Univ.)**
**"Swingtime Johnny" (Univ.)**
LAFAYETTE—(3,000) (40c-50c-60c-70c) 7 days. Gross: $14,000. (Average: $12,400).

## 'Arms' Presented With a Fine $26,500 in Phila.

PHILADELPHIA, June 14. — Good business despite the Ringling Brothers Circus went to "Up in Arms" at the Mastbaum, with $26,500 for the opening week. The Stanley, with "And the Angels Sing," points to $18,800, with an additional $2,800 already in for the dual Sunday showing at the Earle.

Estimated receipts for the week ending June 14-16:

**"Meet the People" (M-G-M)**
ALDINE—(900) (40c-45c-50c-65c-75c-85c) 7 days. Gross: $7,000. (Average: $14,600).
**"Standing Room Only" (Para.)**
ARCADIA—(600) (40c-45c-50c-65c-75c) 7 days, 2nd run. Gross: $7,200. (Average: $4,000).
**"Lady in the Dark" (Para.)**
BOYD—(3,000) (40c-45c-50c-65c-75c-85c) 7 days, 3rd week. Gross: $15,500. (Average: $18,000).
**"This Is the Life" (Univ.) (6 days)**
**"And the Angels Sing" (Para.) (1 day)**
EARLE—(3,000) (50c-65c-85c-95c) 6 days of vaudeville, including Enric Madriguera's orchestra. Bert Wheeler, Bea Wain, Paul Douglas, Patrica Gilmore, Magda Montez and Pat Flowers. Gross: $22,800. (Average: $27,600).
**"Days of Glory" (RKO)**
FOX—(3,600) (40c-45c-50c-65c-75c-85c) 7 days. Gross: $16,000. (Average: $20,500).
**"Buffalo Bill" (20th-Fox)**
KARLTON—(1,000) (40c-45c-50c-65c-75c-85c) 7 days, 2nd run. Gross: $5,000. (Average: $6,600).
**"The Bridge of San Luis Rey" (UA)**
KEITH'S—(2,200) (40c45c-50c-65c-75c-85c) 7 days, 2nd run. Gross: $3,800. (Average: $5,800).
**"Up in Arms" (UA)**
MASTBAUM—(4,700) (40c-45c-50c-65c-75c-85c) 7 days. Gross: $26,500. (Average: $22,500).
**"And the Angels Sing" (Para.)**
STANLEY—(3,000) (40c-45c-50c-65c-75c-85c) 7 days. Gross: $18,800. (Average: $20,000).
**"Address Unknown" (Col.)**
STANTON—(1,700) (40c-45c-50c-65c-75c-85c) 7 days. Gross: $12,500. (Average: $9,400).

## *'Primitive Man' Is Hit at $28,000*

CLEVELAND, June 14. — Guy Lombardo brought out the crowds at the RKO Palace with "Her Primitive Man," the gross soaring to $28,000. Another hit was "Between Two Worlds" which sent the Allen's receipts considerably above par to $10,000.

Estimated receipts for the week ending June 14:

**"Between Two Worlds" (WB)**
ALLEN—(3,000) (44c-55c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $10,000. (Average: $8,500).
**"Buffalo Bill" (20th-Fox)**
WARNERS' HIPPODROME — (3,500) (44c-55c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $18,500. (Average: $22,100).
**"Shine On, Harvest Moon" (WB)**
WARNERS' LAKE—(714) (44c-55c-65c) 3rd week. Gross: $3,500. (Average: $3,200).
**"Gaslight" (M-G-M)**
LOEW'S OHIO—(1,268) (43c-65c) 7 days, 4th week. Gross: $6,000. (Average: $5,000).
**"Her Primitive Man" (Univ.)**
RKO PALACE—(3,300) (50c-60c-85c-95c) 7 days. Stage: Guy Lombardo and his Royal Canadians, and vaudeville. Gross: $28,000. (Average: $25,400).
**"The Hitler Gang" (Para.)**
LOEW'S STATE—(3,300) (43c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $14,000. (Average: $19,000).
**"Two Girls and a Sailor" (M-G-M)**
LOEW'S STILLMAN—(1,500) (43c-65c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $8,500. (Average: $10,000).

## *Thomas Altec Manager*

CINCINNATI, June 14.—M. G. Thomas has been named branch manager of the Altec office here, by Warren Comer, district manager.


# IT'S A MUST!

Sixth Annual

## Amusement Division Luncheon

On behalf of the

## United Jewish Appeal

•

**Tuesday, June 20th, 12:30 p.m.**

HOTEL ASTOR

•

**Guest Speaker: Dr. Abba Hillel Silver**

**SPECIAL GUEST STARS**

★CHICO MARX ★MILTON BERLE
★BENNY FIELDS ★WILLIE HOWARD

★BARRY WOOD GERTRUDE NIESEN PETER LORRE
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***Tickets may be obtained from B. S. Moss***
***218 West 48th Street - CIrcle 6-8600***

# Studios Free From New Hiring Order

(Continued from page 1)

placing of all male workers in new jobs after July 1 is vested in the United States Employment Service, provision has been made for the USES to approve placements through other channels normally used to an important extent by employers, such as the union hiring halls, with a view to minimizing the disruption of usual employment procedures. Officers said that the Central Casting Bureau would come within the scope of this provision, since it is a central agency to which all Hollywood producers turn.

It was explained that approval of the hiring agencies has been left with the regional directors so that due consideration can be given to local practices.

WMC officials previously indicated that general employment procedure within the industry will be subject to the new regulations, qualified only by application of the new order to local conditions through regional WMC boards. The earlier statement, however, was made with reference to employment of theatre and general office workers, including theatre managers.

## C. W. Hicks, Balt. Exhibitor, Dies Here

BALTIMORE, June 14.—Suffering a paralytic stroke while on a business trip, C. William Hicks, owner of the Hicks Theatres here, died at St. Vincent's Hospital in New York early today. He was 44 years old.

The Hicks theatrical chain was started by the late Charles A. Hicks, father of the deceased, in 1920. At the time of his death, Hicks owned and operated eight theatres. Funeral arrangements have not been made.

## Floods in Nebraska

(Continued from page 1)

towns in the vicinity of Wisner and West Point were completely shut off from Omaha. The town of Waterloo in Douglas county was entirely cut off from outside. Even if theatres could keep running in these small towns, it appeared probable they would have to hold over on all films because up to late Monday night no deliveries were possible.

## Stone to West Coast

(Continued from page 1)

York, where he talked with U. A. executives in lining up the program and planning a fourth production, "Victory Express," a saga of the part America's railroads are playing in World War II. Stone is writing the latter script, but the research involved may hold up the film for many months. Stone is pressing for its release by next March.

## Luncheon for Keough

(Continued from page 1)

Roger C. Clement, Irving Cohen, Clinton Coombes, Ben Fincke, Thomas P. F. Gibbons, Bernard Goodwin, Walter Gross, Arthur Israel, Jr., Fred Mohrhardt, Richard P. Morgan, Louis Phillips, J. S. Polk, Gertrude Rosenstein, Irene F. Scott, Rebekah Shuman and Carl Kane.

# Review

## "Are These Our Parents?"

*(Monogram)*

*Hollywood, June 14*

PLANNED by Monogram as a follow-up of their highly successful "Where Are Your Children?", the new "Are These Our Parents?" approaches the problem of juvenile delinquency from a different and challenging angle. In this one, responsibility for juvenile crimes and criminals is laid squarely on the shoulders of the parents. The box office aspects of the two pictures are, for showmanship purposes, identical.

Noell Neill and Richard Byron, as the two youngsters at odds with the law, capture the acting honors. Miss Neill, in particular, gives a notable performance, and her characterization of the rebellious adolescent who is tired of boarding-school and wants to get out and live life for herself is sensitive and sympathetic. Byron, as the young hero, is portrayed as emotionally more stable than the girl, and he, too, handles his part with intelligence and skill.

Others in the cast are Helen Vinson, Lyle Talbot, Ivan Lebedeff, Addison Richards, Anthony Warde and Jean Carlin.

The screenplay by Michel Jacoby, from an original story by Hilary Lynn, suffers from structural weakness. An interesting opening situation is climaxed by a vague and unsatisfactory ending. William Nigh's direction fails to compensate for plot defects. Jeffrey Bernerd produced.

Running time, 73 mins. "G."* Release date not set. THALIA BELL

*"G" denotes general classification.

## 'Two Girls' Scores Big $19,500 in Balto.

BALTIMORE, June 14. — Favorable weather helped busines to show an increase over the past few dull weeks. "Two Girls and a Sailor" scored $19,500 at the Century with "Show Business" and a stage show in a close second with $19,000 at the Hippodrome.

Estimated receipts for the week ending June 15:

**"Two Girls and a Sailor" (M-G-M)**
CENTURY—(35c-45c-55c and 60c weekends) 7 days. Gross: $19,500. (Average: $17,500).

**"The Hour Before the Dawn" (Para.)**
KEITH'S—(2,405) (35c-40c-50c-60c) 5 days. Gross: $11,000. (Average: $15,000).

**"Pin Up Girl" (20th-Fox)**
NEW—(1,581) (30c-40c-60c) 7 days, 3rd week. Gross: $13,000. (Average: $13,000).

**"Make Your Own Bed" (WB)**
STANLEY—(3,280) (35c-44c-55c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $15,000. (Average: $18,000).

**"Show Business" (RKO)**
HIPPODROME—(2,205) (35c-44c-55c-65c) 7 days. Stage show: The Pitchmen; Cordyn & Sawyer, Boyd Heathen, Manuel Viera, Three Little Sisters. Gross: $19,000. (Average: $18,000).

**"It Happened Tomorrow" (UA)**
MAYFAIR—(1,000) (35c-54c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $7,000. (Average: $7,000).

## Tax on Screen Rights

(Continued from page 1)

court of the United States was correct in upholding the U. S. Commissioner of Internal Revenue in determining that money received by Clifford and Kathryn Goldsmith from Paramount Pictures for the film rights to their play, "What a Life," was ordinary income and not, as they claimed in a joint tax return for 1938 and 1939, capital gain.

## Eight More Loyalty Pins

MILWAUKEE, June 14.—William F. Rodgers, M-G-M vice-president and general sales manager, and J. E. Flynn, Western sales manager, at a dinner this week for employes of the local exchange at the Schroeder Hotel, distributed 10-year loyalty pins to Eugenia Ebert, Sanford Gottlieb, Edward J. Lipson, Maude Mills, David E. Ross, Arthur J. Sontag, Walter W. Bennin and Viola Resch.

## McCarthy in Chicago

CHICAGO, June 14.—Leo J. McCarthy, PRC sales manager, is coming in from Hollywood tomorrow for two days to map a sales campaign for "Minstrel Man," with Henry Elman, local PRC franchise holder. McCarthy will arrive in New York Saturday.

# SOPEG Demand Set For New Contracts

(Continued from page 1)

cation periods after five years of service; discharge protection; improved grievance machinery; improved seniority and promotional procedure; and health and hospitalization benefits. Money demands, retroactive to Oct., 1943, revolve around a classification system now being negotiated under the terms of the existing contract with minimum and maximum scales for each labor grade; a guaranteed series of automatic progression increases; length of service increases; promotional guarantees; and a five percent cost-of-living balance on the Little Steel formula.

SOPEG has set a new three-and-one-half year's extension of its closed shop contract affecting 35 "white collar" workers of DeLuxe Laboratories, 20th-Fox subsidiary. The new contract provides for the establishment of job classifications with minimum and maximum scales, claimed to be higher than War Labor Board going rates, with automatic increases guaranteed.

## SOEG Re-elects Phillips

LOS ANGELES, June 14.—The Screen Office Employes Guild has re-elected Harry Phillips, president, and Glenn Pratt, business manager. A special mass meeting designed by SOEG and other participating unions and guilds to combat unwarranted attacks on the industry has ben postponed from June 25 to 28, and will be held at Hollywood Women's Club rather than in the Hollywood Legion Stadium.





You'd think twice before sinking your hard-earned cash into pictures without names, without the background of good production. That's just plain common sense, the same kind of good sense wise showmen use when they sign one of the Altec contracts. Which is another way of saying goodbye to booth trouble.

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250 West 57th Street, New York 19, New York

THE SERVICE ORGANIZATION OF THE MOTION PICTURE INDUSTRY

# Help him make it 100%




**Up to date 16,501 theatres have booked Leo on their screens during his Anniversary Week.**

# LEO-ON-EVERY-SCREEN WEEK OF JUNE 22nd!

**THESE TERRITORIES ARE BOOKED 100%!**

| | |
|---|---|
| CHARLOTTE | PHILADELPHIA |
| ALBANY | DALLAS |
| KANSAS CITY | PITTSBURGH |
| DETROIT | BOSTON |
| CLEVELAND | NEW JERSEY |
| OKLAHOMA CITY | NEW YORK |
| ST. LOUIS | WASHINGTON |
| SAN FRANCISCO | PORTLAND |
| NEW HAVEN | LOS ANGELES |
| DES MOINES | SEATTLE |
| CINCINNATI | SALT LAKE CITY |
| CHICAGO | OMAHA |
| DENVER | MEMPHIS |

Thanks to the good sportsmanship of our industry, Leo is not far from 100% representation on America's screens during his Anniversary Week. If you have not booked either an M-G-M Feature, Short Subject or Newsreel, kindly communicate with the nearest M-G-M Branch office today. The Friendly Lion is celebrating Twenty Happy Years of sincere effort toward this industry's welfare, and he is grateful indeed for this expression of good-will which all the exhibitors of America, customers and non-customers are extending to him.

FIGHTING SHOWMEN! JOIN THE FIGHTING 5th WAR LOAN!

5th WAR LOAN DRIVE

# MOTION PICTURE DAILY

Join the Fighting Fifth!

VOL. 55. NO. 118 NEW YORK, U. S. A., FRIDAY, JUNE 16, 1944 TEN CENTS

## Nine Directors To Be Named By U.A. Today

### *Action Paves Way for Management Autonomy*

The new "management" board of directors of United Artists, which, by virtue of amendments to the company's by-laws adopted last month will exercise greater authority and autonomy in company affairs than its predecessors, is scheduled to be elected at a special meeting of stockholders in Wilmington, Del., this afternoon.

The new board will consist of nine members, three to be designated by each of the three present United Artists' owners, Mary Pickford, David O. Selznick and Charles Chaplin, in ac-

(*Continued on page 7*)

## WAC Distributor Chairmen Cited

Sixty exchange managers who have completed terms as War Activities distribution field chairmen since the formation of WAC are to be presented with plaque citations by the distributors' division in recognition of their services, it was disclosed here yesterday by Ned E. Depinet, chairman of that division.

In accordance with a resolution adopted by the distributors' division at a recent meeting, the distribution chairmen who served under William A. Scully in 1942 and those who served under William F. Rodgers in 1943 will receive the citations provided they served at least six months. Depinet stated that the idea for the awards was suggested by Leon Bamberger.

## Redemption of KAO Preferred Begun

The Bankers Trust Co. here yesterday started the redemption of all of the 7,013 outstanding shares of Keith-Albee-Orpheum, seven per cent cumulative convertible preferred stock at $110 a share plus accrued dividends, or an aggregate payment of $111.46 per share.

Financing for the redemption of the shares, which amounts to over $780,-

(*Continued on page 6*)

## Treasury Approves Loew's Pension Plan for Employes

The U. S. Treasury Department has approved Loew's pension plan covering all employes in production, distribution and exhibition, it was learned yesterday. A special meeting of the company's stockholders will be held in mid-July to obtain ratification of the plan.

The plan covers top executives including Louis B. Mayer, Nicholas M. Schenck, J. Robert Rubin, David Bernstein, and others, as well as studio talent and rank and file employes. It is estimated that it will cost the company $3,000,000 annually to maintain the plan. It is stipulated that an employe must be with the company for at least five years to qualify for the retirement fund. All pension payments are to be in addition to any social security payments and employes are not to contribute to the fund.

Details of the plan which are ex-

(*Continued on page 7*)

## *Hopper Heads Society For the Americas*

HOLLYWOOD, June 15.—The Motion Picture Society for the Americas last night elected Harold Hopper president, succeeding Joseph I. Breen, who was chosen third vice-president. All other officers were reelected, and Jason Joy and Leon Fromkess were added to the board of directors.

# SET NEW FORMULA ON CANCELLATIONS

## 24 Operators Sue Majors In Pittsburgh

PITTSBURGH, June 15.—Twenty-four Pittsburgh and Allegheny County operators today filed suit in Federal Court here against eight distributors, charging monopoly, conspiracy, "harassment" and violation of the Unlawful Restraint Act.

If issued, the restraining order would prevent a distributor from charging more to independents than to his own theatre and would restrain him from entering a "combination and conspiracy to eliminate, suppress and prevent competition by the plaintiffs and other independent exhibitors." It would restrain the requirement in the license agreement of an audit of records; prevent requiring preferred times, such as weekend runs, on stated pictures, and declare payment on a percentage basis illegal.

The court is asked to declare the

(*Continued on page 7*)

### *Department of Justice Receives Proposals From Joseph Hazen*

Advancing a new formula on cancellations and verbally agreeing to attempt a re-phrasing of Section 10 for the benefit of exhibitors who win arbitration awards under that section, the five consent decree companies yesterday presented what may be their final proposals for a new decree to Department of Justice officials in Washington. The proposals were taken to the capital by Joseph H. Hazen who, it was learned, is desirous of relinquishing his position as liaison for the decree companies with the Department of Justice in the belief that the negotiations have reached a stage at which he can contribute nothing further to the result.

Hazen also is desirous of devoting all of his time to his new post with Hal Wallis Prod.

The new decree formula advanced

(*Continued on page 6*)

## Monogram Officials' Bonuses Approved

HOLLYWOOD, June 15.—Monogram stockholders, meeting here today, approved the profit-sharing proposals presented to them by the company's board of directors.

The proposals included a bonus plan, commencing with the year ending July 1, 1944, and involving the payment of 20 per cent of the annual net profits over $200,00 to eight execu-

(*Continued on page 7*)

## *Morgenthau, in Bowl Rally, Says New Plants Needed*

HOLLYWOOD, June 15.—Secretary of the Treasury Henry Morgenthau, Jr., left here today by plane for Washington after opening the industry's local Fifth War Loan drive last night at a rally attended by an estimated 12,000 in Hollywood Bowl.

Stressing the need for more bond purchases at this time, the Secretary said, "We read about retrenchment and cutbacks, but General Marshall, our chief of staff, wants me to tell you that we must open up new factories immediately because present facilities for the manufacture of some types of equipment aren't meeting demands.

"Victory isn't something our men are going to bring home to us, a present from overseas," he declared. "Our fighting men are paying for it—and so must we.

"It's 4,000 miles from here to the nearest place where our men are fighting for us. Mile by mile, man for

(*Continued on page 6*)

### *'DeNazifying' Films, Press in Rome*

**The first theatre to operate in Rome since the Allied occupation has opened with "In Which We Serve," Noel Coward's tribute to the British Navy, United Artists, the film's U. S. distributor, reported here yesterday.**

**James M. Minifie, formerly a war correspondent in Rome, and now in charge of the "defascization" of press, radio and films in the conquered city, plans to follow with other pictures, among them being American films found in Rome which had been imported for private showing to Fascist officials but were barred to the public.**

## Soviet Films Seek Our Technical Aid

LOS ANGELES, June 15.—The Soviet industry looks toward American technical-manufacturing assistance for equipment to rebuild Leningrad and Kiev studios, principal sources of more important Russian production, Gregor Irsky, chief engineer of the Soviet motion picture industry, declared at the Academy Motion Picture Arts and Sciences luncheon today, when he presented a specially compiled photographic album signifying Soviet production achievements under the war's

(*Continued on page 6*)

# Personal Mention

HUNTER PERRY, of Dominion Theatres, Charlottesville, Va., has arrived in New York on a business trip.

•

DONALD ROSENQUIST, son of HARRY ROSENQUEST, Warner circuit film buyer at the home office, has been accepted for the U. S. Navy's V-12 training course and will report to Colgate University, July 1.

•

LEN DALY, special United Artists foreign publicity representative, is expected back from Mexico City about June 25.

•

DEWEY BLOOM, M-G-M Canadian promotion representative, is recovering from an operation in Toronto General Hospital.

•

HARRY DAVID of Northio Theatres, Cincinnati, is in New York on a brief business trip.

•

ED HINCHY, head of Warner's playdate department, was in New Haven yesterday.

•

MARVIN H. SCHENCK of Loew's will leave for the Coast today.

## SLRB Asks Briefs in Century-'306' Case

Briefs are being prepared by attorneys for IATSE Projectionists' Local 306 and Century Circuit following the winding up of hearings before the State Labor Relations Board here on the petition of Local 306 to be declared the collective bargaining agent for some 100 projectionists employed in the 35 theatres of Century in Brooklyn and Queens.

The SLRB finished taking testimony on Wednesday, and granted the petition of both sides for oral arguments following the submission of briefs.

## 'Wilson' Premiere in Los Angeles Aug. 10

LOS ANGELES, June 15.—The gala premiere of "Wilson" will be held here Aug. 10, with the regular run opening the following day at the Carthay Circle and United Artists Theatres on a grind policy. "The Song of Bernadette" price scale, evening top $1.50, will probably prevail at the Carthay Circle.

## 20th-Fox Club Outing

The 20th Century-Fox Family Club will hold its second annual boat ride and outing at Bear Mountain next Wednesday. Special events have been arranged for the day and about 500 club members and their guests, including 20th-Fox executives, are expected to attend.

Company officials who plan to attend include Spyros P. Skouras, Tom Connors, W. J. Kupper, W. C. Gehring, W. C. Michel, Hal Horne, and all others in New York on the 21st.

## Columbia's Meeting Here Concluded

Division managers, branch managers and salesmen from 10 of Columbia's exchanges and representatives of the Canadian offices returned yesterday to their territories following a three-day sales meet held at the Hotel Warwick here. This was the second of three sales gatherings planned by the company this year. The third will be held in San Francisco July 11-13.

Division managers Sam Galanty, Nat Cohn and Carl Shalit were present in New York meetings, as were the brach managers and salesmen from Albany, Boston, Buffalo, Cincinnati, Cleveland, New Haven, New York, Philadelphia, Pittsburgh and Washington. The Canadian delegation, headed by general manager Louis Rosenfeld, included representatives of the Toronto, Montreal, Winnipeg, St. John, Calgary and Vancouver offices.

## Chas. Goetz Quits 20th-Fox Post

Charles S. Goetz has resigned, effective immediately, from his special home office sales post at 20th Century-Fox. Goetz has been attached to this department for the past two years, and previously was in the talent and story department for six years. The company has announced no successor.

Goetz will leave on a brief vacation before announcing a new affiliation. Prior to his association with 20th-Fox, Goetz was with Warner Bros. and held executive posts with the Paramount and First National sales departments. He was also formerly active in independent distribution.

## Kalmenson Off to Set Warners Sales Plans

Ben Kalmenson, Warners general sales manager, left here yesterday for Chicago, whence, following a tour of Midwest points, he will proceed to the Coast for conferences with Jack L. Warner and Charles Einfeld on the special sales and distribution plans for "Janie," first Warner release of the 1944-45 season, and the schedule of releases to follow.

## PCCITO Trustees to Meet June 20-22

PORTLAND, Ore., June 15.—PCCITO trustees will hold a quarterly meeting at the Benson Hotel June 20-22. Topics on the agenda include the consent decree, results of a survey on theatre attendance, OCR and emergency theatres, and post-war plans.

## M-G-M's 20th at Peak

With one week to go, M-G-M is nearing the home stretch in its plan to have Leo the Lion on every screen during the company's 20-Year Anniversary Week, June 22-28. Up to yesterday, latest reports from the field show a total of 16,501 bookings for the week. In Canada there are 1,204 theatres lined up out of a total of 1,285.

## James Arthur, F&M Counsel, Enlists

**St. Louis, June 15.—James H. Arthur, legal counsel for Fanchon & Marco, is the 11th member of the Harry Arthur F & M theatres to enlist in the armed forces. He was tendered a surprise luncheon by the Variety Club here in celebration of his departure next Wednesday for Quantico, Va., where he will receive the training of a lieutenant in the Ground Administration Service of the U. S. Marine Corps.**

**Harry C. Arthur, Jr., toastmaster for the luncheon and general manager of F & M, announced that James Arthur's enlistment was "the last of the Mohicans."**

## Glass Quits Stone to Join Samuel Goldwyn

HOLLYWOOD, June 15.—George Glass has resigned as publicity director of Andrew Stone Prod., effective July 1, and will join Samuel Goldwyn, Inc., on July 3, replacing William Hebert, advertising publicity director, who this week obtained release from his contract, which had three years to run.

## Murphy Ends 'Bell' Shooting in Mexico

Dudley Murphy has finished shooting "The Bell of My Village," the first of four Spanish films he is making for United Artists distribution in Latin-America and Spain, it was learned here yesterday. The film is based on a *Saturday Evening Post* story by Budd Schulberg.

Murphy is producing the films at the Azteca studio in Mexico City. Associated with him are Jose Calderon and Elizabeth Jenkins Higgins.

## Television's Effect On Key Industries

The effect of television on four major industries is the subject of two lectures being presented by the Television Seminar last night and next Thursday night at the NBC here.

The first lecture offered as guest speakers, James Shouse, vice-president of Crossley Radio and general manager of Station WLW, Cincinnati; and Gene Buck, theatrical producer and former president of ASCAP. Shouse discussed the effects of television on the radio industry. Buck analyzed the relation of television to the legitimate theater. The second lecture will present the viewpoints of representatives of the film and publishing industries.

## UA Dines Trade Press

United Artists will be host tonight to trade paper editors with a dinner at Toots Shor's, following which they will attend a preview of Andrew Stone's "Sensations of 1945."

## Cummins Adding To War-Circuit

Another link in the growing circu of theatres being erected in war manu facturing areas by Samuel Cummin former distributor, is planned fo Portsmouth, Va. Cummins has file application with authorities for ap proval of the project. He alread operates the Port Theatre there i addition to the Pix and Plymouth i Washington; Fairmount in Norfol and the Pix in Newport News.


NEW YORK THEATRES

RADIO CITY MUSIC HALL
Showplace of the Nation Rockefeller Center
HELD OVER SIXTH WEEK
A Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer's Picture
"THE WHITE CLIFFS OF DOVER"
Starring IRENE DUNNE
with ALAN MARSHAL
SPECTACULAR STAGE PRESENTATION
First Mezzanine Seats Reserved. Circle 6-4600

THE INSIDE ON HITLER'S EUROPE!
UNDERGROUND REPORT
20 RELEASED BY CENTURY-FOX
THE MARCH OF TIME

LOEW'S STATE B'WAY & 45
ON SCREEN
FIRST N. Y. SHOWING
'MAN from FRISCO'
MICHAEL O'SHEA
ANNE SHIRLEY
IN PERSON
LUCKY MILLINDER and ORCH.
Added Attraction
LOUISE BEAVERS

RKO PALACE B'WAY & 47th St.
TAMARA TOUMANOVA
GREGORY PECK
"DAYS OF GLORY"

PARAMOUNT'S
"GOING MY WAY"
with BING CROSBY
In Person
CHARLIE SPIVAK and His Orch.
PARAMOUNT Times Square

PARAMOUNT PRESENTS
GARY COOPER in
CECIL B. DEMILLE'S
"The Story of Dr. Wassell"
★ In Technicolor ★
RIVOLI B'way & 49th St.

Anne Baxter - Wm. Eythe - Michael O'Shea
'THE EVE OF ST. MARK'
The War's Greatest Love Story
Plus on Stage—Mia Slavenska - Barry Wood
Eddie Garr - Berry Bros. - Radio Aces
BUY MORE BONDS ROXY 7th Ave. & 50th St.


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# Coast Flashes

*Hollywood, June 15*

ROBERT GILLHAM, Paramount publicity and advertising director, will leave here by train on Wednesday, accompanying Cecil Be DeMille as far as Chicago for the opening there of "The Story of Dr. Wassell."

•

William Wright, who recently returned to the Columbia contract list following his honorable discharge from the Army, has had his option renewed for another year. He is playing in "One Mysterious Night."

•

"Lady Not Alone," by Katherine Brush, recently published in *Good Housekeeping*, has been purchased by RKO Radio. Executive Producer Jack Gross has assigned Irmgard Von Cube to write the screenplay.

•

Douglas Sirk has been signed by Columbia to direct one picture yearly. Sirk recently directed "Summer Storm," produced by Seymour Nebenzal for United Artists release.

•

Mickey Rooney has been inducted into the Army and sent to Fort MacArthur at San Pedro for classification. Rooney passed a recent examination after having previously been rejected.

•

Joseph Sistrom will return to his Paramount producing activities Sunday from an overseas Office of War Information assignment.

•

George Jessel's contract has been renewed by 20th-Fox for his fifth year with the company.

## Petrillo Ordered to End Record Ban

WASHINGTON, June 15.—The War Labor Board today ordered James Caesar Petrillo's American Federation of Musicians to end the ban which it put on the production of phonograph records on Aug. 1, 1942. At the same time, a WLB directive provided that the transcription companies should set up machinery for the payment of royalties on records. Not specifying whether the payment should be made to the union unemployment fund, the board required that the money should be held in escrow.

Involved in the case were the National Broadcasting Company, the Columbia Recording Corp. and the RCA Victor division of the Radio Corporation of America. The union announced that it had signed agreements with more than 80 companies and withdrawn its ban from these organizations.

### *Spiers with Monogram*

OMAHA, June 15.—Edward Spiers, formerly with RKO in Milwaukee, has become associated with Monogram in the operation of the Omaha and Des Moines branches.

Spiers will make his headquarters in Des Moines. He has appointed Mike Comer, former Monogram salesman in Des Moines, to manage the Omaha exchange.

# Review

## *"Secrets of Scotland Yard"*

*(Republic)*

"SECRETS of Scotland Yard" is a tale of a phase of the British Admiralty service which materially contributed to victory in World War I by decoding enemy messages, and ostensibly is performing efficiently in the present conflict. Edgar Barrier plays the dual role of a Scotland Yard inspector who replaces his twin brother, a code expert, when the latter is slain. When C. Aubrey Smith, who supervises the code service, is killed also, Barrier suspects that the murderer is someone working in the room.

The safety of a British military mission being flown to Warsaw is dependent upon the Room's ability to decode Nazi messages and act upon them. A message which is believed to be concerned with the plane is difficult of solution until it is learned that it is similar to that which Barrier's young nephew, Bobby Cooper, has used to correspond with a former schoolmate, the head of the Nazi Cipher Bureau. A German-planted bomb is dumped from the plane, and Lionel Atwill, who has succeeded to the head of Room 40, is revealed as the Nazi agent.

Also in the cast are: Stephanie Bachelor, Henry Stephenson, John Abbott, Walter Kingsford and Martin Kosleck. George Blair produced and directed from Denison Clift's screenplay adapted from his novel, "Room 40, O.B."

Running time, 68 mins. "G."* Release date, July 26.

CHARLES RYWECK

**"G" denotes general classification.*

## 'Cobra' Dual Takes $25,500 in Denver

DENVER, June 15.—"Cobra Woman" on a dual at the Denver and Esquire Theatres was tops here this week as the Denver showed a gross of $25,500. "Ladies Courageous" at the Paramount scored $14,880, while the Denham did $7,500 during the second week of "And the Angels Sing."

Estimated receipts for the week ending June 12-14:

**"Pin Up Girl" (20th-Fox)**
**"The Chinese Cat" (Mono.)**
ALADDIN—(1,400) (46c-74c) 7 days, moveover. Gross: $9,140. (Average: $5,600).
**"The Heavenly Body" (M-G-M)**
**"Mystery of the Yellow Canary" (RKO)**
BROADWAY—(1,040) (46c-74c) 7 days, moveover. Gross: $4,875. (Average: $3,900).
**"And the Angels Sing" (Para.)**
DENHAM—(1,750) (35c-45c-70c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $7,500. (Average: $9,000).
**"Cobra Woman" (Univ.)**
**"Pardon My Rhythm" (Univ.)**
DENVER—(2,600) (46c-74c) 7 days. Gross: $25,500. (Average: $15,000).
**"Cobra Woman" (Univ.)**
**"Pardon My Rhythm" (Univ.)**
ESQUIRE—(740) (46c-74c) 7 days. Gross: $7,200. (Average: $4,500).
**"Ladies Courageous" (Univ.)**
**"Stars on Parade" (Col.)**
PARAMOUNT—(2,200) (46c-74c) 7 days. Gross: $14,880. (Average: $9,300).
**"Once Upon a Time" (Col.)**
**"Knickerbocker Holiday" (UA)**
RIALTO—(900) (46c-74c) 7 days, moveover. Gross: $6,250. (Average: $5,000).

### *Variety Names Delegates*

CINCINNATI, June 15. — Harry David, general manager of Northio Theatres, and William Onie, Monogram manager here, have been named delegates from local Variety to the national convention to be held in New York. Alternates elected were Arthur Frudenfeld, RKO division manager, and H. J. Wessel, owner of Film Service Co.

### *Altec Signs Leon*

Altec Service Corp. has signed with H. S. Leon theatres in El Paso, Brownsville and Amarillo, Texas, for sound service, repairs and replacements. Jack Zern, Dallas district manager for Altec, negotiated the deal.

## Kansas City Gives 'Two Girls' $14,500

KANSAS CITY, June 15. — Theatre business was average to above here this week. The Midland did around $14,500, with "Two Girls and a Sailor" in its second week. The Orpheum totaled around $13,000 with the second week of "Show Business."

Estimated receipts for the week ending June 9-12:

**"Follow the Boys" (Univ.)**
ESQUIRE—(800) (45c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $7,500. (Average: $6,000).
**"Two Girls and a Sailor" (M-G-M)**
**"The Black Parachute" (Col.)**
MIDLAND—(3,500) (40c-60c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $14,500. (Average: $14,000).
**"And the Angels Sing" (Para.)**
NEWMAN—(1,900) (46c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $14,000. (Average: $10,000).
**"Show Business" (RKO)**
**"Action in Arabia" (RKO)**
ORPHEUM—(1,900) (45c-65c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $13,000. (Average: $10,000).
**"Follow the Boys" (Univ.)**
UPTOWN—(2,000) (45c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $6,500. (Average: $5,600).
**"The Impostor" (Univ.)**
**"Tunisian Victory" (M-G-M—MOI)**
TOWER—(1,200) (45c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $9,100. (Average: $9,400).
**"Follow the Boys" (Univ.)**
FAIRWAY—(700) (45c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $2,100. (Average: $1,600).

### *'Bermuda', Show Gain Strong $18,000*

INDIANAPOLIS, June 15.—"Bermuda Mystery," with a stage show, will do $18,000 at the Circle this week. At Loew's, "Gaslight" will gross $13,500.

Estimated receipts for the week ending June 13-15:

**"Bermuda Mystery" (20th-Fox)**
CIRCLE—(2,800) (55c-70c) 7 days. Stage show: Preston Foster orchestra. Gross: $18,000. (Average: $11,800).
**"Pin-Up Girl" (20th-Fox)**
**"Ladies in Washington" (20th-Fox)**
INDIANA—(3,200) (32c-55c) 7 days. Gross: $12,500. (Average: $11,600).
**"Gaslight" (M-G-M)**
LOEW'S—(2,800) (32c-55c) 7 days. Gross: $13,500. (Average: $11,500).
**"Buffalo Bill" (20th-Fox)**
LYRIC—(2,000) (32c-55c) 7 days, moveover from Indiana. Gross: $5,000. (Average: $4,900).

# Hollywood

By THALIA BELL

*Hollywood, June 15*

SEYMOUR NEBENZAL has purchased an original by Rowland Leigh titled "S. S. Titanic." The picture, scheduled for fall production, will resemble "Grand Hotel" in structure and deals with the lives of a group of people aboard a luxury liner. According to history, the *Titanic*, widely proclaimed as unsinkable, struck an iceberg on her maiden voyage, and sank with great loss of life. However, producer Nebenzal will alter the facts of history somewhat, in order to enhance the dramatic values of the story.

•

*Pine and Thomas have bought the rights to the radio feature, "People Are Funny," which they will film with Jack Haley in the lead. Negotiations have been completed for a new two-picture deal with the comedian. Another projected Pine-Thomas enterprise is "Dangerous Passage," which William Berke will direct. . . . M-G-M has purchased an original titled "Flat-Top," in which Robert Walker, Van Johnson and Phyllis Thaxter will have the principal roles. . . . Sara Allgood has been added to the cast of "Kitty" at Paramount. Patric Knowles and Mikhail Rasumny will also have important parts. . . . William Cagney has engaged Elmer Rice, Broadway playwright, to do the screenplay of "The Stray Lamb" from the Thorne Smith novel of that name.*

•

**Ingrid Bergman and Gregory Peck will have the leads in Selznick's "House of Dr. Edwardes". . . . Mark Sandrich, keeping abreast of world events, will alter one of the sequences of "Here Come the Waves" to show a group of sailor lassies listening to General Eisenhower's invasion message.**

## 'Blond Trouble' At $13,700 in Toronto

TORONTO, June 14.—"Andy Hardy's Blonde Trouble," at Loew's Theatre, headed for $13,700 while the second week of "The Miracle of Morgan's Creek" pointed to a nice $11,800 at the Imperial Theatre. "Passage to Marseille" looked like $10,800 for a second week at Shea's Theatre.

Estimated receipts for the week ending June 15:

**"Hat Check Honey" (Univ.)**
**"Escape to Danger" (Brit.)**
EGLINTON—(1,086) (18c-30c-48c-60c) 6 days. Gross: $3,500. (Average: $4,060).
**"The Miracle of Morgan's Creek" (Para.)**
IMPERIAL—(3,373) (18c-30c-42c-60c-90c) 5 days, 2nd week. Gross: $11,800. (Average: $12,800).
**"Andy Hardy's Blonde Trouble" (M-G-M)**
**"Spider Woman" (Univ.)**
LOEW'S—(2,074) (18c-30c-42c-60c-78c) 6 days. Gross: $13,700. (Average: $11,200).
**"Passage to Marseille" (WB)**
SHEA'S—(2,480) (18c-30c-42c-60c-90c) 6 days, 2nd week. Gross: $10,800. (Average: $12,800).
**"The Lodger" (20th-Fox) (moveover)**
**"The Navy Way" (Para.)**
TIVOLI—(1,434) (18c-30c-48c) 6 days. Gross: $3,400. (Average: $4,400).
**"Man from Frisco" (Rep.)**
**"Slightly Terrific" (Univ.)**
UPTOWN—(2,760) (18c-30c-42c-60c-90c) 6 days. Gross: $8,800. (Average: $9,800).

# HERE THEY COME!..



# MARINE

starring PAT O'BRIEN · ROBERT RYAN · RUTH HUSSEY

with FRANK McHUGH · BARTON MacLANE

RKO RADIO PICTURES

Produced by Robert Fellows • Directed by Harold Schuster

Screen Play by Warren Duff

half a million strong!

...They're Bataan bound...

they're tough..and bad news

for Japs!..So sorry, Tojo!

The valor story...

the loves  and

hates and glory

of half a million

heroes....our

gallant,

fighting

Marine Raiders

# RAIDERS

# Formula for Cancellation Is Re-Drafted

(*Continued from page* 1)

by the consenting companies proposes a minimum of 20 per cent cancellation where average license fees do not exceed $100 per picture; 15 per cent cancellation where license fees average from $101 to $250 per picture, and 10 per cent cancellation where the average is from $251 to $350 per picture. The new provision compares with the cancellation proposal in the Jan. 20 decree draft which contemplated 20 per cent cancellation up to $100; 10 per cent from $101 to $200, and five per cent from $201 to $200.

In addition, the companies have expressed their willingness to endeavor to draft a provision under Section 10 of the decree, covering arbitration of specific run complaints, with the object of insuring an exhibitor who wins an award under that section of obtaining films. Phrasing of the provision is regarded by attorneys as presenting exceptional difficulties and, it is reported, the task may not be undertaken unless there is a definite indication from the Department of Justice that such a provision might be vital to the outcome of decree negotiations.

### To Demonstrate Good Faith

It was pointed out that such a provision would necessarily entail qualifications which would prevent winners of awards under Section 10 from accumulating opportunities for trade advantages such as have been alleged by the government with respect to circuit operations. The wording of the provision, it was said, would have to go far enough to demonstrate that the decree companies are acting in good faith and yet would have to involve restrainers which would, for example, prevent Section 10 award winners from indiscriminately employing the section to corner product through overbuying.

As previously reported, the companies also have agreed to abandon the "showcase" provision of the new clause covering expansion of affiliated circuits. Under that provision, now waived, they reserved the right to build or acquire "showcase" theatres in key cities where such houses were desirable.

### Other Changes Set

Other less important changes in the phraseology of the Jan. 20 draft have been agreed to but also, it is understood, will not actually be attempted unless the promise of an agrement on a new decree is more or less assured.

A proposal from the Department that all percentage pictures be eliminated from blocks offered by the decree companies and sold singly has been rejected, it was learned.

**Industry officials close to the negotiations leave little doubt that the five companies are not disposed to yield anything of a major character beyond what has been offered up to this point. The proposals are regarded by the companies as liberal to a point beyond which they do not believe it to be economically sound for them to move. The attitude is clearly that they would prefer to take their chances on the outcome of an anti-trust suit rather than yield more, for they believe that little more could be lost in a courtroom.**

It is clear, also, that the companies regard the Department's forthcoming answer to the proposals made by Hazen yesterday as the key to future procedure by both sides.

It was not disclosed with whom Hazen conferred yesterday, but it is known that Assistant U. S. Attorney General Tom C. Clark is en route to Dallas and did not participate in the meeting. It is assumed that Robert L. Wright, assistant to the Attorney General, participated.

# *Morgenthau, in Bowl Rally, Says New Plants Needed*

(*Continued from page* 1)

man, their deaths will shorten that distance for us here at home. I know this isn't pleasant talk but it's plain talk. And this is the time for plain talk.

"If he should die—your boy—we must be worthy of his death. And this is just as important: If he lives, we must be worthy of his willingness to die. This is our war, yours and mine," Morgenthau added.

The audience, made up mostly of industry workers in the campaign, was entertained by Bing Crosby, Bette Davis, Judy Garland, Bob Hope and Joseph Iturbi, with Rudy Vallee and his Coast Guard Band. The presentation, produced by Sam Wood and William Cameron Menzies, was broadcast over CBS.

### Cash Register Rings Up a Sale a Minute

With the theatre-sponsored "store" at Times Square's big "cash register" selling war bonds at the rate of one a minute, and with field reports telling of record amounts obtained at bond premieres, the industry's "Fighting Fifth" War Loan completes its first week with every evidence that the public is responding enthusiastically.

Brooklyn's premiere will take place tonight at the Fox Theatre, with the Hollywood Victory Committee providing talent and the Army Air Force Band participating. All Brooklyn theatres are tied in, selling bonds up to $1,000 denomination as admission.

W. A. Steffes, exhibitor state chairman for Minnesota, flashed a wire to national industry chairman R. J. O'Donnell that the premiere total for the Northwest was up to 350, with more to come.

Dave Bershon of Los Angeles, exhibitor state chairman for Southern California, telegraphed: "Present outlook assures at least double the Fourth War Loan's number of premieres in this territory, besides many special shows. Tie-up just affected whereby outstanding radio programs are being combined with premieres in most first-run houses. Bond sale impetus far ahead of the same time in the Fourth Loan. We have set a quota of 500,000 individual sales, which all theatres are striving to attain."

The Texas Theatre, San Angelo, was the focal point of a rousing civic demonstration and sold $351,000 in bonds in an hour and a half, John D. Jones, city manager for Robb & Rowley United Theatres, reports. Two parades, both with military bands, led off the event and the theatre gave a premiere of "The Road to Victory."

Louis J. Finske, exhibitor state chairman for Eastern Pennsylvania, advised that the small Ritz Theatre, Weatherly, Pa., operated by Pete Magazzu, had a $20,000 premiere in a town of 2,400. He also advised that the first day of the Ringling Bros. circus in Philadelphia was turned over to the local committee as a bond premiere and netted sales of $1,500,000, with 13,000 buyers present.

### Indianapolis Event Sells $6,192,365

INDIANAPOLIS, June 15.—A war bond auction, built around the premiere of "Home in Indiana" with Jeanne Crain, brought $6,192,365 in bond sales here last night.

A three and one-half-month-old foal named for Miss Craine was sold. High bidder was Anton Hulman, Vigo County War Finance Committee chairman. Participating were Governor Henry F. Schricker, Miss Craine, Mark Wolf, chairman of the Indiana War Activities Committee, and Eugene C. Pulliam, state WFC chairman.

### Mayor Stewart Auctions Filly

CINCINNATI, June 15.—A thoroughbred yearling filly was sold for a bid of $400,000 at a war bond auction conducted by 20th Century-Fox at the Hotel Gibson here last night in connection with the premiere of "Home in Indiana." Mayor James Garfield Stewart was the auctioneer. The horse was donated by Harkness Edwards, owner of Walnut Hill Farm, Lexington, Ky., where many scenes of the picture were filmed.

## *Canada Industry Is Cited for Bond Aid*

**Toronto, June 15.—J. J. Fitzgibbons, national chairman of the Canadian Motion Picture War Services Committee, has received an industry commendation from J. L. Ilsley, Dominion minister of finance, for "the very great service" rendered by the film industry in support of the Sixth Canadian Victory Loan drive.**

## *Soviet Films Seeking Our Technical Aid*

(*Continued from page* 1)

duress as a goodwill gesture of their industry toward ours.

James Hilton, Academy vice-president, presided. Walter Wanger stressed the Academy's role as one of international brotherhood seeking understanding among film industries of all nations. Attending were Jack Warner, John Cromwell, Sol Lesser, Loyd Wright, Mary McCall, Jr., members of the Soviet Cinema Commission including Mikhail Kalatozov, top Soviet film representative to the United States.

# 'Wassell' Hits $15,700 Over L.A. Average

LOS ANGELES, June 15.—Opening in the wake of an all-out premiere, "The Story of Dr. Wassell" ran away with the first-run week, getting $47,000 in the two Paramounts, which average $31,300. Weather, continuing chilly for June, was a box office enemy.

Estimated receipts for the week ending June 14:

**"The Eve of St. Mark" (20th-Fox)**
**"Roger Touhy, Gangster" (20th-Fox)**
CARTHAY CIRCLE—(1,516) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 7 days. Gross: $8,800. (Average: $11,200).

**"The Eve of St. Mark" (20th-Fox)**
**"Roger Touhy, Gangster" (20th-Fox)**
CHINESE—(2,500) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 7 days. Gross: $13,000. (Average: $15,500).

**"Song of the Open Road" (UA)**
**"The Black Parachute" (Col.)**
EGYPTIAN—(1,500) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 7 days. Gross: $10,000. (Average: $9,500).

**"Voice in the Wind" (UA)**
**"That Nazty Nuisance" (UA)**
HAWAII—(1,000) (50c-60c-75c-80c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $5,500. (Average: $6,200).

**"Cobra Women" (Univ.)**
**"Timber Queen" (Para.)**
HILLSTREET—(2,700) (50c-60s-80s) 7 days. Gross: $20,000. (Average: $19,700).

**"The Eve of St. Mark" (20th-Fox)**
**"Roger Touhy, Gangster" (20th-Fox)**
LOEW'S STATE—(2,500) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 7 days. Gross: $26,000. (Average: $24,100).

**"Song of the Open Road" (UA)**
**"Timber Queen" (Para.)**
LOS ANGELES—(2,096) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 7 days. Gross: $18,500. (Average: $14,900).

**"Cobra Woman" (Univ.)**
**"The Black Parachute" (Col.)**
PANTAGES—(2,000) (50c-60c-80c-$1.00) 7 days. Gross: $17,500. (Average: $17,700).

**"The Story of Dr. Wassell" (Para.)**
PARAMOUNT HOLLYWOOD—(50c-60c-80c-$1.00) 7 days. Gross: $15,000. (Average: $11,000).

**"The Story of Dr. Wassell" (Para.)**
PARAMOUNT DOWNTOWN—(50c-60c-80c-$1.00) 7 days. Gross: $32,000. (Average: $20,300).

**"Song of the Open Road" (UA)**
**"The Black Parachute" (Col.)**
RITZ—(1,376) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 7 days. Gross: $8,400. (Average: $8,700).

**"The Eve of St. Mark" (20th-Fox)**
**"Roger Touhy, Gangster" (20th-Fox)**
UPTOWN—(1,716) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 7 days. Gross: $9,000. (Average: $10,500).

**"Between Two Worlds" (WB)**
WARNERS HOLLYWOOD—(3,000) (50c-60c-80c-$1.00) 2nd week. Gross: $12,234. (Average: $17,000).

**"Between Two Worlds" (WB)**
WARNERS DOWNTOWN—(3,400) (50c-50c-80c-$1.00) 7 days. Gross: $13,979. (Average: $18,700).

**"Between Two Worlds" (WB)**
WARNERS WILTERN—(2,200) (50c-60c-80c-$1.00) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $11,062. (Average: $15,200).

## *Redemption of KAO Preferred Begun*

(*Continued from page* 1)

000, was the result of the recent RKO refinancing of a $12,500,000 loan through the First National Bank of Boston.

Withdrawal of the KAO preferred terminates the listing of KAO securities on the New York Stock Exchange after 15 years. The original public offering of the KAO preferred, the first of any KAO securities, was sold by a syndicate headed by Lehman Brothers in 1928.

## *Chertcoff to Build*

HARRISBURG, Pa., May 31.—Harry Chertcoff of Lancaster has purchased a site at nearby Camp Hill where he will construct a 1,000-seat theatre when war priorities are eased. Chertcoff operates theatres in three other suburban communities in this area.

# 9 Directors To Be Elected Today By United Artists

(Continued from page 1)

cordance with the new by-laws.

It was reported in informed quarters yesterday that Miss Pickford's candidates for the board will be: Isaac Pennypacker, Philadelphia attorney; Edward C. Raftery, United Artists president, and, in all probability, Gradwell L. Sears. Unconfirmed reports were that Sears has not definitely consented to serve on the board.

Predictions were that Selznick's candidates will be: Neil F. Agnew, George Bagnall and Joseph Bennett of the New York law firm of White & Case. Chaplin's representatives were not disclosed up to a late hour yesterday.

Indications late yesterday were that the meeting will be held today as scheduled, although there was some question about whether or not Raftery, who has been on the Coast for the past two weeks, and whose train was delayed by floods in the Midwest while en route here, would arrive in time for the session. Originally expected in New York yesterday, it was said that Raftery probably would go directly to Wilmington from Chicago.

### Chaplin in New York

Chaplin, who has opposed the various corporate changes underway in United Artists for the past several months, is in New York and reported to be contemplating court action to challenge the legality of some of the moves, subsequent to today's meeting. The new corporate program has the support of Miss Pickford and Selznick who, under the recent change in by-laws eliminating the former requirement of unanimous owner approval of corporate action, together can achieve an effective majority.

The new board will meet to elect officers in the very near future. The reelection of Raftery as president is anticipated.

## *24 Independents Sue Majors in Pittsburgh*

(Continued from page 1)

license agreement a violation of the act to protect trade and commerce against unlawful restraint and monopolies, also to restrain the distributors from "harassing the operators by threatening a suit to compel disclosure of intimate and confidential details of business on the pretense that it is required by the contract."

The plaintiffs are Morris Roth, Esther F. Roth, the Brushton Theatre Corp., the Buena Vista Amusement Co., C. F. Herman Bart, Ralph L. Norman, Jack Mervis, David Barnholtz, H. Finkel of the Carson Amusement Co., Sharpsburg Theatre Enterprises, William J. and Harry M. Walker of the Crafton Theatre Co., Harry Rachiele of the Chateau Amusement Co., Associated Theatres, the Paramount Theatre of Braddock, Hazlewood Theatres, Regent Square Theatres, the Sheridan Theatre, Bessie Fineman, Peter Antonopolos, and the Rochester Amusement Co. The defendants are Paramount, Loew's, 20th Century-Fox, Vitagraph, RKO Radio, Universal, Columbia and United Artists.

# *Review*

## *"Gunsmoke Mesa"*

*(PRC)*

DAVE (Tex) O'Brien and Jim Newill give to "Gunsmoke Mesa" their customary rip-roaring performances and comedy is added by Guy Wilkerson.

The story concerns the murder of a man and his wife, mine owners. O'Brien, Newill and Wilkerson, Texas Rangers, are determined to apprehend the killers. Concealing their identity, they learn that Jack Ingram, distant cousin of the murdered couple, is seeking custody of a surviving baby. Wilkerson "kidnaps" the baby from Ingram and while attempting to entertain him he is accosted by Ingram's villains, who demand the child. For the next several reels the baby is snatched alternately by the criminals and the Rangers but ultimately ends in the right hands.

Harry Fraser directed from a screenplay by Elmer Clifton. Arthur Alexander produced.

Running time, 59 mins. "G."*

HELEN MCNAMARA

**"G" denotes general classification.*

# Monogram Officials' Bonuses Approved

(Continued from page 1)

tives, allocated as follows: W. Ray Johnston and Trem Carr, five per cent each; Steve Broidy, three per cent; George D. Burrows and Scott Dunlap, two per cent each; and Edward Morey, Harry Thomas and Norton V. Ritchey, one per cent each.

A second proposal authorized the purchase of options on 12,000 shares of stock by Johnston and the same amount by Carr; 10,000 by Broidy; 7,500 by Burrows; 5,000 by Dunlap; 2,500 by Ritchey; 2,000 by Sam Wolf; and 1,500 each by Thomas and Morey.

A death benefit proposal, applicable to Johnston, Broidy and Carr, called for their survivors to receive $200 per week for the remainder of their respective contract periods.

Another proposal provided for the extension to Feb. 28, 1950, of the contract of Broidy, vice-president and general sales manager, whose present tenure runs until Dec. 2, 1948.

## *Monogram Profit for 39 Wks. Is $149,642*

LOS ANGELES, June 15.—Monogram today announced consolidated earnings of $410,076 for the 39 weeks ended March 25, before provision for Federal income and excess profits taxes. This compares with earnings of $100,041 for the same period in 1943. Net profits after reserve for taxes were $149,642 compared with $43,306 for the same period in 1942.

W. Ray Johnston, Monogram president, said the company's volume and profits exceeded any previous period in history.

## *F & M Plans New House*

ST. LOUIS, June 15.—Harry Arthur, Jr., general manager of Fanchon & Marco, has announced plans for the construction of a 2,000-seat theatre in the Southwest district of this city. The house, to be built by Sam Komm, following the end the war, will be operated by Missouri Amusement Corp., a subsidiary of Fanchon & Marco. Komm, who owns the site for the building, operates a circuit of neighborhood houses.

## *Museum FilmLibrary Has 17,730,848 Feet*

The film library of the Museum of Modern Art has acquired 17,730,848 feet of film since its inception in 1935, it was revealed here by the organization in connection with its 15th anniversary.

More than 819 organizations have exhibited the Museum's films, including 58 universities and 83 colleges, Army camps, USO clubs, churches, libraries and unions.

# Treasury Approves Loew's Pension Plan for Employes

(Continued from page 1)

pected to be announced shortly are understood to call for the payment of a minimum of $240 annual pension to all employes earning up to $3,000 annually. Those earning over $3,000 annually would receive $240 pension plus 25 per cent of the difference between $3,000 and their salary. In addition, those earning over $3,000 annually would also receive a percentage-wise increase in pensions amounting to one-quarter of one per cent for each year of service with the company while the plan is in effect.

RKO also has a pension plan in work for its employes. Under that plan, Treasury Department approval of which is being awaited, talent, producers, directors, writers, actors and part-time employes are not included.

Warner Brothers are now considering a pension plan and other companies, including 20th Century-Fox and Columbia, have also been reported studying plans. Paramount has a pension plan for its executives.

## *To Trade Show 'Romance'*

M-G-M will trade show "An American Romance" in all exchange centers on Monday, June 26. In Boston, New York and St. Louis there will be morning and evening showings. No release date has been set.


GET YOUR TICKETS

For the Sixth Annual

Amusement Division Luncheon

On behalf of the

United Jewish Appeal

•

Tuesday, June 20th, 12:30 p.m.

HOTEL ASTOR

•

Guest Speaker: Dr. Abba Hillel Silver

SPECIAL GUEST STARS

★CHICO MARX ★MILTON BERLE
★BENNY FIELDS ★WILLIE HOWARD

BARRY WOOD GERTRUDE NIESEN PETER LORRE
ELISABETH BERGNER JACKIE GLEASON JOAN EDWARDS
OSCAR KARLWEISS CONRAD NAGEL MARY MARTIN
J. EDWARD BROMBERG JOHN BOLES

*For tickets call B. S. Moss, Luncheon Chairman*
*218 West 48th Street - CIrcle 6-8600*

# MOTION PICTURE DAILY'S BOOKING CHART

| WEEK OF | COLUMBIA | M-G-M | MONO. | PARA. | PRC | REPUBLIC | RKO RADIO | 20TH-FOX | U. A. | UNIVERSAL | WARNERS |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| May 20 | STARS ON PARADE<br>Lynn Merrick<br>Larry Parks<br>Judy Clark<br>M—(5023) | **(Sixth Block)**<br>**SEE HERE, PRIVATE HARGROVE**<br>Robert Walker<br>Donna Reed<br>C—101 mins. (420)<br>**THE HEAVENLY BODY**<br>Hedy Lamarr<br>William Powell<br>D—95 mins. (421)<br>**SWING FEVER**<br>Kay Kyser<br>Marilyn Maxwell<br>M—81 mins. (423)<br>**RATIONING**<br>Wallace Beery<br>Marjorie Main<br>C—93 mins. (418)<br>**BROADWAY RHYTHM**<br>Ginny Simms<br>George Murphy<br>M—114 mins. (419)<br>(Color) | THE CHINESE CAT<br>Sidney Toler<br>D—64 mins. (320) | **(Fifth Block)**<br>**AND THE ANGELS SING**<br>Dorothy Lamour<br>Fred MacMurray<br>Betty Hutton<br>M—96 mins. (4321)<br>**DOUBLE INDEMNITY**<br>Fred MacMurray<br>Barbara Stanwyck<br>Edward G. Robinson<br>D—106 mins. (4325)<br>**THE HITLER GANG**<br>Robert Watson<br>Victor Varconi<br>D—100 mins. (4323)<br>**HENRY ALDRICH PLAYS CUPID**<br>Jimmy Lydon<br>Diana Lynn<br>Charles Smith<br>65 mins. (4322)<br>**GAMBLER'S CHOICE**<br>Chester Morris<br>Nancy Kelly<br>66 mins. (4324) | COWBOY AND THE SENORITA<br>Roy Rogers<br>Mary Lee<br>Dale Evans<br>M—78 mins. (342) | **(Fifth Block)**<br>**THE FALCON OUT WEST**<br>Tom Conway<br>Barbara Hale<br>D—64 mins. (421)<br>**DAYS OF GLORY**<br>Tamara Toumanova<br>Gregory Peck<br>D—86 mins. (422)<br>**THE YELLOW CANARY**<br>(British)<br>Anna Neagle<br>Richard Greene<br>D—84 mins. (423)<br>**SEVEN DAYS ASHORE**<br>Wally Brown<br>Gordon Oliver<br>C—74 mins. (424)<br>**SHOW BUSINESS**<br>Eddie Cantor<br>Joan Davis<br>George Murphy<br>Constance Moore<br>M—92 mins. (425) | (May Releases. No definite date set)<br>**PIN-UP GIRL**<br>Betty Grable<br>John Harvey<br>Martha Raye<br>Joe E. Brown<br>M—83 mins. (427)<br>(Color)<br>**BERMUDA MYSTERY**<br>Preston Foster<br>Ann Rutherford<br>D—65 mins. (428) | | PARDON MY RHYTHM<br>Gloria Jean<br>Patric Knowles<br>M<br>(8032)—62 mins. | BETWEEN TWO WORLDS<br>John Garfield<br>Paul Henreid<br>D—112 mins. (316) |
| May 27 | ADDRESS UNKNOWN<br>Paul Lukas<br>K. T. Stevens<br>D—72 mins. (5010) | | FOLLOW THE LEADER<br>East Side Kids<br>D | SPOOK TOWN<br>(Texas Rangers)<br>O—(457)<br>James Newill<br>Tex O'Brien | MELODY TRAIL<br>(Reissue)<br>Gene Autry<br>O—60 mins. (3304) | SILENT PARTNER<br>Beverly Loyd<br>William Henry<br>Grant Withers<br>O—55 mins. (317) | | SONG OF THE OPEN ROAD<br>Edgar Bergen<br>M—93 mins.<br>MYSTERY MAN<br>Wm. Boyd<br>O—58 mins. | THE SCARLET CLAW<br>Basil Rathbone<br>Nigel Bruce<br>D—74 mins. (8019)<br>BOSS OF BOOMTOWN<br>Rod Cameron<br>Vivian Austin<br>O—(8085) | |
| June 3 | | | SONORA STAGE COACH<br>(Trailblazer)<br>O—(365) | | WATERFRONT<br>John Carradine<br>J. Carroll Naish<br>D—(415)<br>65 mins. | GOOD NIGHT SWEETHEART<br>Robert Livingston<br>Ruth Terry<br>D—67 mins. (302) | (Special release)<br>ATTACK!<br>(Documentary)<br>56 mins. | | THE HAIRY APE<br>William Bendix<br>Susan Hayward<br>D—90 mins. | THIS IS THE LIFE<br>Donald O'Connor<br>Susanna Foster<br>C—87 mins. (8012) | |
| June 10 | THEY LIVE IN FEAR<br>Otto Kruger<br>Pat Parrish<br>Clifford Severn<br>D—65 mins. (5043) | | RETURN OF THE APE MAN<br>Bela Lugosi<br>John Carradine<br>D | | | YELLOW ROSE OF TEXAS<br>Roy Rogers<br>Dale Evans<br>O—(343)<br>69 mins. | **(Sixth Block)**<br>GILDER-SLEEVE'S GHOST<br>Harold Peary<br>Marian Martin<br>C—63 mins.<br>MARINE RAIDERS<br>Pat O'Brien<br>Ruth Hussey<br>D—91 mins.<br>A NIGHT OF ADVENTURE<br>Tom Conway<br>Audrey Long<br>D—65 mins.<br>STEP LIVELY<br>Frank Sinatra<br>George Murphy<br>M—88 mins.<br>LOOK TO YOUR CHILDREN<br>Kent Smith<br>Jean Brooks<br>D | (June Releases—no definite date set)<br>**EVE OF ST. MARK**<br>Anne Baxter<br>William Eythe<br>Michael O'Shea<br>(429) D—96 mins.<br>LADIES OF WASHINGTON<br>Sheila Ryan<br>Trudy Marshall<br>Doris Merrick<br>D—95 mins (430) | FORTY THIEVES<br>Wm. Boyd<br>Andy Clyde<br>Jimmy Rogers<br>O—60 mins. | GHOST CATCHERS<br>Olsen and Johnson<br>Gloria Jean<br>C—68 mins. | MAKE YOUR OWN BED<br>Jack Carson<br>Jane Wyman<br>Irene Manning<br>C—82 mins. (317) |
| June 17 | THE LAST HORSEMAN<br>Russell Hayden<br>Bob Wills<br>"Dub" Taylor<br>O—(5208) | | | | | | | | | | |
| June 24 | SHE'S A SOLDIER, TOO<br>Beulah Bondi<br>Nina Foch<br>Jess Barker<br>D—67 mins. (5040) | **(Seventh Block)**<br>ANDY HARDY'S BLONDE TROUBLE<br>Mickey Rooney<br>Lewis Stone<br>C—107 mins. (424) | | **(Sixth Block)**<br>HAIL THE CONQUERING HERO<br>Eddie Bracken<br>Ella Raines<br>C—100 mins. | | MAN FROM FRISCO<br>Michael O'Shea<br>Anne Shirley<br>D—91 mins. (318) | | | SOUTH OF DIXIE<br>Anne Gwynne<br>David Bruce<br>D—61 mins. | THIS IS THE ARMY<br>(Re-issue) (color)<br>George Murphy<br>Joan Leslie<br>M—(224)<br>115 mins. |
| July 1 | | GASLIGHT<br>Ingrid Bergman<br>Charles Boyer<br>D—(425)<br>MEET THE PEOPLE<br>Dick Powell<br>Lucille Ball<br>M—100 mins. (426) | RANGE LAW<br>Johnny Mack Brown<br>O—57 mins (355) | TAKE IT BIG<br>Jack Haley<br>Harriet Hilliard<br>C—75 mins.<br>THE GREAT MOMENT<br>Joel McCrea<br>Betty Field<br>D—80 mins. | MINSTREL MAN<br>Benny Fields<br>Gladys George<br>Roscoe Karns<br>O—(404) | CALL OF THE SOUTH SEAS<br>Janet Martin<br>Allan Lane<br>D—59 mins. (319) | | SENSATIONS OF 1945<br>Eleanor Powell<br>Dennis O'Keefe<br>M | CHRISTMAS HOLIDAY<br>Deanna Durbin<br>Gene Kelly<br>M—93 mins. | THE MASK OF DIMITRIOS<br>Sidney Greenstreet<br>Zachary Scott<br>D—95 mins. (318) |
| July 8 | LOUISIANA HAYRIDE<br>Judy Canova<br>Ross Hunter<br>C | THREE MEN IN WHITE<br>Lionel Barrymore<br>Van Johnson<br>D—(427)<br>TWO GIRLS AND A SAILOR<br>Jimmy Durante<br>Van Johnson<br>C—(428) | JOHNNY DOESN'T LIVE HERE ANYMORE<br>Simone Simon<br>James Ellison<br>D—79 mins. | HENRY ALDRICH'S LITTLE SECRET<br>Jimmy Lydon<br>Charlie Smith<br>C—75 mins.<br>I LOVE A SOLDIER<br>Paulette Goddard<br>Sonny Tufts<br>D—105 mins. | | CALL OF THE ROCKIES<br>Smiley Burnette<br>Sonny Carson<br>O—56 mins. (356)<br>COMIN' ROUND THE MOUNTAIN<br>(reissue)<br>Gene Autry<br>O—(3305)<br>SILVER CITY KID<br>Allan Lane<br>O—55 mins. (461) | | | TRIGGER TRAIL<br>O—(8086)<br>JUNGLE WOMAN<br>Evelyn Ankers<br>J. Carroll Naish<br>D—60 mins.<br>THE MUMMY'S GHOST<br>Lon Chaney<br>D—61 mins. | |
| July 15 | SECRET COMMAND<br>Pat O'Brien<br>Chester Morris<br>Ruth Warrick<br>D—80 mins. | | ARE THESE OUR PARENTS?<br>Helen Vinson<br>Lyle Talbot | | BRAND OF THE DEVIL<br>Jim Newill<br>Dave O'Brien<br>O—(458)<br>DELINQUENT DAUGHTERS<br>June Carlson<br>Fifi D'Orsay<br>D—(416) | SECRETS OF SCOTLAND YARD<br>Edgar Barrier<br>Stephanie Bachelor<br>S. Aubrey Smith<br>D—68 mins. (321) | (Special Release)<br>GOYESCAS<br>Imperio Argentina<br>M—110 mins. (461) | (July Releases—no definite date set)<br>ROGER TOUHY, GANGSTER<br>Preston Foster<br>Victor McLaglen<br>D—65 mins. (431) | SUMMER STORM<br>George Sanders<br>Linda Darnell<br>D—107 mins. | TWILIGHT ON THE PRAIRIE<br>Eddie Quillan<br>Vivian Austin<br>O—62 mins. | (Re-issues)<br>MANPOWER<br>TIGER SHARK<br>THEY MADE ME A CRIMINAL<br>THE WALKING DEAD<br>BROTHER RAT<br>POLO JOE |
| July 22 | | **(Eighth Block)**<br>(incomplete)<br>BATHING BEAUTY<br>Red Skelton<br>Esther Williams<br>M—101 mins.<br>(Color)<br>CANTERVILLE GHOST<br>Chas. Laughton<br>Margaret O'Brien<br>C—95 mins. | THREE OF A KIND<br>Billy Gilbert<br>Maxie Rosenbloom<br>Helen Gilbert<br>C | (Special Release)<br>GOING MY WAY<br>Bing Crosby<br>Barry Fitzgerald<br>Rise Stevens<br>D—130 mins. | FUZZY SETTLES DOWN<br>Buster Crabbe<br>Al 'Fuzzy' St. John<br>O—(465) | SNOW WHITE and the SEVEN DWARFS<br>(reissue)<br>83 mins. (492)<br>(Disney Feature Cartoon)<br>(Color) | | HOME IN INDIANA (color)<br>Walter Brennan<br>Jeanne Crain<br>D—103 mins. (433) | | ALLERGIC TO LOVE<br>Noah Beery, Jr.<br>Martha O'Driscoll<br>C—65 mins. | (Regular Release)<br>ADVENTURES OF MARK TWAIN<br>Fredric March<br>Alexis Smith<br>D—130 mins. (315) |
| July 29 | | | TRIGGER LAW<br>Hoot Gibson<br>O<br>CALL OF THE JUNGLE<br>Ann Corio<br>D | | SEVEN DOORS TO DEATH<br>D—(417) | | | CANDLELIGHT IN ALGERIA<br>(British)<br>James Mason<br>Carla Lehmann<br>D—85 mins. (432) | | | |

(D) Drama, (M) Musical, (C) Comedy, (O) Outdoor Action. Production Numbers Are in Parentheses

5th WAR LOAN DRIVE

# MOTION PICTURE DAILY

Join the Fighting Fifth!

VOL. 55. NO. 119 NEW YORK, U. S. A., MONDAY, JUNE 19, 1944 TEN CENTS

## Screen Use of Venereal Films Urged on U. S.

### *But Report Disapproves Wanger's Picture*

By BERTRAM F. LINZ

WASHINGTON, June 18. — A strong report urging that maximum use be made of commercial motion picture theatres for the dissemination of information and education on social disease and hygiene has been submitted to the U. S. Surgeon General by an advisory committee of that department which last month conducted an intensive investigation to determine the attitude on the subject of large civic, religious and other groups of the country, it was learned here today.

**An overwhelming majority of these organizations, it was disclosed, signed the report.**

The approving groups recommended that official health agencies use the

(*Continued on page 7*)

## Publicists Demand Forty Hour Week

HOLLYWOOD, June 18.—The Screen Publicists Guild formally submitted to the producers previously submitted proposals for contract revisions encompassing establishment of a 40-hour week instead of the persent 53-hour period; adjustments advancing workers' compensation not yet in line with the Little Steel formula, sick leave and vacation stipulations.

The producers are expected to make counter proposals within a fortnight.

## *WAC Heads to Meet WMC in Washington*

Leon J. Bamberger, assistant to War Activities Committee distributors division chairman Ned R. Depinet, and A. A. Schubart, of RKO, leave for Washington today to appear before the Essential Activities Committee of the War Manpower Commission on Tuesday.

Appearing at the invitation of the EAC, Bamberger will substantiate the applications for "locally needed" designations filed for film exchange personnel in Dallas and Buffalo. The EAC, headed by chairman Collis Stocking, will rule on the Dallas and Buffalo classifications, with the decision expected to set a pattern for the remainder of the country.

## Schine Hits Dismissal of 'Little Three'

BUFFALO, June 18.—In an answer to the Government's second amended complaint, filed yesterday in U. S. District Court here, the Schine circuit defendants deny being engaged in interstate commerce and for separate defense charge the amended complaint fails to state a claim upon which relief can be granted.

"Upon the facts stated in the amended complaint, the court has no jurisdiction over the alleged cause of action in that no facts are set forth showing defendants are engaged in interstate commerce," the answer says.

Schine charges that the Government does not "come into this court with clean hands and is not entitled to equitable relief in this action," that subsequent to the start of action in the Southern District against Paramount, et al, and prior to the trial, negotiations were instituted between the plaintiff and the major distributors, and that dismissal of the "Little Three" just before the Schine trial was the result of "a secret agreement between the plaintiff and the distributors, details of which are unknown to the remaining defendants."

"The remaining defendants have been severely prejudiced by dismissal of the distributors. Notwithstanding their dismissal, the plaintiff still claims the distributors are party to action," the answer adds.

Demanding a judgment dismissing the complaint, Schine counsel, Willard S. McKay and Edmund M. McCarthy, who filed the answer, charge that the "plaintiff is guilty of laches" (failure to enforce its rights in time).

## *Next Decree Meet Awaits Clark*

**Last week's meetings between the Department of Justice and the representatives of the five decree companies failed to reach any conclusions on the future of the new consent decree. The meetings therefore will be resumed immediately upon the return of Assistant U. S. Attorney General Tom C. Clark to Washington from his Dallas home.**

**The companies are hopeful of receiving the Department's reaction to the new decree proposals advanced last week when the next conference is held.**

## 'Parade of Stars' Sparks Opening War Bond Rallies

A multitude of special events, with the cooperation of the armed forces, the War Activities Committee, the War Finance Division of the Treasury and the Hollywood Victory Committee, which is providing stars, is under way on behalf of the "Fighting Fifth" War Loan Drive, R. J. O'Donnell, national industry chairman, announced at the weekend.

Nationally, the leading participation of these groups is in the Army Air Forces "Parade of Stars," which includes the 65-piece orchestra of the Army Air Forces Technical Training Command and a group of Hollywood players. Many millions of dollars in Bonds have already been sold through

(*Continued on page 6*)

## Pension Plan Of Loew's Is Completed

### *Executives Will Limit Their Profit Sharing*

Nicholas M. Schenck, president of Loew's, in a letter to the company's stockholders at the weekend, disclosed that to help defray the cost of the company's pension plan for approximately 4,300 employes which stockholders will be asked to ratify at their annual meeting July 18, executives who have profit-sharing contracts have agreed to limit their own compensation under existing contracts while the plan is in effect.



Nicholas Schenck

According to estimates, had the pro-

(*Continued on page 7*)

## *Name 9 U.A. Directors*

WILMINGTON, Del., June 18.—United Artists stockholders elected nine directors, comprising the company's new "management" board, at their special meeting here on Friday.

The directors elected are: Edward C. Raftery, Isaac Pennypacker, Philadelphia, attorney, and Charles P. Blinn of Pennypacker's law firm, representing Mary Pickford; Grad-

(*Continued on page 7*)

## *Film Delivery Service Unaffected by Strike*

CHICAGO, June 18.—The threatened Truck Drivers' strike in the Midwest will in no way involve the film delivery service in the affected areas, according to C. H. Otto, secretary and treasurer of the Film Chauffers and Carriers Union, local 755, AFL.

Otto stated that the FCCU has no connection with any other truck driver unions and up to this moment has not been approached by the Central States Drivers Council, which is waging the fight, for any support in case a strike is called.

## *AFM Warns Its Locals to File Financial Returns*

American Federation of Musicians started at the weekend to mail to its several hundred locals the blanks to be used in filing details of all financial transactions, income and disbursements, as required under the Federal tax law effected last July 1, and, at the same time, warned the unions of their responsibilities under the act.

**The law applies to all motion picture unions, guilds and other organizations, and to all non-profit groups in this and other fields. It is intended to determine the nature of the organizations' financial transactions.**

Heretofore all organizations considered tax exempt were merely required to file an application for a certificate of exemption, which the U. S. Internal Revenue Bureau usually granted. The bureau has adopted an entirely new form for returns by the tax exempt organizations but has retained the old number, 990.

The bureau has decreed that returns shall be filed on or before Aug. 15, 1944. The returns shall be for the fiscal year commencing 1943. In future years the form for returns must be filed on or before May 15.

# Personal Mention

MARLENE DIETRICH returned to New York at the weekend after ten weeks of USO camp-show touring, entertaining American troops in the Mediterranean theatre.

•

ART GOULD, former head booker for the Joseph Stern Theatres, Chicago, now in the Army, has returned to California after spending a 10-day furlough in Chicago.

•

SALLY SIMON, secretary to TOM CONNORS, 20th-Fox vice-president, is mourning the loss of her mother, who died here Thursday.

•

CHESTER FRIEDMAN, editor of *Motion Picture Herald's* "Managers' Round Table," returned over the weekend from Indianapolis.

•

ART CATLIN, RKO publicity director in Chicago, has left on a tour of several Wisconsin towns.

•

ISABELLE AUSTIN of the Roxy Theatre, New York, is in Mt. Sinai Hospital suffering with an eye ailment.

## Mooney Names Blair To Publicity Post

HOLLYWOOD, June 18.—Martin Mooney, PRC Pictures production executive, appointed Harry N. Blair over the weekend, eastern publicity manager, succeeding S. S. Kestenbaum, who becomes field exploiteer.

Blair will leave for the east tomorrow to take up his assignment with PRC. His background embraces trade journalism, a reviewer's post for the Philadelphia *Daily News* and *Evening Ledger*, and eastern editor of the Associated Publications. He has also served in the publicity departments of some of the leading producers.

## Moray Will Confer With Jack Warner

Norman H. Moray, short subject sales manager for Warner Bros., left New York over the weekend for the coast to confer with Jack L. Warner, executive producer, and Gordon Hollingshead, head of short subject production, on the company's schedule of shorts for the 1944-45 season.

It is expected that the new lineup will be approximately the same in size as the current program. Quota of Technicolor subjects, however, will probably be somewhat larger.

## Lou Goldberg Leaves RKO Theatre Post

Louis Goldberg, who tendered his resignation 10 days ago as division manager of RKO theatres in Brooklyn and Manhattan, left the company on Friday. Goldberg has been in theatre operation posts for the past 30 years. His division was reassigned to Charles McDonald, who headed it up to a few months ago.

# Tradewise . . .

**By SHERWIN KANE**

THE revisions of the proposed consent decree which the five companies, party thereto, agreed to make last week are direct concessions in favor of exhibitors and should make the companies' proposals more attractive to a very large number of them. The liberalized cancellation provisions, in particular, benefit the largest number of exhibitors in a most direct and practical manner. Details of the new cancellation formula were published in this paper on Friday.

Fewer exhibitors are interested in Section 10 than in cancellations and even fewer are interested in the establishment of showcase houses in key cities by the five decree companies. However, for those who are interested in Section 10, the companies have agreed to re-phrase the provision to give guarantees that an exhibitor entitled to specific runs of films under arbitration proceedings, actually is able to obtain them. For those who are interested in circuit establishment of showcase houses (and those who are interested, presumably are opposed to them), the decree companies have agreed to waive whatever rights that may be theirs to construct or acquire showcase theatres.

• •

These are the principal revisions in the decree up to the moment. Company officials regard them as approximately the ultimate that can be offered without violating sound business judgment. More, they believe that insistence upon any further fundamental changes in decree provisions would make it necessary for them to choose to take their chances in court. It is their view that loss of a law suit would not result in their giving up more than has been given already. And there is always the possibility that the law suit would not be lost.

If this sounds like specious reasoning, let some one try to tell you just what exhibitors have gained from the government's court victory in the Crescent suit at Nashville. And look up the won and lost score of the companies in recent court cases. The last four decisions to come down have been in favor of the distribution companies.

• •

Plans for the appointment of officials to represent the industry in leading world capitals are being advanced from week to week. Names are being proposed and qualifications of prospective appointees are being investigated. Indications are that much of the work being done in the matter is in consultation with State Department officials. The immediate aim is to provide the industry with representation in about six major capitals in the near future and in other strategic capitals as liberation develops.

F. W. Allport naturally will return to his London post and, when possible, Harold Smith is certain to go back to Paris, where he performed distinguished work for the industry for a number of years. Probably the first post to be filled will be in Mexico City. Others throughout Latin America may follow.

• •

Columbia's profit for the current fiscal year is estimated in financial quarters to be around $7,000,000 before taxes. You don't have to be a Picture Pioneer to recall the years when that company's gross revenue for a year approximated a figure of that kind.

• •

State exhibitor organizations are being polled by mail now on their views with respect to formation of a national exhibitor council on taxation exclusive of Allied States, which was unable to gain the approval of its board of directors for participation in such an organization.

Replies to the queries to date are said to be overwhelmingly in favor of the proposal. The exhibitor tax council was formally approved by MPTOA, affiliated circuits and the Pacific Coast Conference of Independent Theatre Owners. Now supported by a substantial number of the unattached state exhibitor organizations, there appears to be no reason to doubt that a representative national tax council can be formed. There is even less reason to doubt the need for such an organization. Its officials, as has been reported, would be authorized to represent and speak for exhibition on all national taxation matters affecting theatres and would serve, too, as counselors to state exhibitor organizations on regional tax problems.

## Edison Award Given Irving Cummings

**Hollywood, June 18.—The Thomas A. Edison Foundation Gold Award, which in previous years has been given to scientists and educators, was received for the first time by a member of the film industry when Dr. Rufus B. von Kleinsmid, president of the University of Southern California, presented the 1943 medal at the weekend to producer-director Irving Cummings. The award is given for "outstanding achievement in the arts and sciences."**

## Reception Committee For UJA Luncheon

The reception committee for the amusement division's fund-raising luncheon for the United Jewish Appeal to be held tomorrow at the Hotel Astor has been announced by B. S. Moss, chairman of the luncheon committee.

The committee includes Carter Blake, Harry Brandt, Max A. Cohen, Leopold Friedman, Emil Friedlander, Arthur Israel, Jr., Malcolm Kingsberg, William Klein, Samuel Machnovitch, Larry Morris, Louis Nizer, Sam Rinzler, Herman Robbins, Jack Robbins, Sam Rosen, Ed Rudoff, George J. Schaefer, Abe Schneider, Joseph H. Seidelman, Maurice Silverstone, Nate Spingold, and David Weinstock. Dr. Abba Hillel Silver will be guest of honor.

## It's Capt. Matty Fox; Prutzman Overseas

Matthew J. Fox, former vice-president of Universal, who has been serving in Britain with the Army Signal Corps, has been commissioned a captain, according to word received here. His promotion from warrant officer was in recognition of special services performed in Army preparations for D-Day, it was said. Fox joined the Army as a private.

Pvt. Charles Prutzman, Jr., 18-year-old son of the Universal vice-president and general counsel, has been assigned to overseas duty with the Army Signal Corps.

## Services Get 50% Of Terry Output

Fifty per cent of the output of the Terrytoon cartoon studio in New Rochelle is devoted to the production of training films for the Navy, Marine Corps and Army, Paul Terry, president, disclosed at the weekend at a luncheon and inspection tour of the studio for the trade press.

The studio will produce 28 cartoons in color for 20th-Fox release in 1944-45, against 26 delivered this season.

## Meltzer on Own

Allen Meltzer, recently resigned as Eastern publicity manager for Warner Bros., has formed an independent public relations organization, Allen Meltzer, Inc., with headquarters here.

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## New Trial Plea to Cite Hincks' Letter

An eight-page letter allegedly written by Federal Judge Carroll Hincks to a juror on the trial of the Prefect Theatres anti-trust suit against the major distributors will be used by the plaintiffs' counsel, Saul Rogers, as his chief argument in support of his motion for a new trial at a hearing in U. S. District Court in New Haven Wednesday afternoon.

Rogers told MOTION PICTURE DAILY at the weekend that one of the jurors had written the judge protesting his taking the case away from the jury on April 14 and that Hincks, in a lengthy reply, had conceded that there was evidence of conspiracy but that, in his opinion, there was no evidence of damage. Rogers will argue that, on the basis of this conspiracy point, a new trial should be granted, he said.

If the motion for the new trial is denied by the court, the plaintiffs will immediately file an appeal from the dismissal of the case to the U. S. Circuit Court of Appeals.

## Gene Buck President Of Catholic Actors

Gene Buck, acting president of the Catholic Actors Guild since the death of George M. Cohan, has been elected to that office with Pat O'Brien, first vice-president and Jay Jostyn, second vice-president. Results of the election were announced at the Guild's annual meeting Friday, along with reports showing all-time highs in membership and financial resources.

Other officers elected were Donat Gautier, recording secretary, Kathryn Givney, historian, Frank McNellis, chairman of executive board, Jane Hoy, theatrical social secretary, Lillian Fallon, non-theatrical social secretary, and the following members of the executive board: Mrs. Philip Barry, Edwin Burke, William A. Downs, Walter Gilbert, Johnny Kane, Tom Kane, Ed Latimer, Walter J. Moore, Mrs. Paul Munter, William G. Norton, George Shelton, Jane Taylor.

## Arthur Lord, 68, Was Pioneer in Radio

EAST ORANGE, N. J., June 18.—Arthur D. Lord, 68, pioneer vacuum tube manufacturer, and former president and receiver of the De Forrest Radio Co, died here recently. His father, the late Daniel M. Lord, was a founder of Lord & Thomas.

In 1928, Lord was elected president of the De Forrest Radio Co. and later he was appointed a receiver for the company. He is survived by his wife, Mrs. Dorothy S. Lord; a daughter, Mrs. Harold Armstrong; a brother, Daniel M. Lord, and two sisters, Mrs. Edgerton Parsons and Mrs. Florence Lord Hough.

## Nat'l Theatres Sign Universal for 3 Yrs.

LOS ANGELES, June 18.—W. A. Scully, Universal vice-president and general sales manager, has concluded negotiations for a three-year extension of the Universal product deal with National Theatres.

# Review

## "Taxi to Heaven"

*(Artkino)*

THIS musical comedy, produced at Central Studios in the USSR by Frederick Ermler, is a simple love story, embellished by native music, both popular and classic, with little reference to the war.

Ludmila Tselikovskaya, a capable actress with a fine voice, portrays an aspiring opera star, and Mikhail Zharov lends realism to the role of a transport pilot in love with her. Georgi Speigel, established in the Moscow Opera, also loves Ludmila and denies her a career if she refuses to marry him. Zharov leaves to fly supplies to the front lines. On his return flight, he runs into trouble, but when his radio operator picks up the broadcast of the heroine's debut, the plane is guided safely back to Moscow on the radio beam of Ludmila's voice. The two are reunited. Herbert Rappaport's direction, from Eugene Petrov's scenario, keeps the picture moving rapidly.

Running time, 70 mins. "G."*

HELEN MCNAMARA

*"G" denotes general classification.

## Milwaukee's Grosses Show Mixed Trend

MILWAUKEE, June 18.—"Up in Mabel's Room," coupled with "Lady, Let's Dance" at the Warner Theatre shared top spot with "Girl in the Case," and Vaughn Monroe's Band at the Riverside.

Estimated receipts for the week ending June 17:

**"Andy' Hardy's Blonde Trouble" (M-G-M)**
**"Harvest Melody" (PRC)**
WISCONSIN—(3,200) (40c-60c-80c) 7 days, 1st week. Gross: $11,200. (Average: $14,000.)

**"And the Angels Sing" (Par.)**
**"Negro Soldier" (OWI)**
PALACE—(2,400) (40c-60c-80c) 7 days, 1st week. Gross: $7,485. (Average: $11,500).

**"Cover Girl" (Col.)**
**"Standing Room Only" (Par.)**
STRAND—(1,400) (40c-60c-80c) 7 days, 3rd week downtown. Gross: $6,875. (Average: $5,500).

**"Up in Mabel's Room" (UA)**
**"Lady, Let's Dance" (Mono.)**
WARNER—(2,400) (50c-72c) 7 days, 1st week. Gross: $16,000. (Average: $14,000).

**"Cobra Woman" (Univ.)**
**"Negro Soldier" (OWI)**
ALHAMBRA—(1,900) (50c-70c) 7 days, 1st week.

**"Girl in the Case" (Col.)**
RIVERSIDE—(2,700) (65c-85c) 7 days, 1st week. Vaughn Monroe's Band on stage. Gross: $15,000. (Average: $15,000).

## Hirliman Appoints Weshner Associates

George Hirliman, president of Film Classics, announced today the appointment of David E. Weshner & Associates as advertising, publicity and exploitation consultants to his organization. Weshner, will work in association with Carol Weill, recently appointed Film Classics publicity head.

His immediate efforts in behalf of Film Classics will be the launching of a campaign on "Dead End," the Samuel Goldwyn production which opens in New York City at Brandt's Gotham, July 1.

## Jeffrey in New Post For International

Arthur Jeffrey has been appointed Eastern publicity director for International Pictures, Inc., it was announced by Tom Fizdale at the weekend. The appointment is effective immediately.

Jeffrey resigned recently as publicity manager of United Artists, with whom he was associated for the past eight years.

## Rain Hurts Business In Minneapolis

MINNEAPOLIS, June 18.—A week of torrential rain shared responsibility for a continuance of off-business here. "Two Girls and a Sailor" pulled $16,000 at Radio City Theatre, to lead.

Estimated receipts for week ending June 15:

**"Lost Angel" (M-G-M)**
STATE—(2,300) (44c-60c) 7 days. Gross: $11,000. (Average: $12,400).

**"Two Girls and a Sailor" (M-G-M)**
RADIO CITY—(4,000) (44c-60c) 7 days. Gross: $16,0000. (Average: $15,000).

**"Pin Up Girl" (20th-Fox)**
CENTURY—(1,600) (44c-60c) 7 days, 2nd week downtown. Gross: $6,000. (Average: $7,400).

**"Show Business" (RKO)**
ORPHEUM—(2,800) (44c-60c) 7 days. Gross: $9,000. (Average: $13,000).

**"Gaslight" (M-G-M)**
LYRIC—(1,250) (44c-60c) 7 days, 2nd week downtown. Gross: $5,500. (Average: $5,600).

**"None Shall Escape" (Col.)**
WORLD—(350) (44c-55c-60c-80c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $3,000. (Average: $2,600).

**"The Impostor" (Univ.)**
GOPHER—(998) (40c) 7 days. Gross:

**"Follow the Leader" (Mono.)**
**"Girl in the Case" (Col.)**
ASTER—(900) (25c-35c). Gross: $2,600. (Average: $2,600).

## Mexicans Join in Opposing Dubbing

MEXICO CITY, June 18.—The films players union and Section 2 (studio workers) of the National Cinematographic Industry Workers Union have joined with Section 1 (theatre attaches) in opposing exhibition in Mexico of American product dubbed in Spanish.

The players union has appointed a committee, which includes Dolores del Rio, to provide penalties for Mexican players who aid Hollywood in dubbing, and Enrique Solis, head of Section 2, has announced that he will refuse to aid such companies in their dubbing.

## WB Shorts in Archives

WASHINGTON, June 18.—A National Archives' official has requested, and received, nine prints of Warner patriotic short subjects for inclusion in its files. The films are: "March on Marines," "Meet the Fleet," "A Ship Is Born," "The Fighting Engineers," "Spirit of West Point," "Eagles of the Navy," "Our African Frontier," "Spirit of Annapolis," and "Mountain Fighters."

# Coast Flashes

*Hollywood, June 18.*

HAL WALLIS has bought the Chris Massie novel, "Love Letters," which he may produce in England.

•

M-G-M has elevated Ralph Wheelright to a producership. His first will be "Time for Two," from his original. Wheelright entered the M-G-M writing department 15 months ago after several years in publicity as Howard Strickling's assistant. He scripted "Suzy-Q" and collaborated on "Seattle."

•

Tom Fizdale will arrive here tomorrow from New York to plan with William Goetz and Leo Spitz for the premiere of International Pictures' first, "Casanova Brown," which RKO will distribute and which is scheduled for an early New York opening.

•

Lou Smith has been named studio publicity director for Lester Cowan Prod. He will work on "G. I. Joe," and "Tomorrow the World," which will get United Artists distribution.

•

"Little Horse," a *Good Housekeeping* serial, has been bought by 20th-Fox for a film starring Peggy Ann Garner.

•

HARRY E. EDINGTON has re-entered the agency business with offices in the California Bank Building.

## 'Angels', 'Pass' Pull $13,100 in Omaha

OMAHA, June 18.—Box office receipts have bounded back here after a two weeks' slump. Wet weather for six straight days helped "And the Angels Sing" and "Weekend Pass" to $13,100 at the Orpheum.

Estimated receipts for week ending June 14-15:

**"Once Upon a Time" (Col.)**
**"Nine Girls" (Col.)**
BRANDEIS—(1,200) (44c-60c) 9 days. Gross: $10,100. (Average: $6,500).

**"Buffalo Bill" (20th-Fox)**
**"Tunisian Victory" (M-G-M-MOI)**
OMAHA—(2,000) (44c-60c) 7 days. Gross: $8,900. (Average: $8,400).

**"And the Angels Sing" (Para.)**
**"Weekend Pass" (Univ.)**
ORPHEUM—(3,000) (44c-60c) 7 days. Gross: $13,100. (Average: $9,800).

**"Andy Hardy's Blonde Trouble" (M-G-M)**
PARAMOUNT—(2,900) (44c-60c) 7 days. Gross: $10,400. (Average: $11,700).

## Pemberton Head of Paramount Trailers

By appointment through Robert M. Gillham, Paramount's national director of advertising and publicity, Phil Pemberton will head the studio trailer department, effective today, and Leonard Neubauer of that department will take charge of advertising in the preliminary campaign set-up for pictures.

## Dartmouth Picks Wanger

BOSTON, June 18.—Alumni of Dartmouth College elected Walter Wanger their general president, and chose Ben Ames Williams, author, vice-president.

# Out Front



## IN 146

*FLASH NEWS!*

SIMILAR REPORTS FROM EVERY OPENING!

**INDIANA THEATRE**
**INDIANAPOLIS, IND.**

2nd day as big as 1st day, which was a record breaker.

**KEARSE THEATRE**
**CHARLESTON, W.VA.**

Breaks all records for past 6 months.

**PALACE THEATR**
**CINCINNATI, O.**

Broke all openir day records. 2n day big as 1st d

# Home in



IN

*PLAY THEM TO WIN!*

THE EVE OF ST. MARK · PIN UP GIRL · BUFFALO E

*from* 20 *Century-Fox, th*



# All the way!

## ARTS

**KEITH'S THEATRE**
**DAYTON, O.**

Broke all records.

**RKO PALACE THEA.**
**COLUMBUS, O.**

Beat every picture except "Coney Island" which opened on holiday.

**WARNER THEATRE**
**YOUNGSTOWN, O.**

Broke all records.

**OHIO THEATRE**
**MARION, O.**

Broke all records. 4 times normal business.

# Indiana

## TECHNICOLOR

OUR JILLS IN A JEEP · THE SONG OF BERNADETTE · THE PURPLE HEART

AND WINNINGEST

*iggest figure in the industry!*

# 'Bermuda', Cugat At $23,000 in Cincy

CINCINNATI, June 18.—A break in the prolonged hot weather proved a break for "Bermuda Mystery," aided by Xavier Cugat's orchestra, which headed for an approximate $23,000 at the RKO Albee.

Estimated receipts for the week ending June 14-17:

**"Bermuda Mystery" (20th-Fox)**
RKO ALBEE—(3,300) (44c-50c-55c-65c-85c) 7 days, plus Saturday midnight show. Stage: Xavier Cugat's orchestra, George and Gene Bernard, the Garcias, Kurt Rollini. Gross: $23,000. (Average: $22,000).

**"Follow the Boys" (Univ.)**
RKO CAPITOL—(2,000) (44c-50c-60c-70c) 7 days, plus Saturday midnight show, 2nd week. Gross: $10,000. (Average: $10,000).

**"The Navy Way" (Para.)**
**"Gunsmoke Mesa" (PRC)**
RKO FAMILY—(1,000) (30c-40c) 4 days. Gross: $1,600. (Average: $1,600).

**"Marshal of Gunsmoke" (Univ.)**
**"Hi Good-Lookin' " (Univ.)**
RKO FAMILY—(1,000) (30c-40c) 3 days. Gross: $750. (Average: $800).

**"See Here, Private Hargrove" (M-G-M)**
RKO GRAND—(1,500) (44c-50c-60c-70c) 7 days, plus Saturday midnight show, 4th week. Gross: $5,000. (Average: $9,500).

**"Meet the People" (M-G-M)**
KEITH'S — (1,500) (44c-50c-60c-70c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $6,500. (Average: $5,000).

**"Man from Frisco" (Rep.)**
**"The Girl in the Case" (Col.)**
RKO LYRIC—(1,500) (44c-50c-60c-70c) 7 days, plus Saturday midnight show. Gross: $5,000. (Average: $5,500).

**"The Uninvited" (Para.)**
RKO PALACE—(2,700) (44c-50c-60c-70c) 7 days, plus Saturday midnight show. Gross: $15,000. (Average: $15,000).

**"Pin Up Girl" (20th-Fox)**
RKO SHUBERT—(2,150) (44c-50c-60c-70c) 7 days, 2nd week, moveover from the Palace. Gross: $6,000. (Average: $5,000).

# *'Parade of Stars' Sparks Opening Bond Rallies*

(*Continued from page 1*)

the appearance of this traveling unit.

Players who are touring or who have appeared include Gary Cooper, Paul Lukas, Ingrid Bergman, Veronica Lake, Betty Grable, Lana Turner, Susanna Foster, Ray Bolger, Lynn Bari, Walter Pidgeon, Milton Berle, Broderick Crawford, Oscar Levant and Helen Forrest. Others will go out as production schedules permit. Rallies are being held in the largest auditoriums or outdoor places in each city visited.

The unit appears at huge rallies which spark the drive in each city, such as the one attended by 60,000 persons in Detroit and that attended by more than 40,000 at the Polo Grounds here last night. Other rallies have been held in St. Louis, Chicago, Indianapolis, Boston, Philadelphia and Brooklyn. Still others are scheduled as follows: today, Chicago; June 21, Atlantic City; June 22, Wilmington; June 23, Norfolk; June 24, Richmond; June 27, Birmingham; June 28, Knoxville; June 29, Memphis; June 30, Louisville; July 1, Cincinnati.

On Friday Brooklyn packed the Fox Brooklyn Theatre, scaled to $500,000 in war bonds. In Philadelphia at Convention Hall on Thursday night, 15,000 spectators poured $1,500,000 into Fifth War Loan coffers.

### $16,000,000 Sale at Rally in Pittsburgh

PITTSBUGRH, June 18.—Pittsburgh and Western Pennsylvania's first major promotion of the Fifth War Loan was staged at Forbes Field here Friday before a crowd of 40,000.

Robert H. McClintic, state vice chairman of the War Finance Committee for Pennsylvania, said the show was responsible for the sale of approximately $16,000,000 in bonds. Two tickets were given each purchaser, with the stands scaled from $1,000 for box steats to $25 for the bleachers.

A gem-studded "flower ballet" brooch, created by John Rubel, New York jewelry designer, and presented to the committee, was auctioned.

Harry Krivit, formerly production manager with Loew's circuit, has been appointed advance representative for the Air Force's "Parade of Stars" by national industry chairman R. J. O'Donnell and is traveling one day ahead of the show, which is sponsored jointly by the WFC, the War Activities Committee and the Hollywood Victory Committee.

### Sales in Times Square Reach $203,123 Total

Bond sales at the Times Square cash register reached $203,123 at the weekend.

Friday's noontime show included Harry James and his orchestra, the Don Cossacks, Sergeant Chas. E. (Commando) Kelly of Pittsburgh, and Lieut. Ernest Childers, Creek Indian, both awarded the Congressional Medal of Honor. The Saturday performance featured Gertrude Niesen of "Follow the Boys," Una Merkel, Victor Jory, Louise Beavers, and Lucky Millinder and orchestra, the last two from Loew's State Theatre. Today's line-up includes the Capitol stage show, with Sammy Kaye's orchestra, Paul Winchell, Val Valentinoff, and Annabella.

### $1,454,000 in 5 Days at M-G-M Studios

HOLLYWOOD, June 18.—War bond sales totalling $1,454,000 during the first five days of the Fifth War Loan Drive on the M-G-M lot have been reported by the War Finance Committee. The studio bought $250,000 worth and Norma Shearer $50,000. Sales at RKO exceed $550,000, of which the studio accounted for $50,000. Studio purchases are in addition to company purchases announced by New York headquarters.

### $112,000 War Bond Sale At 44-Seat Premiere

LOS ANGELES, June 18.—C. J. Bell, Paramount branch manager here, reports that a 44-seat projection room premiere of "The Story of Dr. Wassell" at the Paramount exchange sold $112,000 in bonds. Another exchange premiere will be held July 10.

Ned E. Depinet, national distributor chairman, has endorsed projection room premieres for every exchange center, where they can be put on without conflicting with exhibitors' premieres.


LAST CALL!!

ONLY TWO DAYS LEFT TO GET

your tickets for the

Sixth Annual

Amusement Division Luncheon

On behalf of the

United Jewish Appeal

•

Tuesday, June 20th, 12:30 p.m.

HOTEL ASTOR

•

Guest Speaker: Dr. Abba Hillel Silver

SPECIAL GUEST STARS

★CHICO MARX ★MILTON BERLE
★BENNY FIELDS ★WILLIE HOWARD

BARRY WOOD GERTRUDE NIESEN PETER LORRE
ELISABETH BERGNER JACKIE GLEASON JOAN EDWARDS
OSCAR KARLWEISS CONRAD NAGEL MARY MARTIN
J. EDWARD BROMBERG JOHN BOLES

*Obtain tickets from B. S. Moss, Luncheon Chairman*
*218 West 48th Street - CIrcle 6-8600*


# $63,000 for 'Way' and Show in Chi.

CHICAGO, June 18.—The Chicago Theatre was far ahead here this week with "Going My Way" and a stage show headed by Harry Richman, taking a terrific $63,000. "Follow the Boys" grossed a fine $25,000 at the Palace.

Estimated receipts for the week ending June 15:

**"Standing Room Only" (Para.) 4th Loop week**
**"Gambler's Choice" (Para.)**
APOLLO—(1,200) (55c-65c-95c) 7 days. Gross: $10,500. (Average: $11,400).

**"Going My Way" (Para.)**
CHICAGO—(3,850) (55c-85c-95c) 7 days. Stage: Harry Richman, Dave Apollon Revue. Gross: $63,000. (Average: $51,500).

**"Address Unknown" (Col.)**
**"The Whistler" (Col.)**
GARRICK—(1,000) (55c-65c-95c) 7 days. Gross: $10,000. (Average: $9,100).

**"Girls Under 21" (Col. Reissue)**
**"Under Age" (Reissue) (1 day)**
**"Show Business" (RKO) (3rd Loop week)**
**"Passport to Destiny" (RKO) (6 days)**
GRAND—(1,250) (50c-60c-85c-95c) 7 days. Gross: $7,000. (Average: $9,100).

**"Waterfront" (PRC)**
ORIENTAL—(3,200) (44c-55c-60c-80c-95c) 7 days. Stage: Beatrice Kaye, Jimmy Joy and orchestra. Gross: $24,500. (Average: $24,000).

**"Show Business" (RKO)**
**"Yellow Canary" (RKO) (1 day)**
**"Follow the Boys" (Univ.)**
**"Gildersleeve's Ghost" (RKO) (6 days)**
PALACE—(2,500) (50c-60c-85c-95c) 7 days. Gross: $25,000. (Average: $24,000).

**"Passage to Marseille" (WB)**
ROOSEVELT—(1,500) (55c-65c-95c) 7 days. Gross: $21,000. (Average: $20,000).

**"Pin Up Girl" (20th-Fox)**
STATE LAKE—(2,700) (55c-65c-95c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $20,000. (Average: $29,000).

**"See Here, Private Hargrove" (M-G-M)**
UNITED ARTISTS—(1,700) (50c-65c-95c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $22,500. (Average: $20,200).

**"Up in Arms" (RKO)**
WOODS—(1,200) (55c-65c-95c) 7 days, 7th week. Gross: $17,500. (Average: $10,000).

# Pittsburgh Business Gets Slow Start

PITTSBURGH, June 18. — Although business began with a slow upsweep at some downtown theatres here this week, for the most part it remained dull. With "Up in Mabel's Room" on the screen and George White's Scandals on the stage, the Stanley swung toward the house average of $22,000 for the first time in six weeks.

Estimated receipts for week ending June 13-16:

**"Cobra Woman" (Univ.)**
FULTON—(1,700) (35c-44c-65c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $6,000. (Average: $8,500).

**"Four Jills and a Jeep" (20th-Fox)**
HARRIS—(2,200) (35c-44c-65c) 10 days. Gross: $11,300. (Average for 7 days: $10,100).

**"Days of Glory" (RKO)**
PENN—(2,400) (35c-44c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $12,000. (Average: $21,700).

**"Gaslight" (M-G-M)**
RITZ—(1,100) (35c-44c-65c) 7 days, 4th week, moveover after one week at the Penn, 2 at Warners. Gross: $3,500. (Average: $3,000).

**"Buffalo Bill" (20th-Fox)**
SENATOR—(1,750) (35c-44c-65c) 10 days. into 3rd week, moveover after 11 days at Harris. Gross: $4,200. (Average for 7 days: $3,400).

**"Up in Mabel's Room" (UA)**
STANLEY—(3,800) (44c-68c-85c). On stage, 6 days of vaudeville with George White's Scandals. Gross: $22,000. (Average: $22,000).

**"Andy Hardy's Blonde Trouble" (M-G-M)**
WARNER—(2,000) (35c-44c-65c) 7 days. 2nd week, moveover from the Penn. Gross: $6,500. (Average: $9,350).

# U. S. Urges Use of Venereal Pictures

(*Continued from page* 1)

commercial theatres wherever they can for pictures of a scientific, documentary type, but held that the Walter Wanger picture, "To the People of the United States," which aroused the opposition of the Legion of Decency and led to the inquiry by the U. S. Public Health Service on which the report is based, was not suitable for theatre distribution. The Wanger picture was condemned on the ground that it was inadequate and covered only one phase of the problem.

Officials of the Public Health Service are understood to be in agreement with this viewpoint, and to consider far more effective the 16mm film produced by the Motion Picture Academy of Arts and Sciences.

### Long Step Taken

While the Public Health Service is understood to feel that the limitations laid down in the report as to the type of films to be provided for theatre exhibition will make it difficult to produce pictures for commercial distribution—the major aim being not to produce pictures of the "Damaged Goods" type—a long step forward has been taken by getting the various organizations interested in the cultural level of motion pictures to commit themselves formally as in support of the Surgeon General's campaign.

The fact that these organizations have approved the use of theatres for this type of films will be a protection to exhibitors who may show them, in the event of protests from local organizations, it was pointed out here.

## *Nine U. A. Directors Named to Board*

(*Continued from page* 1)

well L. Sears, Neil F. Agnew and George Bagnall, representing David O. Selznick, and Sydney Chaplin, E. C. Mills, former general manager of Ascap, and Rex Dennant, New York insurance broker and friend of Charles Chaplin, representing the latter.

Election of directors was the only business transacted at the meeting. The board is scheduled to meet in New York Tuesday to elect officers, with the reelection of the present slate expected.

## *Invasion Reels Spark Business in Loop*

CHICAGO, June 18.—The invasion newsreels broke the opening day record at the Telenews Theatre, Friday, and stimulated business throughout the Loop.

The invasion reels were widely advertised in the dailies here. The pictures were previewed late last week before a meeting of the Fifth War Loan Distributors Committee as an added argument for going over the set bond sales quota.

## *Montague Quits B. & K.*

CHICAGO, June 18.—Paul Montague, publicity manager of the outlying houses for Balaban and Katz here, will leave July 1, to open his own office. Before joining the circuit a year ago, he publicized stage attractions.


Paramount NEWS

AND NOTHING *BUT* THE NEWS



"REDBOOK" MAGAZINE CHOOSES TWO FROM PARAMOUNT AS AUGUST "PICTURES OF THE MONTH".... CECIL B. DE MILLE'S "THE STORY OF DR. WASSELL" FOR ITS "ROMANCE AND ADVENTURE"...AND PRESTON STURGES' **"HAIL THE CONQUERING HERO,"** HILARIOUS SUCCESSOR TO HIS "MIRACLE OF MORGAN'S CREEK," AS A "BRILLIANT ACCOMPLISHMENT IN ACTING, WRITING, DIRECTION."


# Pension Plan Of Loew's Is Completed

(*Continued from page* 1)

posed plan been put in effect for the last fiscal year, those executives would have received approximately $1,450,000 less for that year and the consolidated net profits of the company, after taxes, would have been about $13,017,000, instead of $13,422,352.

Schenck expressed the view that the adoption of the plan should aid in preserving the company's leadership in the industry. He said, "I believe that the plan submitted will be a major factor in accomplishing this, because the inducements offered will help retain our desirable personnel and motion picture talent and attract others of similar calibre in the future."

### 15% of Annual Earnings

According to the plan, the annual amount of retirement income payable from the normal retirement date which is the March 1 nearest the 65th birthday in the case of male employes and the 60th birthday in the case of female employes, will be 15 per cent of the employe's average annual earnings plus 10 per cent of the portion in excess of $3,000. In computing the average annual basic earnings of an employe, earnings in excess of $200,000 a year will not be used as a basis for benefits under the plan, nor may the normal retirement income of any employe exceed $49,700 per annum. Basic earnings are defined as total compensation, including percentage compensation (exclusive of overtime, voluntary bonus, penalty payments or special compensation paid because of employment upon location in making motion pictures) received while a member of the plan.

### 10 Years Guaranteed

The retirement income will normally be payable monthly for life with a minimum of 10 years' payments guaranteed to the employe or his beneficiary. At the employe's election other methods of payment may be made. Provision has been made for death and disability benefits; for termination of employment; for the funding of the plan; and for defraying the cost, and administering it. Special benefits are provided for certain individuals, including stars and officers of the corporation.

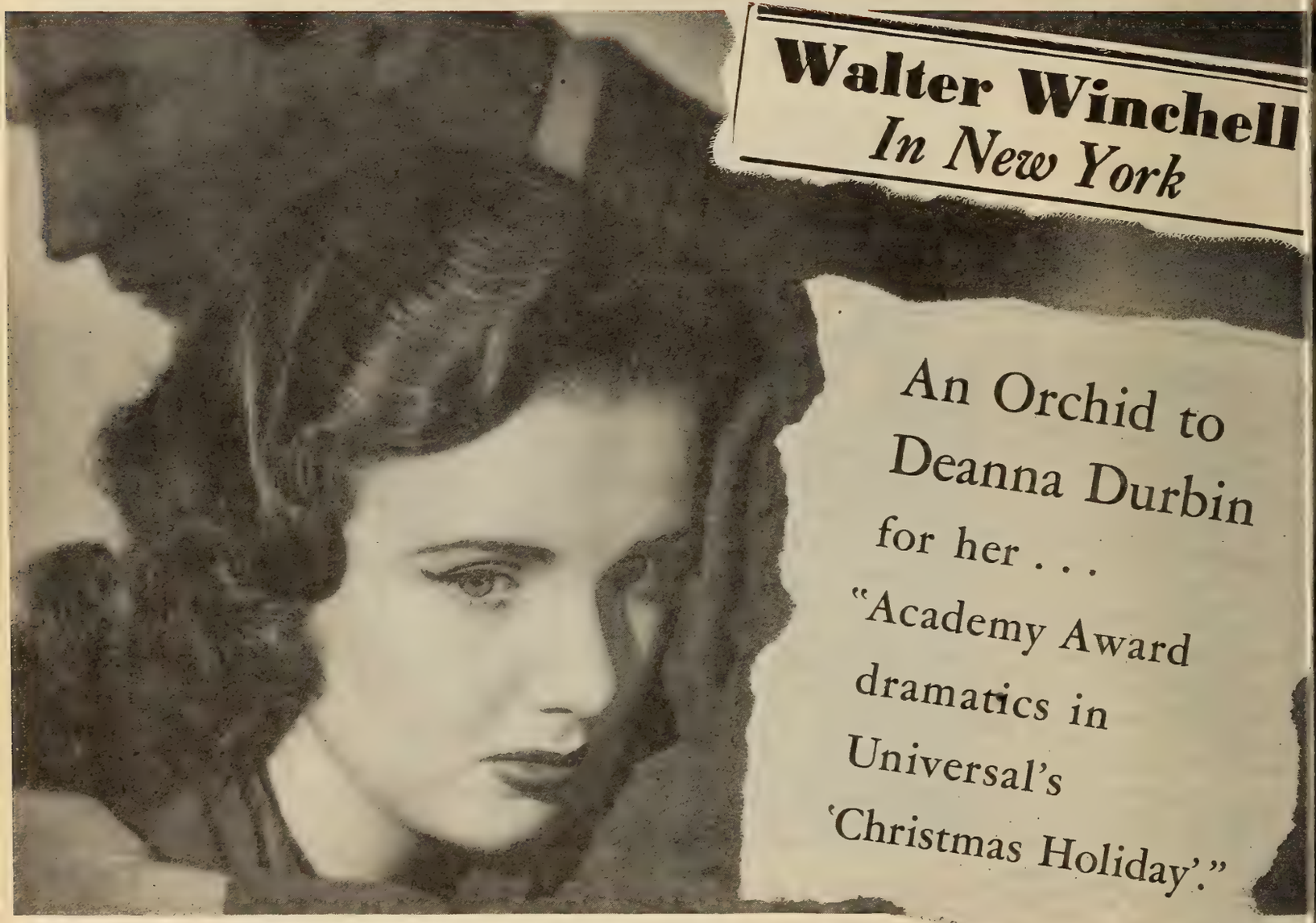
The stockholders will also be asked to re-elect the present board of directors, which includes David Bernstein, Leopold Friedman, Eugene W. Leake, Charles C. Moskowitz, William A. Parker, J. Robert Rubin, Nicholas M. Schenck, Joseph R. Vogel, David Warfield and Henry Rogers Winthrop.

## *Screen 'Time' & 'Tokyo'*

BOSTON, June 18.—*Time* and *Life* magazine headquarters in Boston will be hosts tomorrow, to a large group of persons at the 20th-Fox studios, when the new "March of Time," and "Back Door to Tokyo," will be shown. Following the screening a buffet lunch will be served at the exchange.

UNIVERSAL

# ...and we quote...



**Walter Winchell**
*In New York*

An Orchid to
Deanna Durbin
for her . . .
"Academy Award
dramatics in
Universal's
'Christmas Holiday'."

## *Deanna* Durbin — *Gene* Kelly

*in* W. SOMERSET MAUGHAM'S

## CHRISTMAS HOLIDAY

*with*
RICHARD WHORF DEAN HARENS GLADYS GEORGE
DAVID BRUCE GALE SONDERGAARD

*Produced by* FELIX JACKSON *Directed by* ROBERT SIODMAK
As written for the screen by HERMAN J. MANKIEWICZ
Associate Producer, FRANK SHAW

A UNIVERSAL PICTURE

Fifth War Loan Drive!

# MOTION PICTURE DAILY

Keep Backing the Invasion!

VOL. 55. NO. 120 NEW YORK, U. S. A., TUESDAY, JUNE 20, 1944 TEN CENTS

## 'No Post-War Tax Relief Without Fight'

### *Crockett Warns Owners: Prepare Now for Relief*

VIRGINIA BEACH, Va., June 19.—Exhibitors who believe that the existing war-time 20 percent theatre admission tax will be automatically cancelled six months after peace, are warned by W. F. Crockett, president of the Virginia MPTO, that they cannot expect an elimination or reduction of the war levy "without a very hard fight."

**Crockett discloses that a House Ways and Means subcommittee will start this Fall to hold hearings on postwar**

(*Continued on page* 11)

*MORE POWER FOR EISENHOWER!*

## Cites War's End as Tempo for UJA

"Now that defeat of Germany is in sight, it is more important than ever that we take immediate and concrete action to bring rescue and relief to the Jewish men and women who still survive," David Bernstein, vice-president and treasurer of Loew's, Inc., said here yesterday in designating the 1944 war emergency campaign of the United Jewish Appeal as "an effort for total victory."

Bernstein, with Albert Warner and

(*Continued on page* 10)

*FIGHT BY HIS SIDE!*

## Skouras Promotes Krappman at FWC

LOS ANGELES, June 19.—Charles Skouras, president of National Theatres, has promoted Andrew J. Krappman from the post of executive aide to the president, to that of executive assistant to George Bowers, supervisor of Nation's Fox West Coast Theatres.

Tom Page, the circuit's chief assistant, succeeds Krappman as Skouras aide, and, in turn, is succeeded by John Lavery.

## *De Sylva Unit By September*

HOLLYWOOD, June 19.—Buddy De Sylva's new Paramount deal, finally drawn and only requiring approval by the Paramount executive committee, a mere formality, calls for the producer's own unit to make six pictures delivered in two or three years. The impending contract will give him a status like that of Hal Wallis.



Buddy De Sylva

De Sylva will split production finances with Paramount and make pictures on the com-

(*Continued on page* 10)

*SHOWMEN, SPEED THE DECISION*

## *'Robot' Makes Little Dent in Attendance*

LONDON, June 19.—Theatre attendance was only slightly, although inevitably, affected in the areas attacked by the Nazis' robot-plane. The opinion of several responsible theatre managers holds "there is nothing to worry about yet," reflecting the calm acceptance of this new war-plague by the populace.

Film company stockprices, whose

(*Continued on page* 10)

*BONDS BUILD BEACHHEADS*

# PREMIERES IN 5TH ALREADY TOP 4TH

### *3,634 Booked in First Week of Bond Drive; 3,182 Total Last Time*

The first week of the "Fighting Fifth" War Loan Drive brought pledges of 3,634 bond premieres, already exceeding the total of 3,182 held during the entire four weeks of the Fourth War Loan Drive, R. J. O'Donnell, national industry chairman, announced here yesterday.

**Eight pages of special Fifth War Loan exhibitor promotional material and advertising messages appear on pages 3-to-10, this issue.**

The present premiere total comprises reports received up to noon yesterday from distributor chairmen in the field by Ned E. Depinet, national

(*Continued on page* 10)

*FIGHT BY HIS SIDE*

## *Loew in OWI Foreign Post*

Major Arthur Loew will supervise foreign distribution of U. S. "psychological" films and regular Hollywood product for the Office of War Information in both Allied and liberated countries. The OWI here reported yesterday that Major Loew has been assigned by the Army Signal Corps to duty with the motion picture bureau of the OWI's overseas branch.



Arthur Loew

His specific assignment is as associate chief of the OWI film bureau, headed by Robert Riskin, operating in an administrative capacity. Loew is expected to leave shortly for overseas, presumably making his headquarters in London and

(*Continued on page* 11)

*OVER THE TOP WITH THE 5TH*

## Balaban Note Sale Before Para. Meet

Stockholders of Paramount Pictures will be asked today to ratify the issuance and sale to Barney Balaban, company president, of $2,000,000 in convertible notes of the corporation with certain surviving stock purchase rights in event of prepayment, at the annual stockholders' meeting at the Paramount home office.

Other items on the agenda include

(*Continued on page* 11)

*FIGHT BY HIS SIDE*

## *Cowdin Reports $1,833,945 Six-Months Net for 'U'*

Consolidated net profits of Universal for the 26 weeks ended April 29, 1944, aggregated $1,833,945, after all charges, including Federal income and excess profits taxes, J. Cheever Cowdin, chairman of the board, announced here yesterday. This compares with $1,858,552 for the corresponding six months of the preceding year. Before providing for Federal taxes, consolidated net profit for the six months ended in April amounted to $4,794,845, compared with $5,117,807 in the same period of last year.

"Production of features for 1944-45 is proceeding at an accelerated rate, and Universal now has more completed films ready for the new season than at any corresponding period in its history," Cowdin stated yesterday.

"Fifty-five feature productions, seven of them in color, are projected for the coming season, with seven Western productions and four serials also scheduled in addition to a program of short subjects," declared Cowdin, reiterating the company's announcement of product totals detailed at its recent sales meeting in Hollywood.

## Post-War Problems Before N. J. Allied

ATLANTIC CITY, N. J., June 19.—Current trade problems and post-war planning will both highlight the three-day sessions of the convention of Allied Theatre Owners of New Jersey, which opens at the Hotel Chelsea in Atlantic City tomorrow morning. About 300 reservations have been

(*Continued on page* 2)



# Personal Mention

DAVE ROSE, Paramount managing director in England, has arrived here from London.

•

MAURICE BERGMAN and ANDREW SHARICK, Universal home office executives, have returned here from a visit in Hollywood and a stopover in Chicago.

•

ROY HAINES, Warner Bros. Southern and Western sales manager, returned yesterday from a three-week trip.

•

OSCAR BROTMAN, manager of the Avaloe Theatre, Chicago, and MRS. BROTMAN have returned from Oklahoma.

•

MOE SILVER, Warner Pittsburgh zone manager, and HARRY FEINSTEIN and JOSEPH FELDMAN, his assistants, are in New York.

•

PFC. JACK BOYD, formerly with M. & P.'s Allyn Theatre, Hartford, is now with the Marine Corps at Ft. Lejeune, N. C.

•

NAT LEVY, RKO Eastern division manager, returned to New York yesterday from Cleveland where he attended an RKO district meeting.

•

WALTER GOULD, United Artists foreign manager, is expected back from Mexico at the end of the month.

•

HAL HODE, Columbia executive, has had a novel, "This Here Business," accepted for publication.

•

HENRI ELMAN, PRC franchise holder in Chicago, has arrived in New York.

•

CLYDE ELLIOTT is back in Chicago following a two-week stay in New York.

•

OSCAR DOOB, Loew Theatres' advertising-publicity director, is home ill with a "strep" throat.

•

LEON J. BAMBERGER, RKO Radio sales promotion manager, is in Atlantic City.

## Encyclopaedia Films Seek Disney Product

CHICAGO, June 19.—Stephen M. Corey, educational adviser on Encyclopedia Britannica Films at the University of Chicago here, has returned from Hollywood, where he held discussions with Walt Disney, regarding the educational film field.

Corey said no deals have been set, although he admitted EBF will purchase Disney product for use in the educational field provided they meet the requirements of the EBF reviewing board. Corey's own conclusion is that Disney films can prove useful to schools provided they stick to authenticity. EBF, which produces educational films, controls the production phase of this business.

## 'Combine Business With Service to Public': Warner

HOLLYWOOD, June 19.—Motion pic will be the most enlightened of all time, and exhibitors not only must ture audiences in the post-war period take this into account but must strive as never before to combine their business operations with greater public service to help promote better citizenship, declared Harry M. Warner, president of Warner Bros., in a message to Allied Theatre Owners of New Jersey on the occasion of that group's silver anniversary which will be observed starting today in Atlantic City, N. J., during its annual convention.



Harry Warner

Warner declares that, "Whether we like it or not our pictures have a profound effect on the people who see them. Whether a producer makes a picture for pleasure or for profit, for pure entertainment or for pure education, this is true.

"My brothers and I have long recognized these things and proved that pictures need not be highbrow to be great. They need not be stuffy to be educational. They need not be dull to be enlightening. We at Warner Bros. learned through making these pictures that the so-called 'average intelligence' of filmgoers is higher than many theorists believe."

## Post - War Problems Before N. J. Allied

(*Continued from page* 1)

listed, with many distributor representatives expected to attend.

Post-war addresses on equipment by representatives of RCA, and Typhoon Air Conditioning, and others, will be delivered at this afternoon's session. The meetings will be tied in with the industry's Fifth War Loan campaign and Treasury representatives and air heroes are expected to be present.

**Founders' Banquet**

A highlight of the convention will be a banquet for the founders of the organization on Thursday with the following to be honored: Joseph M. Seidler, Leon Rosenblatt, Lee Newbury, Pete Harrison, Sidney E. Samuelson, Irving Dollinger and George Gold. Displays for the convention have been prepared by 20th Century-Fox, M-G-M, Paramount, Warners, RKO, Columbia, Republic, Monogram, PRC, National Screen, Universal, United Artists, Film Classics, Sanitary Automatic Candy Co., National Theatre Supply, Cinema Craft and the War Activities Committee.

## Coming Events

**Today, through Thursday** — Allied States Convention, Hotel Chelsea, Atlantic City, N. J.

**Today** — United Jewish Appeal fund luncheon-meeting, Hotel Astor, New York.

**Through June 22** — Pacific Coast Conference of Independent Theatre Owners, Portland, Ore.

**Through July 8**—Fifth War Loan campaign.

**June 22-28** — M-G-M's 20th anniversary week.

**June 25**—Industry union rally, Hollywood.

**July 6**—'Free Movie Day' for Fifth War Loan drive.

**July 11-13**—Columbia regional sales meeting, San Francisco.

**July 24-25** — RKO annual sales meeting, Waldorf-Astoria Hotel, New York.

## Universal to Open Midwest Meeting

CHICAGO, June 19.—Universal will open its three-day Midwest regional sales meeting in the Variety Club at the Blackstone Hotel here tomorrow, presided over by A. J. O'Keefe, Western division manager, and M. M. Gottlieb, district manager

The following have arrived for the meeting: Ben Robbins, Jay Frankel, Lou Berman, Red Bowman and Jack Stewart, Detroit; Frank Mantzke, Orval Petersen, Don McFadzen, Ed Gavin and G. Courshon, Milwaukee; A. J. Miller, Leo Doty, Artch Zacherl, Fred Abelson, Wayne Brown, Ken Adams, Frank Isenberg, Ernest Frace, Minneapolis. Chicago will be represented by Ed Heiber, W. E. Weinshanker, Walter Hyland, Howard Greenstein, Ted Myers, Max Brotsky, Al Kent and Bob Funk.

## War Boosts Harman Production 1000%

HOLLYWOOD, June 19.—Present war production footage at the Hugh Harman studio is more than 10 times the company's peacetime output, according to Charles McGirl, studio production manager. He adds reductions in cost of training film footage have been evolved through new methods of handling volume production.

Aside from three feature-length animated subjects, the company's output for the last two years has been 100 percent war work.

## Owen Takes Over Selznick Sales Post

Hugh Owen, former Paramount sales executive, joined David O. Selznick Enterprises and Vanguard Films yesterday as distribution chief for United States and Canada.

Owen will begin work immediately on the release of "Since You Went Away."

# Coast Flashes

*Hollywood, June* 19

AN increased number of dramatic short subjects by name authors for Warner release next season will be discussed this week by Jack L. Warner, executive producer, and Norman H. Moray, short subjects sales manager.

•

Darryl Zanuck is returning to front page headlines with two vehicles assigned producer Louis De Rochemont. "Fighting Lady," a story of battleship exploits, is planned in Technicolor, and "Now It Can Be Told" will tell the inside story of the FBI in war.

•

Alexis Smith and Craig Stevens, Warner contract players, married Sunday before 300 guests in the Church of the Recessional, Forest Lawn Memorial Park, Glendale, will return in a few days to resume work on "Hollywood Canteen."

•

Columbia started production today on "The Unknown," believed to be the first picture showing conditions under which interned German and Italian prisoners live in U. S. military camps. Robert Wilmot is directing.

•

Eleanor Parker has been assigned the feminine lead in Warners' "Of Human Bondage," which first captured attention for Bette Davis in 1934 Henry Blanke is producing, and Edmund Goulding directing.

•

Paul Cox, formerly with Universal and Samuel Goldwyn, has been appointed Monogram casting director. He will handle all talent assignments which heretofore have been made by individual producers.

•

Bill Rice, top unit publicity man at Warners has been promoted by Alex Evelove to department and national services editor, succeeding Ralph Huston, who resigned last week to join Lester Cowan.

•

Geraldine Maver has returned from New York to her post as publicity director for producer Arnold Pressburger.

•

Stephen Goosson, renewing an old association, today returned to Columbia as supervising art director, succeeding Lionel Banks, resigned.

•

Dr. Herbert T. Kalmus, Technicolor president and general manager, returned today from a New York business trip.

•

Leon Fromkess will entrain Saturday for meetings to effectuate the new set-up of the Pathe industries as earlier reported.

•

Edward Blatt, director, and Warners have mutually agreed to abrogate his contract after the completion of "Strangers in Our Midst."

•

Paramount's studio bond purchases tonight were $1,620,942.

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# BLOOD SWEAT AND BONDS!

We shall desperately try to match the sacrifices of our invasion armies. It is not enough that we in our sheltered lives give prayers and tears for those who suffer the pitiless hardships of war . . . death in agony, the loneliness of youth, the soldier's terror of never again seeing loved ones.

We in film business will do our honored task with inspired and renewed zeal. Hand in hand stand exhibitors, distributors, producers, stars of Hollywood. We shall, with fighting hearts and with a united will, make the Fighting Fifth War Loan a victory to thrill our heroes. With heads held high, we pledge to do a job of which they who fight our fight may be proud.

# "FIGHTERS OF THE HOME FRONT, YOU ALSO SERVE!"



Fight by their side!

# FIGHTING



**YOU, THE EXHIBITOR**

the Manager, the Assistant Manager who put in many extra hours.



**YOU, THE CASHIER**

who works late to keep extra accounts.



**YOU, THE STAFF**

ushers, usherettes, doormen, all who volunteer for extra duty at Bond Booth.

# HOW'S YOUR INVASION CAMPAIGN?

1. Invasion appeals added to Front and Lobby?
2. Enough volunteer bond-sellers?
3. Is your Bond Premiere set?
4. Trailers at every show?
5. Stocked up on blank bonds?
6. If you're not an Issuing Agent, why not?
7. Planning a Children's Bond Show?
8. War Finance Committee team-work?
9. *Extra* Invasion Bond for every seat?
10. Hero Honor Chart in your lobby?
11. Saving Free Movie Day for mop-up?
12. Are you satisfied with results?



**YOU, THE PROJECTIONIST**

who stays to put over a vital Bond Premiere.

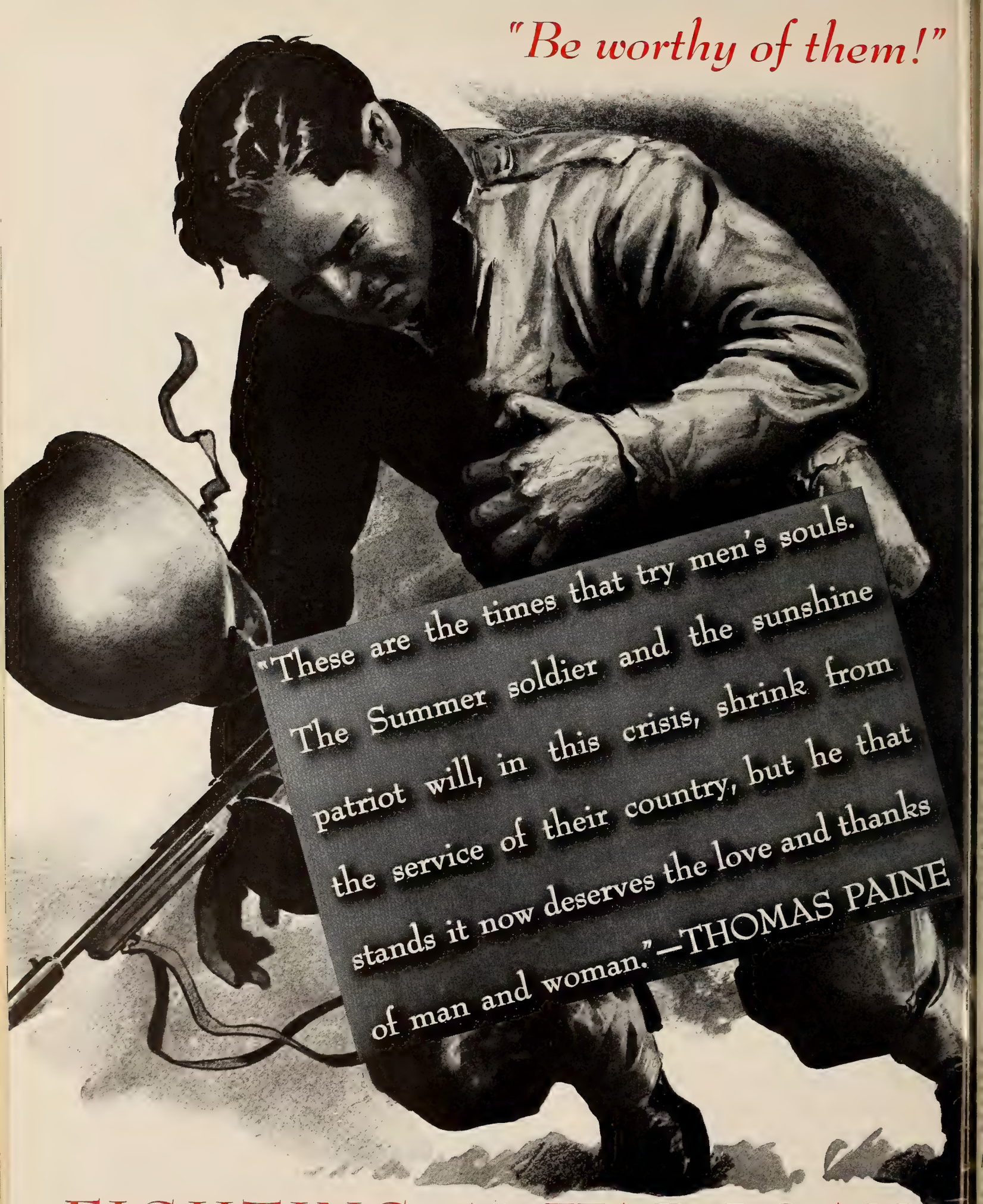


**YOU, THE WIVES OF SHOWMEN**

who run the home, yet help with a few precious hours.

***Fire away! Night and day!***
***Never stop till you're over the top!***

# 5th WAR LOAN




# FIGHTING 5th WAR LOAN

COLUMBIA PICTURES CORP., METRO-GOLDWYN-MAYER PICTURES, PARAMOUNT PICTURES INC., RKO-RADIO PICTURES, INC., 20th CENTURY-FOX FILM CORP., UNITED ARTISTS CORP., UNIVERSAL PICTURES COMPANY INC., WARNER BROS. PICTURES, INC.

# THEATRES SPEARHEAD FIFTH

## *Exhibitors' Bond-Selling Started with a 'Bang', U. S. Reports; Stark Realism of the Invasion As Pictured in Newsreels Proves 'Highly Persuasive'*

By BERTRAM F. LINZ

WASHINGTON, June 19.—The Fighting Fifth War Loan campaign, spurred by the stirring events of the first days of the invasion of Europe and the hope that the troops of the Allies are finally on the way to Berlin, got off to a flying start, aided considerably, by Treasury Department admission, by the pre-drive and continuing efforts, of the motion picture industry.

Treasury officials today said the campaign undertaken by theatres appeared to have come in with 'a resounding bang.'

The storming of fortress Europe is undoubtedly the most highly publicized adventure the Nation has ever embarked upon. Newsreel and newspaper cameramen and news and radio reporters were given every facility to participate in every phase of the initial attack and to get the results of their work back to this country. Men who engaged in the first landings were given V-mail post cards on which they could tell their home-town newspapers that they were 'on the road.'

### *Pictures of Invasion Spur 5th Bond Buying*

From theatres all over the country, reports are coming in that the invasion pictures, plus the special Fifth War Loan material which is being distributed, are proving highly persuasive in the current campaign, but in Washington it was emphasized that the invasion must be considered supplementary to and not a substitute for any and all other material which the motion picture industry and other participating agencies have developed as part of their campaigns.

Treasury officials indicate that the invasion should be used to push bond sales to unprecedented levels above the $16,000,000,000 sought, not merely as a means of reaching quotas. The more substantial the sales over the Government objective, they pointed out, the more potent the psychological effect upon the enemy.

**While bond sales already are piling up at a highly satisfactory rate, the early reports largely represent the results of the pre-campaign effort; it is the last few billion dollars, the last few million purchasers, that are hardest to get.**

At the War Finance Division the belief was expressed that the pictures of the invasion will give the theatres an inestimable advantage in their determination to sell 'A Bigger Bond for Every Seat,' and one which there is no doubt in Washington they will utilize to the utmost.

### *Rally Nets $400,125*

War Bonds totalling $400,125 were sold at the Fifth War Loan rally held Friday at the New Amsterdam Theatre, 42nd St. and Broadway, under the auspices of the Cinema Circuit Corp.

### *Theatres' Quota Vitally Needed*

By GEORGE J. SCHAEFER
*Chairman, War Activities Committee*

**AMERICAN dollars are vitally needed to save American lives during the fight for Fortress Europe. While our men land on the beachheads of France, giving their blood to defeat Hitler in Europe, the Treasury Department has asked the American people to lend their support by contributing $16,000,000,000 in the Fifth War Loan. *The motion picture industry's quota of dollars for speedy victory has never been as high, nor as vitally needed.***

## *WFC Is Chief Co-ordinator*

"WAR Finance Committee members are seasoned veterans like yourselves and they are prepared to give you all the help they can on anything within, and sometimes without, their realm," R. J. O'Donnell, national film industry chairman of the 'Fighting Fifth' War Loan campaign, pointed out yesterday in a special message to industry committee chairmen.

**O'Donnell said "it is important that state committees contact the local War Finance Committee chairman, who can be counted on for complete cooperation."**

Exhibitor committees are set up on the basis of states, rather than film distribution territories, to coincide with the operations of state War Finance Committees. The State War Finance Committees are charged with responsibility for the over-all job of reaching the states quotas and the motion picture industry is part of the team.

State War Finance Committee personnel who may be called upon for cooperation and assistance are: state chairman, executive director, publicity chairman, regional directors, county and city chairmen and heads of industrial, professional and other special groups.

Through them the film industry committees coordinate their activities with retailers, banks, newspapers, radio stations, fraternal and patriotic organizations and similar groups which are working through committees of their own.

## *'Generals' of 'Fighting Fifth'*



**Sidney Lust, extreme left, motion picture industry Fifth War Loan "General" in Washington, D. C., carries a message on the U. S. Treasury's commendation of the industry's all-out efforts on behalf of the $16,000,000,000 drive, to the national "Generals" of the campaign, pictured, starting second from the left, as follows: Ray Beall, national publicity director; Ned Depinet, distributor chairman; Robert J. O'Donnell, national chairman; John J. Friedl, campaign director, and R. M. Kennedy, national vice-chairman. Not pictured are: campaign "Generals" Joseph Kinsky, coordinator; Leonard Goldenson, director of corporation sales; Henry Ginsberg, director tor of corporate sale, Hollywood; Leon Bamberger, assistant distributor chairman, and Claude Lee, motion picture campaign consultant to the Treasury.**

## Theatres Needed As Issuing Agents

"ANY town having a bank provides the means for the theatre in that town to become an issuing agent for series 'E' bonds," states John J. Friedl, film industry campaign director of the 'Fighting Fifth' War Loan. "The Federal Reserve has issued a statement that any bank or trust company can authorize any customer to be a sub-issuing agent for war bonds.

"Customer or no, any theatre can fill out a convenient contract form which will authorize the theatre operator to issue bonds in the name of the bank he represents. The bank will supply blank bonds of any denomination. Once a week the operator must turn in a report on bonds sold. The Federal Reserve will, upon request, make a special stamp with the names of the agent and sub-agent imprinted thereon. Both names would then be stamped on each bond sold.

"The banker, by making a theatre sub-agent, can establish good will and obtain favorable publicity through this sub-agency contract with the theatre," Friedl pointed out. "And the theatre can issue bonds and give patrons the service they deserve in this patriotic undertaking."

## *44,000 Prints To Theatres*

FORTY-FOUR THOUSAND prints of three Fifth War Loan trailers will be in theatres by June 26, R. M. Kennedy, vice-chairman of the film industry's national Fifth War Loan Committee, disclosed here yesterday.

The industry's national committee, in conjunction with the Hollywood division of the War Activities Committee, has completed three trailers which are being furnished gratis for the Fifth War Loan. The first, "What Did You do Today?" is now in the hands of 14,000 exhibitors; the second, "Our Enemy Speaks," was shipped yesterday; and the third, "From Your Boy Over There," is scheduled for shipping before June 26.

Because of a raw-stock shortage, which restricted the footage of the trailers, the national committee was not able to supply copies of each trailer to the 16,282 pledged War Activities Committee theatres, and the trailers were booked where they might be used to the best advantage. Theatres which receive them are asked to use them and then pass them on to other exhibitors. This can be accomplished by contacting state chairman of the War Activities Committee who will furnish shipping instructions.

National Screen Service is again handling all trailers.

At the end of every newsreel during the campaign, there will be a flash reading 'Join the Fighting Fifth . . . Buy War Bonds.'

# Exhibitors At Work on 5th Bond Drive

★ ★ ★

NICK KAUFFMAN of Schine's Rialto Theatre, Little Falls, N. Y., with the help of War Finance County Chairman Roberts, has worked out a series of Fifth War Loan rallies to be held at the theatre each week under the sponsorship of various organizations, such as the American Legion, Elks, Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts and Junior Welfare League. The school superintendent has been contacted for 'student-in-school' rallies where bonds will be issued to purchasers on the spot. Kauffman will hold a 'stamp exchange for bonds' show to induce youngsters to exchange their stamps for bonds on that day, and will allow them to present colors from the stage. An 'Invasion Bond Boat' has been tied up at the local dock to which point a parade will be held from the theatre. A Rialto traveling bond booth is scheduled to hit mills and plants during noon hours to spur the sale of bonds. All Little Falls newspapers backed the theatre's all-out attack with a gratis display ad calling attention to the campaign.

★

**The Lone Star State's Junior Chamber of Commerce is tying up with the larger Interstate circuit houses to select a 'Miss America' from each town to compete for the 'Miss Texas' title at the annual Atlantic City beauty event. All contests are being tied up with Fifth War Bond Premieres in various cities, with patrons voting for their choice for the finals with bond purchases.**

## Ring the Bell to Wring Nazi Necks




**Charles Moskowitz' New York Fifth War Loan committee cites as its key bond promotion the 40-foot-high true duplicate of a cash register erected at Times Square to sell bonds, the sales of which are rung-up at noon daily. James Sauter arranges for entertainment. Bond purchases are made from the booth on street level. The big register is Ernest Emerling's conception.**

## Bovim Sells 'em in Style




**Large and impressive Fifth War Bond theatre lobby displays such as this one at Loew's Midland Theatre, Kansas City, executed by Russell Bovim, Midland manager, are highly important contributors to the $16,000,000,000 bond-selling goal set for the Fifth War Loan.**

THEATRE owners and managers and local bond chairmen from Brownwood, Tex., and neighboring towns, meeting at the Bowie Theatre in Brownwood, added seven new issuing agents and six new Bond Premieres reports Henry Reeve, president of the Texas ITOA and chairman of the meeting.

★

*Bert Harmon, manager of the Marlboro Theatre, Marlboro, Md., set a quota of $7,500, double what he sold during the Fourth War Loan, and canvassed merchants and business houses with the result that in a few days he sold $12,225 in bonds and then set a quota of $30,000.*

★

**Lou Brown, War Activities Committee publicity chairman for New Haven, and his co-workers arranged a special 'sneak' Hollywood preview at the 20th Century-Fox and Paramount exchange screening rooms, admission being through the purchase of a $5,000 bond per couple, a complete sellout netting $150,000.**

★

Every theatre in Washington is 100 percent united behind Sidney Lust, chairman of the Fifth War Loan Drive in the District of Columbia, with a full quota of local theatres participating in the drive. The overall campaign includes rallies, war bond premieres, children's war bond matinees, 'Free Movie Day,' auctions, appearances by war heroes, speakers from the Treasury Department and prominent figures from the political life of the nation's capital.

PETE WOOD, assistant exhibitor state chairman in Ohio, is using this slogan for the drive: "How much will you lend to make our boys' job a little easier, and bring them back a little sooner?"

★

*Harry L. Nace, Arizona state exhibitor chairman, reports that* EVERY *theatre in the state will have a War Bond Premiere. Special stress will also be placed on children's bond shows.*

★

**Bond buyers place high value upon a season pass. In Lorain, O., the Warner Palace Theatre sold a season pass for $17,800 in bonds at a bond auction.**

★

*Virginia exhibitors got together at a testimonial luncheon in Richmond in honor of Bob Coulter, manager of the Byrd Theatre, and Roscoe Drissell, manager of Loew's State Theatre, Norfolk. The two men were duly recognized for their achievements in the Fourth War Loan Drive and were presented wrist watches by Virginia's Governor Colgate W. Darden. They pledged to sell more in the Fifth.*

★

**The five downtown first-run theatres in Buffalo got together on a sign for a 20-foot truck platform. At the end was a large poster selling their five big Bond Premieres. A squad of ushers from all five houses escorted the truck in a prominent spot in a parade on Main Street.**

★ ★ ★

DAN C. NEAGLEY of the Criterion Theatre, Bridgeton, N. J., suggested that the city go over its Fifth War Loan quota on the first day of the campaign—and it did. The quota was $1,650,000. Neagley, one of New Jersey's two 'Honored Hundred' during the Fourth War Loan, called a dinner meeting of Bridgeton's war bond committee, and presented his idea of 'cleaning up' the city's quota even before the drive started. The 40 civic workers and officials present endorsed the plan 100 percent. Every local agency, all industries, banks, the Board of Trade and all service clubs cooperated.

★

*A 'sure shot' Bond Auction Night manual prepared by Martin G. Smith, exhibitor state chairman for Ohio, has been sent to all 307 theatres in Mississippi by Burgess Waltmon and Arthur Lehmann, exhibitor co-chairmen for that state. Auction nights have proved highly successful in Mississippi, and the stunt is recommended by Waltmon and Lehmann to all theatres, with whatever local application they might need.*

★

**Les Newkirk of the Lincoln Theatre, Cheyenne, Wyo., publicity chairman for Wyoming, reports that exhibitors in that state are making special use of war stamp books in connection with War Bond Premieres. Theatres are issuing the stamp books in advance of the premieres, when they will be exchanged for bonds and a free admission at the theatre. War bond quotas of every county are being flashed on the screen each day to keep patrons informed on the progress of the drive. Many Wyoming exhibitors are displaying huge bottles with green fluid labeled *'Hitler's Poison —Let's Help Fill It For Adolf!'***

★

*Proving that good results can be obtained through school cooperation, William E. Hartnett of the Embassy Theatre, Waltham, Mass., used a children's 'School's Out' morning war bond premiere for his 'Fighting Fifth' campaign. The program specially selected for youth appeal, in addition to the feature and three short subjects included an on-stage show of war heroes recently returned from combat zones. By combining the military personalities with the bond salesmenship of the children, Hartnett piled up a sizeable sale. Applications were given to the children in school and instructions delivered verbally by their teachers. The teachers also accepted money turned in, and credit on all sales was given to the theatre.*

★

North Dakota exhibitors plan to have bond shows for children either mornings or afternoons, and adult rallies in the evening.

# Flashes From 'Fighting Fifth' Front

★ ★ ★

TWO HUNDRED guests at the Fifth War Loan meeting at Milwaukee were given a highly personal impression of why we are fighting the Nazis, reports William V. Geehan, Wisconsin state publicity chairman for the campaign. As exhibitors and others filed toward the luncheon room, two trong-arm huskies in the dress of Hitler's elite guards rudely urged and unceremoniously pushed the guests through the door. This 'gentle' Nazi touch, Geehan reports, served the excellent purpose of arousing their ardor for the 'Fighting Fifth' even before they heard the speeches. Field war bond meetings elsewhere have applied the same 'gentle touch' with impressionistic results.

★

*William N. Wolfson, Montgomery, Ala., city manager for Alabama Theatres, led off his drive activities with a street parade of service men and bands from nearby Maxwell and Gunter Fields.*

★

**Washington exhibitors have set July 6 as 'Free Movie Day,' according to Sidney Lust, exhibitor chairman for the District of Columbia. Pertinent copy has been supplied to all theatres for lobby and outside displays by Frank LaFalce, publicity chairman.**

★

*Kentucky has set up 15 districts, with an exhibitor chairman heading each district, Lew Hensler, exhibitor state chairman reports. It is believed that in this manner closer cooperation will result in again sending Kentucky over its bond quota.*

★

**Sergt. Charles E. (Commando) Kelly, one of the war's most heroic figures, who was awarded the Congressional Medal of Honor for his exploits, sends this message to the nation's theatre owners:**

***"If you stick by us by buying War Bonds, and more War Bonds, we will fight for you even if it means we must die for you."***

★

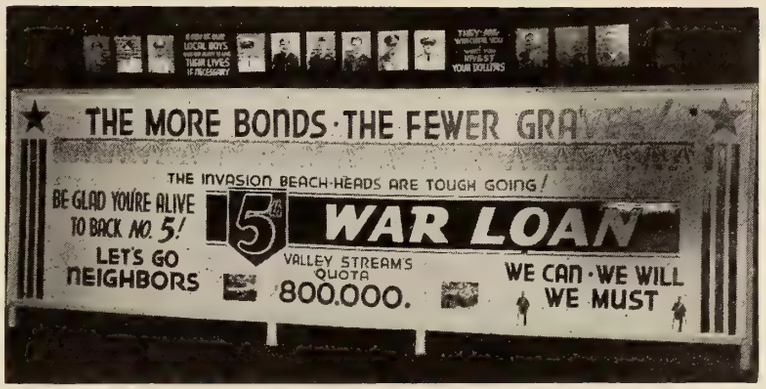
*John Q. Adams, Texas exhibitor state chairman, in a special bulletin to all Texas exhibitors, suggested that they arrange with their landlord to have the month's rent for the theatre paid in War Bonds.*

★

**The following telegram has been received by 'Fighting Fifth' national chairman R. J. O'Donnell from Gene Keenan of Newport, Vt., state publicity chairman:**

**"Just completed tie-up. Fourth-term, 6-foot-2 Mayor O. S. Searles; Dentist Perry Fitch, who is city war loan chairman, and myself will not shave until this city tops its quota." (Signed) The three bearded bondsmen of the 'Fighting Fifth'."**

## 'More Bonds, Fewer Graves'




**Photographs of neighborhood boys now fighting our enemies stand out appealingly, *"Ready to Give Our Lives, if Necessary,"* in this large and striking lobby board conceived by Ben Mindlin, manager, for Century Circuit's Valley Stream (Long Island) Theatre. The folks at home are reminded of this cold fact: *"The More Bonds—The Fewer Graves."* Manager Mindlin considered it practically inconceivable that the folks and neighbors of the boys would not be moved to extra bond-buying when hit also by the 20 dramatic pictures of American boys' graves on the Anzio beachhead, which appear on the display-board.**

UTAH exhibitors at a state meeting in Salt Lake City heard R. C. Galsmann, manager of the Orpheum Theatre in Ogden, urge them to increase their sale of war bonds during the 'Fighting Fifth' Drive. Galsmann had the right to make the plea—he sold four war bonds for every seat in his theatre during the Fourth War Loan campaign.

★

*In Boston, Hollywood's Veronica Lake appeared at the Boston Garden before 16,000 persons who bought $3,000,000 worth of War Bonds. Earlier in the day the actress had auctioned off her services as dishwasher and maid for $100,000 in bonds. Miss Lake is one of the Hollywood stars on tour in behalf of the Fifth War Loan Campaign through arrangements made by R. J. O'Donnell, campaign chairman, and the Hollywood Victory Committee.*

★

**A. A. Adams, chairman of the Essex (N. J.) county theatres war bond committee, reports that a score of screen, stage and radio personalities are scheduled to appear at a 'Million Dollar All-Star War Bond Show' which Essex County theatres, in cooperation with radio station WOR, will stage at the Adams Theatre, Newark, on June 26, in connection with the Fifth War Loan Drive.**

★

*William Hartnett, Embassy Theatre manager, Waltham, Mass., reports that $25,800 worth of Series 'E' Bonds were sold for the Waltham's Children's 'School's Out' Premiere at that theatre, with 827 bonds issued on a total attendance of 1,236 children. Wide school cooperation was obtained.*

AMARILLO, TEX., is staging a 'chin up' girl contest for service men's wives, offering $1,000 in bonds to those who are doing most for the war effort on the home front. Jack King, city manager of interstate Theatres, also reports that they intend to run a bathing beauty contest and an old-fashioned barbecue in conjunction with the Paramount Theatre Bond Premiere.

★

*As an incentive for Tri-States' theatre managers to exceed their Fourth War Bond total of $12,595,416, A. H. Blank has offered prizes to the leaders in the Fifth War Bond Campaign. A $100 bond will go to the manager selling the greatest number of bonds per seat, and a $100 bond to the one who does the best all-around job of bond selling and promotion, $50 bonds will go to runners-up in each class.*

★

**Rhode Island had a 'Homecoming Rally' at the State Auditorium in Providence, featuring native sons Eddie Dowling, Eileen Farrell, Frankie Carle and Bobby Hackett. Rhode Islanders were asked by Roderick Pirnie, state chairman of the U. S. War Finance Committee, to support the Fifth War Loan 'on an invasion scale.'**

★

William Elder, manager of Loew's Ohio, and Albert Sugarman, of the Academy Theatre, Columbus, O., compose a committee specially named to arrange for Bond Premieres, children's matinees and related activities for the Fifth War Loan campaign. Fred Oestreicher of Loew's, is handling.

★ ★ ★

A DESERVED tribute to the motion picture industry and its role in war bond campaigns was spoken by Malcolm W. Bingay, editor of the *Detroit Free Press,* at an industry Fifth War Loan meeting in Detroit.

"The motion picture industry ranks with good journalism in that it is developing an American culture. It always amazes me when I see a motion picture and, comparing it with the printed word, realize that it is as graphic. There is only one other way by which the American people can get the message that is given them by the printed word, and that is through the motion picture. In the Fifth War Loan, it is fitting that the Government should call on the motion picture industry. The industry is essential to the War Loan's success. Without it the drive cannot succeed. With it the drive cannot fail."

★

*The Army Air Forces orchestra of 52 pieces, with Paul Whiteman as guest conductor, appeared with Hollywood personalities at Brooklyn's bond show Friday midnight at the Fox Theatre.*

★

**At Rochester, N. Y., Seven Wacs modeled seven different Wac uniforms on the stages of RKO's Temple and Century Theatres in connection with the Fifth War Loan Drive. They made another public appearance in Main Street at the Liberty Bridge to boost bond sales.**

## Candle Burns for Allied Victory




**Douglas Taussig of the Bardavon Theatre, Poughkeepsie, N. Y., planted this giant Victory Candle on the main street, permitting bond-buyers to submit a "guess" as to when the candle would burn out. Three top winners will receive war-bond prizes of $500, $200 and $100, respectively, donated by Netco Theatres and Poughkeepsie banks.**

# Weekend Heat Wave Drives N.Y. Grosses Far Below Average

The weekend heat wave gave most of downtown New York theatres one of the quietest weekends in recent months, with the result that most of the current week's grosses are considerably below average.

**Flock to Capitol**

However, the heat did not stop patrons from flocking to the Capitol where "Two Girls and a Sailor" and a stage show headed by Sammy Kaye are expected to bring $75,000 on their initial week. The first five days ending Sunday night brought $60,000 and the combination will continue. The seventh week of "Going My Way" with Charlie Spivak and his band on the stage is expected to bring the Paramount about $68,000 which is good considering the length of the run; the bill will continue.

The sixth week of "The White Cliffs of Dover" and a stage show is expected to bring Radio City Music Hall a quiet $105,000 with a mild $58,000 taken in during the first four days ending Sunday night; the film will continue for a seventh week.

**'St. Mark' Down**

The third and final week of "The Eve of St. Mark" and a stage bill at the Roxy is not expected to bring more than $55,000, which is one of the lowest week's grosses for the house in months. "Home in Indiana" and a stage show featuring Hazel Scott, Joe Besser, Carmen Amaya and her dancers and the Eric Madriguera band will open at the Roxy tomorrow. "The Story of Dr. Wassell" wound up a second week at the Rivoli with over $40,000 which is excellent in comparison to general business conditions. Fourth and final week of "Make Your Own Bed" and a Cab Calloway stage show at the Strand will be a poor $25,000. Warner's "The Mask of Dimitrios" will open at the Strand Friday with Louis Prima and his band heading the live portion of the show.

**'Mr. Skeffington' Holds**

"Mr. Skeffington" is expected to bring a modest $20,000 on its fourth week at the Hollywood and it will continue. Initial week of "Days of Glory" at the Palace is headed for a quiet $18,000 on the basis of weekend business of $8,200; it will continue. Expectations are that "Roger Touhy, Gangster" will bring $12,000 on its third week at the Globe which represents a considerable drop over last week's business but the film will continue. "See Here, Private Hargrove" will give the Astor about $10,000 on its 12th week and the film will make way for "Bathing Beauty" June 27. "It Happened Tomorrow" is headed for a mild $7,000 on its fourth week at the Gotham and it will hold for a fifth. The revival of "Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs" ended a 10th week at the Manhattan with about $5,500 and it will continue to the end of the month. "Invisible Man's Revenge" will get about $6,500 on a second week at the Rialto but no decision has been made on possible holdover.

# *Premieres in Fifth Drive Already Ahead of Fourth*

(*Continued from page* 1)

distributor chairman. Hundreds more are understood to be on their way to headquarters here.

State and city exhibitor chairmen, in cooperation with the distributors, have fully organized their territories for premieres nationally.

Harold Fitzgerald, Wisconsin exhibitor chairman, and Don Woods, area distributor chairman, report that all of Milwaukee's 72 theatres will hold a bond premiere during the drive, the first scheduled for Wednesday.

Chicago demonstrates that bond premieres can be successfully staged in suburban and outlying sections of metropolitan cities, O'Donnell declared. Starting with shows in three large first-run Loop theatres, the Palace, Oriental and State-Lake, the city is then broken down into 39 zones, each containing a "captain" theatre, where the other houses, called "lieutenant" theatres, will join in promoting premieres. The Chicago premieres got under way last Friday.

The committee which organized the Chicago premieres includes Jack Kirsch, president of Allied Theatres of Illinois and exhibitor co-chairman for the metropolitan area; Jules J. Rubens, Illinois exhibitor state chairman; John Balaban, Balaban & Katz executive; Edwin Silverman, president of Essaness Theatres, and W. E. Banford, area distributor chairman. Also cooperating are James E. Coston, Chicago zone manager for Warner Theatres, and J. E. Flynn, Western sales manager for M-G-M.

In New York, Charles C. Moskowitz, general chairman of the "Fighting Fifth" in the metropolitan area, in cooperation with Jack Rosen and Ralph Pielow, distributor chairmen, and other circuit heads, is setting up the premiere plan.

**Eastern Pa. Pledges 50 Bond Premieres**

WILKES-BARRE, Pa., June 19.—Eastern Pennsylvania exhibitors and exchange men in this area guaranteed 50 war bond premieres, out of 101 possibilities, to the industry's Fifth War Loan committee at a regional meeting held here recently. The new pledge more than triples the 16 premieres in this territory during the Fourth War Loan.

Louis J. Finske, Eastern Pennsylvania exhibitor chairman, credits the increase in premiere line-ups to the successful execution of campaign director John J. Friedl's plan to have designated branch managers, with their sales forces, responsible for covering specified exhibitor zones to solicit active participants.

## *Skouras Theatres Plan Bond Rallies*

Alan Corelli, secretary of Theatre Authority here has become production chairman for some 40 "Victory Army Bond Rallies" to be staged at Skouras Theatres throughout the metropolitan area, co-sponsored by the New York *Journal American,* Skouras Theatres and the Blue Network, as announced yesterday by Nick John Matsoukas, director of the Skouras Theatres war effort department.

"Victory Army War Bond Rallies" will feature screen, stage and radio. Admission will be by purchase of a war bond from any of the 66 Skouras theatres here operated throughout the New York area and New Jersey.

## *'Robot' Makes Little Dent in Attendance*

(*Continued from page* 1)

rising trend continued sharply last week, likewise showed only small declines today. Typical is Odeon, with a December quotation of 26 shillings ($5.20); a January price of 30 shillings ($6.00); April, 35 shillings $7.00), last Friday's, 40 shillings ($8.00), and today's quotation of 39 shillings ($7.80).

## *L. A. Laurel Goes Arty*

LOS ANGELES, June 19.—The Laurel Theatre, operated by James Edwards, will change to a policy of foreign and "art" films beginning Wednesday. First attraction will be "The Heart of a Nation," declared to have been completed three days before the Germans stormed into Paris in June, 1940. Raimu and Michele Morgan play the leads. Charles Boyer is the narrator. and Paul Graetz produced. The film is said to have been smuggled out of France.

## *Theatres and Press Merge in Bond Tie-Up*

LOS ANGELES, June 19.—Theatres of Southern California have joined with the Los Angeles *Examiner* in an effort to hit the goal of 800,000 bond sales during the Fifth War Loan.

Under this arrangement the *Examiner* will carry a daily story and art on all theatre activities, and also a thermometer showing the daily increase in bond sales up to the 500,000 mark. It will publicize the theatres' Bond premieres, tours of mobile units, and the theatres' recording truck which is making records to be short-waved to Eisenhower.

This joining of forces with the *Examiner* has been greeted with terrific enthusiasm by the 500 exhibitors in this area who are going all-out on the Fifth War Loan.

## *Kate Mayhew, Early Actress, Dies at 91*

Kate Mayhew, 91, oldtime film and stage actress, died Friday night at her home here. Miss Mayhew's first appearance in films was in 1915 in "Hazel Kirke," with Pearl White. She also appeared in "The Master of the House," "McGann's Octet" and "Tongues of Flame." Miss Mayhew, who made her first stage appearance at the age of four, was honored in 1936 as Broadway's oldest living actress, along with David Frohman, then oldest living manager on Broadway.

## *Hummerl to Universal*

CLEVELAND, June 19. — Howard Hummerl, formerly of Cincinnati, has joined the Universal sales staff here, succeeding George Rosenbaum, now on leave of absence.

# Southgate Decision Upheld on Appeal

Abitration appeal board in a decision made public here yesterday upheld the award of Woodson Wallace, arbitrator at the Los Angeles tribunal in the Southgate Theatre clearance complaint against the five consenting companies.

The board held that the 42 days' clearance granted by the arbitrator and reduced from 49 days previously held by the Vogue over the Southgate at a 25-cent admission is reasonable. In announcing its decision sustaining the arbitrator, the board said that to grant a change in availability simply because of an increase in admission to 30 cents would "disrupt the entire Los Angeles system and make the orderly distribution of feature pictures in that area impossible."

In a second complaint against the consenting companies Southgate had sought a clearance moved from 49 days to be fixed at 21 days at an admission of 25 cents. Further, complainant had sought a clearance fixed at seven to 14 days after the Vogue first run closing at a contemplated admission of 30 cents. Intervenors were the Huntington Park Theatre and Albert Hanson, owner of the Vogue.

# *De Sylva Unit By September*

(*Continued from page* 1)

pany's lot. He has agreed to continue as executive producer until mid-September in the event that Paramount is unable to rearrange its studio management setup before that date.

Action on the deal is not anticipated at the directors' meeting Thursday in New York. Meanwhile, the future operational method at the studio is declared to be completely undetermined thus far. If operation by a board is decided ultimately, Y. Frank Freeman and Henry Ginsberg inevitably would be two of its members.

## *Cites War's End as Tempo for UJA*

(*Continued from page* 1)

Barney Balaban, is co-chairman of the amusement division of UJA's fund-raising campaign which will be highlighted by a luncheon at the Hotel Astor here today. Over 1,000 screen, stage and radio executives are expected to attend.

Dr. Abba Hillel Silver, national co-chairman of the UJA and Rabbi of The Temple in Cleveland, will be the principal guest speaker and will launch the entertainment industry's drive here for UJA.

## *'Attack!' Opens Here*

"Attack!," the War Department's film about the battle for New Britain Island, will open today at the New York Theatre. The six-reel documentary, being distributed by RKO through the OWI will open tomorrow at the Gotham, the Globe and the Manhattan theatres here.

# Production in Drop; Off 5, To 52 in Work

HOLLYWOOD, June 19. — Production took a drop last week, as 13 pictures were completed and nine went before the cameras; M-G-M shelved "Secrets in the Dark." Total number of pictures in work was 52 against 57 in the preceding week. The production scene follows:

**Columbia**

*Finished*: "The Return of the Durango Kid," "Boston Blackie's Appointment with Death," "Death Walks Alone," "Meet Miss Bobby Socks," "Ever Since Venus."

*Shooting*: "Stalk the Hunter," "Tonight and Every Night."

**M-G-M**

*Started*: "The Home Front," with Laurel and Hardy; "Anchors Aweigh," with Gene Kelly, Frank Sinatra, Jose Iturbi, Kathryn Grayson.

*Shooting*: "Airship Squadron 4," "Music for Millions," "Son of Lassie," "The Thin Man Goes Home," "Ziegfeld Follies," "The Picture of Dorian Gray," "Thirty Seconds Over Tokyo," "National Velvet."

**Monogram**

*Finished*: "Fool's Gold," "Marked Trails."

*Shooting*: "Muggs Meets a Deadline."

**PRC**

*Shooting*: "Swing Hostess," "Bluebeard."

**Paramount**

*Started*: "A Medal for Benny," with Dorothy Lamour, Arturo de Cordova, J. Carrol Naish, Mikhail Rasumny, Fernando Alvarado, Frank McHugh, Charles Dingle, Mona Maris, Minor Watson, Pepito.

*Shooting*: "Fear," "Here Come the Waves," "Murder, He Says," "Two Years Before the Mast."

**RKO-Radio**

*Finished*: "Heavenly Days," "The Woman in the Window" (International.)

*Shooting*: "The Girl Rush," "The Master Race," "The Pumpkin Shell," "Farewell My Lovely," "Having Wonderful Crime," "Tall in the Saddle," "The Princess and the Pirate" (Goldwyn).

**Republic**

*Started*: "Code of the Prairie," with Smiley Burnette and Sunset Carson.

*Finished*: "Cheyenne Wildcat."

*Shooting*: "My Buddy," "Brazil," "San Fernando Valley," "Atlantic City."

**20th Century-Fox**

*Started*: "Winged Victory," with Mark Daniels, Lon McAllister, Edmund O'Brien, Don Taylor.

*Shooting*: "Thunderhead," "A Tree Grows in Brooklyn," "Laura," "Something for the Boys."

**United Artists**

*Started*: "Three's a Family" (Sol Lesser), with Marjorie Reynolds, Charles Ruggles, Helen Broderick, Fay Bainter, Hattie McDaniel, Arthur Lake, Jeff Donnell, Fred Brady.

*Finished*: "Double Furlough" (Vanguard).

*Shooting*: "Dark Waters" (Bogeaus); "Story of G. I. Joe" (Cowan); "Guest in the House" (Stromberg).

**Universal**

*Started*: "Can't Help Singing," with Deanna Durbin, Robert Paige, Akim Tamiroff, June Vincent, David Bruce, Ray Collins, Clara Blandick; "My Baby Loves Music," with Bob Crosby, Grace McDonald, Alan Mowbray, Walter Catlett, Betty Kean; "In Society", with Abbott and Costello.

*Finished*: "Riders of the Santa Fe."

*Shooting*: "Queen of the Nile," "Be It Ever So Humble," "Bowery to Broadway."

**Warners**

*Finished*: "The Conspirators."

*Shooting*: "Christmas in Connecticut," "Strangers in Our Midst," "Objective Burma," "Roughly Speaking," "Hollywood Canteen."

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# Review

## "Forty Thieves"

*(Sherman-UA)*

*Hollywood, June 19*

SHOWMEN have here a fast-moving Western which upholds the standards previously set by producer Harry Sherman for the Hopalong Cassidy series. As in earlier pictures, William Boyd plays Hoppy, Andy Clyde is "California," and Jimmy Rogers completes the trio.

The screenplay by Michael Wilson and Bernie Kamins, based on characters created by Clarence E. Mulford, tells how 40 thieves, led by Douglas Dumbrille as Ted Hammond, use tactics of terror and counterfeit ballots to oust Hoppy from his office as sheriff. In his stead, they elect a weak-kneed saloonkeeper, portrayed by Kirk Alyn. But Alyn proves unequal to his task, and Hoppy and his friends drive the villains out of town. The climax is reached as Hoppy and the outlaw chief fight it out in a hand-to-hand struggle on a swaying footbridge high over the riverbed. Others in the cast are Russell Harlan and Louise Kurrie. Lesley Selander's direction is satisfactorily smooth.

Running time 60 minutes. "G."* Release date not set.

THALIA BELL

*"G" denotes general classification.

# Balaban Note Sale Before Para. Meet

(Continued from page 1)

the approval of the elimination of 144,672 shares of $100 par first preferred stock and 555,101 shares of $10 par second preferred from the authorized capitalization of the corporation; and the consideration of three resolutions relating to additional directors, selection of auditors and sending stockholders a summary of each annual meeting, all opposed by management.

**Directors Renominated**

Renominated for reelection to the Paramount board of directors are: Balaban, Stephen Callaghan, Y. Frank Freeman, Harvey D. Gibson, Leonard H. Goldenson, A. Conger Goodyear, Stanton Griffis, Duncan G. Harris, John D. Hertz, John W. Hicks, Jr., Austin C. Keough, Earl L. McClintock, Maurice Newton, E. V. Richards, Edwin L. Weisl and Adolph Zukor.

# Prepare for Postwar Tax Relief: Crockett

(Continued from page 1)

**taxation, permitting American industries to submit their views on the formulation of a postwar tax program by Congress.**

"It is essential that the motion picture industry be prepared to present a constructive program at that time," advises Crockett. To accomplish this Crockett proposes that exhibitors discuss the postwar tax situation before appearing before the House committee with any conflicting ideas on the consideration they feel should be granted to theatres by the committee.

**Allied Still Welcome by Exhibitor Tax Roundtable**

Although National Allied's board of directors recently rejected membership in the proposed exhibitors' tax roundtable, Allied's participation will be welcomed if it should reverse its position, an industry leader on tax matters disclosed here yesterday.

Renewed interest reported on the establishment of a united front of exhibitor groups in a tax roundup has spurred a desire to call a meeting for the Fall, it is understood with representation from most segments of exhibition attending. The direction the projected organization will take and the machinery it will establish to achieve its objectives are as yet undecided. However, it is understood that the conference would not set up any special tax representation in Washington. The national organization will not participate in state tax matters but would leave to the various state organizations the job of combating such legislation.

## RCA Host at Dinner

The Radio Corporation of America was host to financial editors and the trade press at a dinner at Toots Shor's here last night in connection with a special television broadcast over station WNBT, designed to show that home television receivers head the list of products families will buy early in the postwar era.

## Arthur Loew in OWI Distribution Post

(Continued from page 1)

operating on the Continent and elsewhere from there. Laudy Lawrence had been handling foreign distribution of American films for the OWI overseas. He will remain with the OWI.

Returning recently from duty in the European theatre, Major Loew joined the Signal Corps Pictorial Service in May, 1942, and was first stationed at Astoria, L. I.

Previous to his Army service, Loew was for 20 years export manager of M-G-M. He was in complete charge of its foreign operations, including production and distribution of all M-G-M films abroad.

# NEW YORK THEATRES

RADIO CITY MUSIC HALL
Showplace of the Nation Rockefeller Center
A Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer's Picture
"THE WHITE CLIFFS OF DOVER"
Starring IRENE DUNNE
with ALAN MARSHAL
SPECTACULAR STAGE PRESENTATION
First Mezzanine Seats Reserved. Circle 6-4600

THE INSIDE ON HITLER'S EUROPE!
UNDERGROUND REPORT
20th CENTURY-FOX RELEASED BY
THE MARCH OF TIME

LOEW'S STATE B'WAY
ON SCREEN
FIRST N. Y. SHOWING
'MAN from FRISCO'
MICHAEL O'SHEA
ANNE SHIRLEY
IN PERSON
LUCKY MILLINDER and ORCH.
Added Attraction
LOUISE BEAVERS

RKO PALACE B'WAY & 47th St.
TAMARA TOUMANOVA
GREGORY PECK
"DAYS OF GLORY"

PARAMOUNT'S
"GOING MY WAY"
with BING CROSBY
In Person
CHARLIE SPIVAK and His Orch.
PARAMOUNT Times Square

PARAMOUNT PRESENTS
GARY COOPER in
CECIL B. DEMILLE'S
"The Story of Dr. Wassell"
★ In Technicolor ★
RIVOLI B'way & 49th St.

"ROGER TOUHY GANGSTER!"
20th CENTURY-FOX PICTURE
AIR-CONDITIONED
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Coming at You in one of the most exciting dramas to hit the screen in Years!
PAT O'BRIEN · CAROLE LANDIS
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Screen Play by ROY CHANSLOR · Produced by PHIL L. RYAN for TERNEEN PRODUCTIONS
Directed by EDDIE SUTHERLAND · A COLUMBIA PICTURE
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Fifth War Loan Drive!

# MOTION PICTURE DAILY

Keep Backing the Invasion!

VOL. 55. NO. 121 NEW YORK, U. S. A., WEDNESDAY, JUNE 21, 1944 TEN CENTS

## UA Re-Elects Raftery and All Officers

### *Walter Gould, Lou Pollock Appointments Confirmed*

Edward C. Raftery was re-elected president of United Artists yesterday, by the board of directors meeting here, and with him also were re-elected the following: Gradwell L. Sears, vice-president in charge of distribution; George L. Bagnall, vice-president in charge of production; H. J. Muller, treasurer; Lloyd Wright, secretary, and Paul O'Brien, Harry Buckley, H. J. Muller and Charles Milliken, assistant secretaries.



Edward C. Raftery

The board confirmed the appoint-

(Continued on page 10)

## Decree Draft Due In D. C. Today

WASHINGTON, June 20.—Assistant U. S. Attorney General Tom C. Clark left Washington tonight for a U. S. attorneys' conference at Asheville, N. C., without having seen new decree proposals reported to have been sent from New York by the decree distributors.

However, Clark said, he has been

(Continued on page 9)

### *'IA' Grants Charter For Managers*

**Chicago, June 20.—James Gorman, president of Chicago IATSE Projectionists Local 110, revealed today that his local has secured a charter from the national IATSE to organize theatre managers. Organizational plans are said said to be underway.**

**Petition for the charter was presented to the "IA" at its recent convention in St. Louis.**

## WMC Assures WAC on Local Labor Supply

WASHINGTON, June 20.—Representatives of the War Activities Committee were told here today that the War Manpower Commission is thoroughly aware of the importance of the motion picture theatre, particularly in smaller communities, and that despite the fact that film distribution has no standing in the list of essential or locally-needed activities regional WMC offices will deal "sympathetically" with requests of exchanges for priorities to secure needed labor.

The position of the Commission was made known during the course of a hearing before the WMC essential activities committee, presided over by Collis Stocking, assistant to the executive director in charge of program development, at which the industry situation in Buffalo and Dallas was outlined by Leon J. Bamberger, assistant to chairman Ned De-

(Continued on page 10)

## UJA Fund Appeal Is Launched Here

About 800 screen, stage and radio executives attended the sixth annual luncheon of the amusement division of the United Jewish Appeal at the Hotel Astor here yesterday highlighting the fund-raising drive in UJA's 1944 war emergency campaign.

Dr. Abba Hillel Silver of Cleveland made the appeal for funds. He was introduced by David Bernstein, vice-president and treasurer of Loew's, who, with Major Albert Warner of Warner Bros. and Barney Balaban of

(Continued on page 10)

### *$4,000,000 Credit For Hal Wallis*

**Hal Wallis Productions has completed banking arrangements with the First National Bank of Boston for a term loan and revolving credit agreement for $4,000,000 credit to be extended for five years, Paramount, with whom Wallis will be associated in production, disclosed here yesterday in a statement issued from the home office. "Hal Wallis Productions will finance its own productions completely from its own capital and bank credit," it was said.**

**Hollywood, June 20.—Jack Spaer, former Warner associate producer, has been named production and business manager by Wallis. Joseph H. Hazen, head of the New York office. has arrived for 10 days to help set up the organization.**

## Rose Forecasts Postwar Boom

The postwar film business faces an era of unprecedented prosperity "beyond our imagination," David Rose, Paramount managing director in England, said yesterday in an interview at the home office. The growing universal acceptance of motion pictures as entertainment will be responsible for "fantastic" business, he said.

As evidence of this, Rose cited the long theatre lines already forming in North Africa, Italy and Sicily. Refugees in England from the Continent, Rose said, turn to film amusement as soon as they have satisfied the elemental wants of food. Rose pointed also to the contrast of the first Brit-

(Continued on page 9)

## *Para. Stockholders Vote Balaban 'Incentive' Plan*

Paramount stockholders yesterday voted overwhelmingly in favor of the issuance and sale to Barney Balaban, company president, of $2,000,000 in convertible notes of the corporation with certain surviving stock purchase rights in event of prepayment. The action was taken at the annual meeting of shareholders, who also re-elected all directors.

More than two-thirds of the company's 40,000 holders of 3,749,516 shares of common stock favored the incentive arrangement to Balaban.

The stockholders also voted approval of elimination of 144,672 shares of $100 par value first preferred stock and 551,101 shares of $10 par second preferred from the authorized capitalization of the corporation. Austin C. Keough, Paramount vice-president

(Continued on page 10)

## Rank Extends Control of British Films

### *Plans New Company to Control B. and D.*

LONDON, June 20. — British and Dominions Film Corp., 16-year-old producing company, whose principals include E. Ronald Crammon, Hon. R. Norton, W. H. Cockburn, and others, reporting a deficit of approximately $652,292, today announced a capital reconstruction program which involves further evidence of J. Arthur Rank's extending control of the British film industry.

B. and D.'s authorized paid-up capital of approximately $2,000,000 (500,000 shares of one pound par value,

(Continued on page 9)

## Unaffiliated Owners May Join Allied

ATLANTIC CITY, June 20.—Possibility that the Unaffiliated Independent Exhibitors of New York, a group of 65 members, may become affiliated with Allied is seen by observers here in the attendance of Jesse Stern, president of the New York unit, at the convention of Allied Theatre Owners of New Jersey, which opened today in the Hotel Chelsea.

Stern denied that affiliation would

(Continued on page 9)

### *10 Stars Named for MGM Anniversary*

**Ten Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer contract players were named stars yesterday in a home office announcement, on the eve of the observance of the company's 20th anniversary, which will start tomorrow and will run a week.**

**The new stars are: Laraine Day, Kathryn Grayson, Van Johnson, Gene Kelly, George Murphy, Margaret O'Brien, Susan Peters, Ginny Simms, Robert Walker and Esther Williams, making 33 stars at MGM's studios. The company had six when it started in 1924: Mae Murray, John Gilbert, Lillian Gish, Lon Chaney, Ramon Novarro and Antonio Moreno.**

# Personal Mention

EDWARD HATRICK, M-G-M News-of-the-Day executive, is a grandfather, with the birth, Monday, of a son to his daughter, GLORIA HATRICK McLEAN and NED McLEAN at Colorado Springs.

•

JULES BERNSTEIN, manager of Loew's, Toronto, for 30 years, is reported to be suffering from a heart ailment, which has prevented a major operation for which he entered a Toronto hospital several weeks ago.

•

ROBERT FERGUSON and MRS. FERGUSON became the parents of a girl yesterday at Lenox Hill Hospital here. FERGUSON is an advertising copywriter with Columbia here. The baby will be named Carole Jane.

•

HARRY GRUVER of the New Theatre, Baltimore, and owner of two theatres in Glenburnie, Md., is recovering from a heart attack and has been discharged from Bon Secours Hospital.

•

H. S. DAHN, city supervisor of Odeon Theatres, at Hamilton, Ont., has a broken leg, and C. T. SPENCER, manager of the Capitol, has a broken arm.

•

JULES FIELDS and FRANK CLARK of 20th-Fox's home office exploitation staff, returned to New York yesterday from Indianapolis.

•

REX WILLIAMS, manager of Loew's State, St. Louis, has returned from a vacation in Chicago.

•

J. J. UNGER, UA Western division manager, has returned from a trip to the company's Western exchanges.

## Caribbean Bright For U. S. Films

Peter Colli, Warner Bros. supervisor for the Caribbean area, now in New York for home office conferences, yesterday predicted a bright future for Hollywood films in the Caribbean as a result of the increasing use of the English language throughout the West Indies and Central America.

"In most instances local governments have made English a requisite in curriculums," Colli said, adding: "American films are augmenting the schools in familiarizing the Latin population with the English language, particularly with American idiom, which is fast being adopted in those countries."

Territory supervised by Coll includes Cuba, Puerto Rico, Trinidad and Venezuela.

## Drive Honors Goodman

Republic Films Argentina Corp. and Cia Republic Films Chilena, have designated August as "Morris Goodman Month," in honor of Republic's vice-president in charge of Foreign Sales, the company disclosed here yesterday. Guy P. Morgan is in charge of the Argentina and Chile offices.

# Insider's Outlook

By RED KANN

*Hollywood, June 20*

CLOUDY and foggy distributors, who got that way from the new first run alignment in Greater Los Angeles, may de-cloud and un-fog, Fox West Coast sources declare. Their approach:

Playing time no longer available at the Los Angeles-Egyptian-Ritz, new combination which is now housing the cream of Metro's crop, will assert itself at the State-Chinese-Uptown.

It's simple and it's also obvious. Attractions playing the new hookup until now formerly would have played the old. Thus, what cannot get on the screens of the Los Angeles, etc., will get on the screens of the State, etc.

"Get it, kid?", as Charlie Skouras might say.

■ ■

Bill Goetz is the town's latest Nostradamus, slacks and pipe and all. He predicted June 6 would be D-Day. He also divined Japan would be bombed within three weeks. Those Superforts rode handsomely to his rescue.

When the radio flashed the first bullletin, someone who remembered the forecasts called Goetz on the possibility he hadn't heard.

"Just wanted to give you the flash," he said.

"Thanks," rejoined Bill, "but I had the flash *last month.*"

■ ■

Horace Greeley in reverse:

The California Chamber of Commerce may not like this one, but it's a fact that Jim Donohue, new Central division sales manager at Paramount, trekked *east* by degrees to fulfill his manifest destiny.

Donohue, native San Franciscan, started with the company in that city in 1925 as a shipping clerk, then was transferred, in turn, to Portland, Salt Lake City, Minneapolis, Chicago, Dallas and finally brought into New York to head the recently-created Central division. His covered wagon is now parked alongside the Paramount Building in the heart of Times Square.

■ ■

The other day Soviet officials presented the Academy an album of stills from Russian films made under pressures of war. Gregor Irsky, chief engineer of the film industry, was the honor guest. In gingerly English, he apologized for his unfamiliarity with the language. "I have spend too much time in Brooklyn area," was his excuse.

One of the films was made in Georgia. "You know," kidded Walter Wanger, "where Frank Freeman came from."

■ ■

The Emergency Committee of Hollywood Guilds and Unions, organizing a mass meeting to formalize a campaign to offset unwarranted industry attacks, including that of the Motion Picture Alliance, cannot meet at the American Legion Stadium. "Controversial," ruled stadium policy-makers.

"Controversial? And those slugging matches held every Friday evening in the stadium aren't?", was one sarcastic reaction.

■ ■

On the "Here Come the Waves" set at Paramount. Action calls for arm chair maneuvers with Bing Crosby and Sonny Tufts the strategists. They are moving blocks of sugar to illustrate a campaign. The scene blows up over the line, "What's that big hole doing there?" Bing ad libs, "That's where Wallis dropped in."

It was recorded, then played back later for general laughs. Including Buddy De Sylva's.

■ ■

Hollywood has learned there is no monopoly on touching the emotions with dramatics. Native sons, by professional identification anyway, did the acting, but outsiders wrote the stirring "Balance Sheet of America on D-Day," which was a highlight of the war loan ceremonies at the Hollywood Bowl.

The job was done, complete, by a Treasury Department staff out of the East. Peter Lyon on the script; Paul Stewart, advertising man, produced and directed; David Boerckman wrote and conducted the music. It was completely on the beam.

■ ■

No communiques on this yet. It's too early. But on the same train, Eastbound for Chicago and the Republican National Convention today, were Louella O. Parsons and Hedda Hopper.

Regular Army troops are protecting the Santa Fe's right of way. All bridges are under protection. Lime ammunition has been issued. Gas masks, too.

## Hearing Today on New Prefect Trial

NEW HAVEN, June 20.—Aguments will be presented before Judge Carroll Hincks in Federal District Court here this afternoon in Prefect Theatres' motion for a new trial of its $5,542,575 triple damage anti-trust suit against a number of distributors. Saul Rogers will represent the plaintiffs, basing his plea on a letter allegedly written to a juror by the judge following dismissal of the case April 14. Joseph Berry for the defense will oppose granting of the motion.

The hearing on the motion, which was filed several weeks after the end of the trial by Raymond E. Hackett, attorney of record for Prefect, has been held up until now by a trip to Arizona taken by Judge Hincks, who was called there by the illness of his mother.

The Prefect suit charged the distributors with conspiracy to deprive the Pickwick Theatre, Greenwich, Conn., of product and claimed that the clearance of Portchester and Stanford theatres over Greenwich was unreasonable. The judge's letter to the juror, who allegedly claimed that the case should not have been terminated at the close of testimony by plaintiffs' witnesses, is said by Rogers to have conceded that there was evidence of conspiracy but no proof of damage.

## NLRB Turns Down 3 Companies' Appeals

The National Labor Relations Board in Washington has turned down the appeals of 20th Century-Fox, Loew's and United Artists from a regional board decision here which granted retroactive pay, job classifications and arbitration provisions to about 100 office workers employed in the New York film exchanges of the three companies who are represented by the Screen Office and Professional Employes Guild, Local 109, CIO.

The regional board's decision directed the three companies to grant the workers a 15 percent, retroactive pay increase to May, 1943, and additional retroactivity; to work out job classifications with minimum and maximum wage scales within 30 days; and to submit all disputes to arbitration by the State Board of Mediation.

SOPEG disclosed here yesterday that it plans to file for a State Labor Relations Board election covering the office workers of Republic's New York exchange. These workers were previously represented by the IATSE Local B-51 but their contract expired last November.

## 20th Club Picnic Today

Twentieth-Fox employees and guests will spend today at Bear Mountain on the annual "Family Club" picnic. Among company officials who are scheduled to attend are Spyros Skouras, Tom Connors, W. J. Kupper, W. C. Gehring, W. C. Michel, Hal Horne and others.

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"See Here, Private Hargrove. I'm moving into the Astor June 27th for a Broadway splash following your four wonderful months. You're the Astor champ now, but watch me, soldier boy, I'm going to outstrip your records!"



"Um-m-m-m! Wish I could stick around to see those Astor figures. They'll be lovelier than ever now!"



M·G·M's

# BATHING BEAUTY

IN TECHNICOLOR

The Biggest Show on Water!

"BATHING BEAUTY" starring Red Skelton with Esther Williams, Basil Rathbone, Bill Goodwin, Ethel Smith, Jean Porter, Carlos Ramirez, Harry James and his Music Makers with Helen Forrest, Xavier Cugat and his Orchestra with Lina Romay. Photographed in Technicolor. Screen Play by Dorothy Kingsley, Allen Boretz and Frank Waldman. Adaptation by Joseph Schrank. Directed by George Sidney. Produced by Jack Cummings. A Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer Picture.

"Never Stop Till You're Over The Top! Fighting Fifth War Loan!"

# Coast Flashes

*Hollywood, June 20*

LESTER COWAN has added Capt. Burgess Meredith and Major John Huston to his staff of eight technical advisers who are aiding him on the script of "G.I. Joe," which will be released by United Artists.

•

Warners will co-star Dennis Morgan and Jane Wyman in "Honeymoon Freight," and will star Ann Sheridan in "A Night at Tony Pastor's," with Jerry Wald producing the latter. Both are indicated for next season's release. W. R. Frank's next production will be "L'Affaire La Farge," based on a century-old French murder mystery

•

Edward L. Alperson announced upon his arrival here today that he had secured the rights to Somerset Maugham's "The Razor's Edge." Film will follow "Sheppey Goes to Heaven" and "Television Parade," a musical, both of which will have United Artists release.

•

The Screen Directors Guild board will meet tonight to draft a standard contract for submission to producers as a replacement for the individual type pacts now in effect at the various studios.

•

Ann Sheridan has been set for Warners' "A Night at Tony Pastor's," which will get under way on her return from a USO tour. Jerry Wald is preparing the production.

•

The War Finance Committee here reported today that Warner and Univeral employee war bond purchases approximate $125,000 at each studio so far.

•

B. P. Fineman has severed his connection with Vanguard after eleven months, during which he produced one war short.

•

Robert Z. Leonard has been given an associate producership by M-G-M in recognition of 20 years' service with the studio.

•

Alfred De Liagre, producer of "The Voice of the Turtle," arrived today to negotiate the play's film rights.

•

Benjamin Kalmenson, Warner general sales manager, arrived from New York today.

•

Lynn Bari's contract has been extended a year by 20th-Fox.

## RKO Libel SuitDismissed

BOSTON, June 20.—Three libel suits, asking for $600,000, instituted against RKO by Mrs. Minna Wright of Fall River and her son and daughter, have been dismissed in Federal Court in a decision by Judge George C. Sweeney. The Wrights charged that the characters portrayed in RKO's "Primrose Path" libelled her family and injured her reputation. In dismissing the suit Judge Sweeney stated that there was no evidence to prove the identity of the characters in the film.

# Review

## "Sensations of 1945"

*(Andrew Stone-United Artists)*

EXHIBITORS can invite their patrons to relax and enjoy themselves when they show Andrew Stone's "Sensations of 1945." The picture is a beguiling collection of variety acts, music, songs, dancing, comedy and romance, dependent upon and part of an amusing and credible enough story. Studded with names enough to catch the eye and interest of most of those who read the legends of the marquees, it is entertainment tailor-made for the hot months and after.

"Sensations'" story has to do with the taking over of an old-line Broadway publicity organization by Eleanor Powell, as a dancer with a keen sense for staging sensational stunts which, while they may victimize others, seldom fail either to put her own name on the first pages of the papers or to make her purse a little heavier with the long green. Eugene Pallette is the founder of the publicity organization which has been turned over to his son, Dennis O'Keefe, whose scruples are strong enough to keep him from indulging in the type of sensationalism for which Miss Powell has such a flair. The situation keeps them at loggerheads until the end of the story, when romance triumphs, as it has been known to do before.

The varied entertainment which comprises most of the picture is introduced, logically enough, by means of the various entertainment enterprises which Miss Powell and O'Keefe, jointly or separately, undertake to "put over" through publicity. These enterprises bring onto the scenes Woody Herman's and Cab Calloway's bands and the persons of Sophie Tucker, W. C. Fields, Sir C. Aubrey Smith, Mimi Forsythe, Lyle Talbot, Hubert Castle, Dorothy Donegan and many others.

Among the acts are the Pallenberg bicycle-riding bears, Starless Night, the dancing horse; the Cristianis, The Les Paul Trio, the Copelands, Mel Hall, Gene Rodgers and the Johnson Brothers, all good at their own specialties, which range from tight-rope walking, expert roller skating and gymnastics to good singing, body bruising dancing and comedy. A piano duet by members of the Calloway band is a high spot.

Stone produced and directed from Frederick Jackson's original story and Stone's and Dorothy Bennett's screenplay. Al Sherman provided the music and Harry Tobias the lyrics. The chorus has quality and quantity and sets and costumes are optical nourishment.

Running time, 86 minutes. "G."* Release date June 30.

SHERWIN KANE.

**"G" denotes general classification.*

## Legion Objects to 3, Passes 10 Others

The Legion of Decency this week classified three features in Class B, objectionable in part, and approved 10. Universal's "The Invisible Man's Revenge" was objected to because there is "No retribution for crime"; United Artists' "Sensations of 1945," is held to contain "suggestiveness in song and dance," and UA's "Summer Storm" gives "in story treatment undue emphasis on immorality."

In Class A-1, unobjectionable for general patronage, are M-G-M's "An American Romance"; PRC's "Brand of the Devil" and "Fuzzy Settles Down"; Monogram's "Raiders of the Border"; Republic's "Secrets of Scotland Yard," and Clasa-Mohme's Spanish "Virgin que Forjo una Patria," (The Saint that Forged a Country).

In Class A-2, unobjectionable for adults, are Universal's "Christmas Holiday"; United Artists' "The Hairy Ape"; Monogram's "Return of the Ape Man," and Columbia's "They Live in Fear."

## Pitts' 4th Under Way

SUFFOLK, Va., June 20.—The War Production Board has granted Pitts Amusement Corp. authorization to complete the construction of a theatre on North Main street.

Construction was begun just prior to the outbreak of the war. When completed it will give Suffolk four theatres.

## Hamilton's Final Dividend, $25.35

TORONTO, June 20.—Hamilton United Theatres, purchased by a Nathanson company, has declared a final dividend of $25.35 on the preferred shares, payable June 30 at which time proceeds from the assets of the company will be distributed to holders of preferred and common stock, according to notice issued by T. J. Bragg of Toronto, secretary.

The assets of the company, comprising the Palace and Capitol Theatres at Hamilton, Ont., have been bought by Theatre Properties (Hamilton), Paul Nathanson president. The theatres are leased to Odeon.

## Leigh Starts 'Caesar'

LONDON, June 20.—Through an arrangement with David O. Selznick in the United States, Vivien Leigh will play the lead in George Bernard Shaw's $2,500,000 film, "Caesar and Cleopatra," being produced by Gabriel Pascal here. The film, to be released through United Artists, is probably the "most expensive picture ever produced in Britain." Claude Rains will handle the role of Caesar.

## Schectman Appointed

Ben Schectman has been appointed to the staff of A. W. Schwalberg, eastern representative of International Pictures. His initial effort will be on "Casanova Brown," International's first production.

# Hollywood

By THALIA BELL

*Hollywood, June 20*

WITH the lending of Roy Rogers to Warners for a guest-star appearance in "Hollywood Canteen," Republic duplicates a step taken some years ago in behalf of Gene Autry with impressive results. The studio lent its then No. One cowboy star to 20th Century-Fox for a co-starring role in a Jane Withers picture, thus placing him on a large number of screens across which he had not ridden before and in front of audiences not accustomed to following Western heroes. In the next year's *Motion Picture Herald-Fame* poll of exhibitors, Gene Autry rose from his No. One rank in the Western star division to a place among the top 10 in the all-picture classification. In addition to his appearance in "Hollywood Canteen," Roy Rogers is to do a guest-stint in his own studio's "Brazil," the two bringing him to the screen in 10 pictures next year instead of the eight which, for the past three years, it has been his custom to make.

•

**Six former actors now in the Army will return to the screen in line of duty to take part in "Winged Victory," which Darryl Zanuck is producing at 20th Century-Fox. They are Mark Daniels, Edmund O'Brien, Don Taylor, Lon McAllister, Barry Nelson and Rune Haltman. . . . The board of governors of the Academy of M. P. Arts and Sciences has decided to replace the 'ersatz' Oscars awarded during the past two years with regular gold Oscars as soon as the current shortage of metal permits. Money to be used for this purpose has been put in escrow by the Academy. . . . Edward Small is looking for a story to serve as a vehicle for J. Carroll Naish under a new two-picture deal with the actor.**

•

"The Second Cabinet of Dr. Caligari," announced as the second of two pictures which Erich Pommer has been engaged to produce for Producers Corp. of America, looms as one of the more tangible items in the train of extra-normal films in the lengthening chain of departures from the here-and-now norm of production. The original "Caligari," also produced by Pommer, had the arty addicts of the screen standing on their ears and the plain people fascinated, mostly to the profit of the project. This history stacks up as ready-made interest in the new picture, which Producer Pommer quite obviously can make a good deal more fantastic than the first one.

## War Activities Sets Two July Releases

Among films to be released within the next month by the War Activities Committee in the War Information Films series are "Liberation of Rome," a War Department production scheduled to be released by M-G-M on July 13, and "Battle Stations," produced by Garson Kanin, to be distributed by 20th-Fox starting July 27.

Also set for release are "film bulletins," to be attached to newsreels, including "Victory Vacations," out today; "Last Furlough," to be distributed July 20 and "Prepare for Winter," set for Aug. 3.

# Carrying the Torch for Timely Pictures



*ALREADY PRODUCED...*
*NOW AWAITING RELEASE*



# SMACK ON THE Kisser!

As action-packed . . . as romance-packed a story as ever came out of the SATURDAY EVENING POST



PAT O'BRIEN · CAROLE LANDIS

# SECRET COMMAND

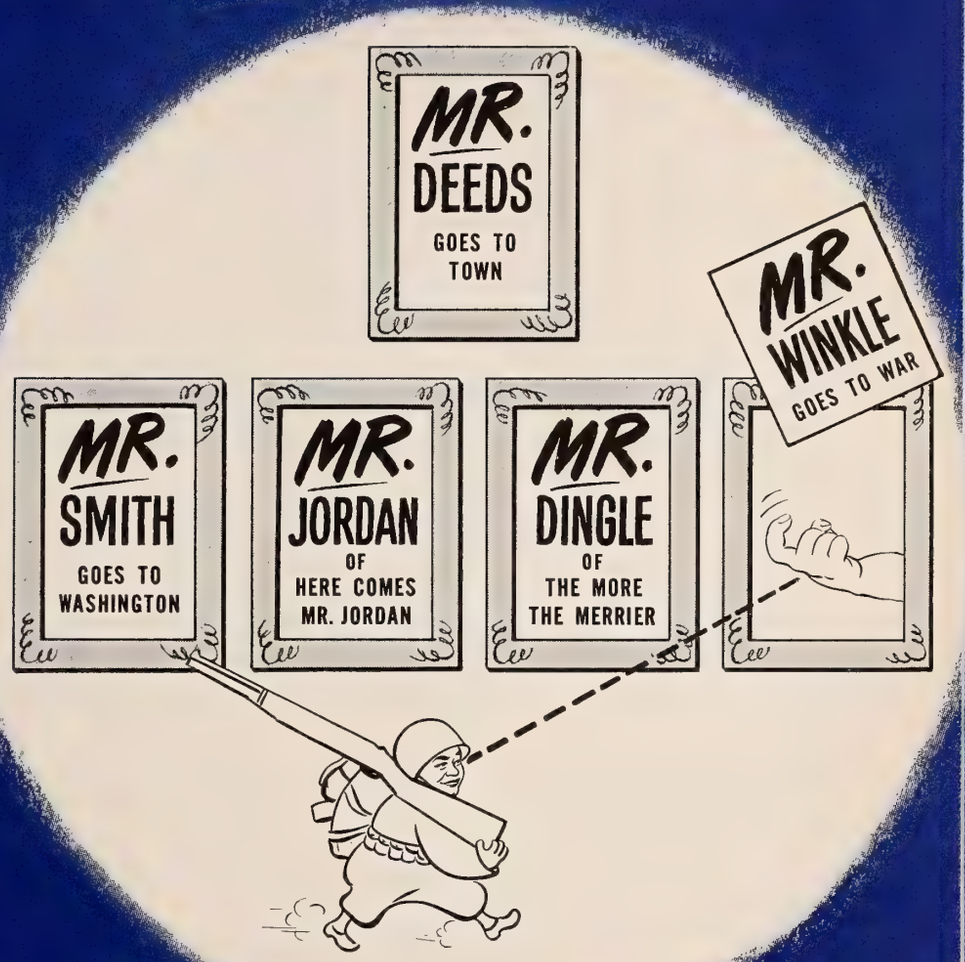
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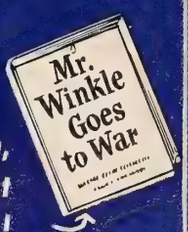
CHESTER MORRIS

RUTH WARRICK · BARTON MacLANE · TOM TULLY · WALLACE FORD

Screen Play by ROY CHANSLOR · Based upon a Saturday Evening Post story and best-selling novel by JOHN HAWKINS and WARD HAWKINS

# Another great "MR." is added to Columbia's Hall of Memorable Motion Picture Characters!




*As Mr. Winkle goes... so goes your heart... laughing, loving, deeply sympathizing... as you follow the most lovable character ever to come out of a best-seller!*

# EDWARD G. ROBINSON

*in Columbia Pictures'*

# Mr. Winkle Goes to War

with RUTH WARRICK TED DONALDSON · BOB HAYMES

Screen Play by Waldo Salt, George Corey, Louis Solomon · From the best-selling novel by THEODORE PRATT · Produced by JACK MOSS · Directed by ALFRED E. GREEN




co-starring

# KAY KYSER · ANN MILLER · VICTOR MOORE

with JEFF DONNELL · ISH KABIBBLE · GEORGIA CARROLL
HARRY BABBITT · SULLY MASON · DIANE PENDLETON

and KAY KYSER'S BAND

Screen play by Joseph Hoffman and Al Martin · Produced by SAMUEL BISCHOFF · Directed by LEIGH JASON

## Only 'Jeep' Makes Grade in Toronto

TORONTO, June 20.—"Four Jills in a Jeep" had a slight edge among first-runs with an expected $12,800 at Shea's Theatre.

Estimated receipts for the week ending June 22:

**"Escape to Danger" (British)**
**"Hat Check Honey" (Univ.)**
EGLINTON—(1,086) (18c-30c-48c-60c) 6 days, 2nd week. Gross: $3,000. (Average: $4,000).
**"The Sullivans" (20th-Fox)**
IMPERIAL—(3,373) (18c-30c-42c-60c-90c) 6 days. Gross: $12,300. (Average: $12,800).
**"Andy Hardy's Blonde Trouble" (M-G-M)**
**"Spider Woman" (Univ.)**
LOEW'S—(2,074) (18c-30c-42c-60c-78c) 6 days, 2nd week. Gross: $10,700. (Average: $11,200).
**"Four Jills in a Jeep" (20th-Fox)**
SHEA'S—(2,480) (18c-30c-42c-60c-90c) 6 days. Gross: $12,800. (Average: $12,800).
**"Lady in the Dark" (Para.)**
**"Henry Aldrich Plays Cupid" (Para.)**
TIVOLI—(1,434) (18c-30c-48c) 6 days. Gross: $3,900. (Average: $4,400).
**"This Is the Life" (Univ.)**
**"Weird Woman" (Univ.)**
UPTOWN—(2,761) (18c-30c-42c-60c-90c) 6 days. Gross: $9,300. (Average: $9,800).

## Rank Extends Control Of British Films

(Continued from page 1)

now approximately $4 per share), will be reduced to about $1,200,000 by writing eight shillings ($1.60) off each ordinary pound share. The capital will then be increased to 786,000 pounds (about $3,144,000) of 12-shilling shares ($2.40) by further rearrangements providing for an interchange of shares between Rank's D. and P. Studios, Ltd. (controlling Denham and Pinewood studios) and B. and D., with Rank and others affiliated with him joining the British and Dominions board of directors.

Rank later will form a new company, to be known as Denham and Pinewood Holdings, Ltd., which will hold a majority of British and Dominions shares, thus controlling Denham, Pinewood and B. and D. Ellstree studios.

The reorganization is dependent upon acceptance at B. and D.'s annual meeting on July 11, but this is understood to be already assured. The company's studios at Ellstree were built in 1928 and are now operating under government requisition for war filming. B. and D. shares have not paid a dividend since 1934.

## 'Cliffs'' $21,000 Is $4,400 Over Par

BUFFALO, June 20.—"The White Cliffs of Dover" was the big grosser here. It will probably hit $21,000 to lead by a wide margin. "Song of the Open Road" was a surprise hit at the 20th Century and will do a good $13,500.

Estimated receipts for the week ending June 24:

**"Between Two Worlds" (WB)**
**"Slightly Terrific" (Univ.)**
BUFFALO—(3,489) (40c-50c-60c-70c) 7 days. Gross: $13,400. (Average: $17,400).
**"The White Cliffs of Dover" (M-G-M)**
GREAT LAKES—(3,000) (40c-50c-60c-70c) 7 days. Gross: $21,000. (Average: $16,600).
**"Roger Touhy, Gangster" (20th-Fox)**
**"Hat Check Honey" (Univ.)**
HIPPODROME—(2,100) (40c-50c-60c-70c) 7 days. Gross: $11,000. (Average: $9,700).
**"Song of the Open Road" (UA)**
**"Voice in the Wind" (UA)**
TWENTIETH CENTURY—(3,000) (40c-50c-60c-70c) 7 days. Gross: $13,500. (Average: $12,200).
**"Once Upon a Time" (Col.)**
**"Is Everybody Happy" (Col.)**
LAFAYETTE—(3,000) (40c-50c-60c-70c) 7 days: $13,400. (Average: $12,400).

# Unaffiliated Exhibitors May Join Allied; Stern at Meet

(Continued from page 1)

be discussed at this time but did not rule it out as a possibility. He said he was in close touch with exhibitors everywhere and that, while here, he would discuss with Abram Myers, national Allied general counsel, his recent talks with U. S. Assistant Attorney General Tom C. Clark.

At the convention's opening session today Edward Auger of the Radio Corporation of America predicted that satisfactory television will be available within a year after civilian manufacture is resumed and that the use of television in theatres will spread as coaxial cables and radio relay systems are developed. Meanwhile, he said, theatre television in metropolitan areas can be inaugurated if exhibitors will invest in studio pickups by telephone. Auger outlined the War Production Board's L3-25 order procedure for obtaining equipment, of which he said the allotment for the balance of the year is substantial. RCA is now covering 24 of 30 television areas and, bidding for postwar leadership in the field, will soon offer complete equipment to all, Auger added.

### Lowenstein Reviews Year

New Jersey Allied's president Harry H. Lowenstein, reviewing the past year, noted a Red Cross collection of $178,000 in the Northern part of the state and stressed the current waste paper campaign. War expenses and home sacrifices were noted by Russell Britton, New Jersey treasury deputy administrator.

The organization's present officers are expected to be renominated today by a committee consisting of Irving Dollinger, chairman; Louis Gold, Harry Hecht, David Snaper, Lee Newburg, Maurice Spewack, Helen Hildinger, Ralph Wilkins, Si Myers and Edward Lachman. Other committees scheduled to report are: resolutions, George Gold, chairman, Jack Unger and David Mate; grievances, Snaper, Newbury and Lachman; and reception, Myers, Newbury, Hecht and Lachman.

Lowenstein claims that more exhibitors are attending than at any time in the past ten years. Myers is expected to arrive in time for the banquet Thursday, as are Howard Eastwood, acting governor of New Jersey; Joseph Altman, mayor of Atlantic City, and Senators Frank Farley and Bruce Wallace.

### Directors' Meeting

Following today's business session, the Allied Caravan and Eastern regional directors held a closed meeting, attended by Morris Pouzzner, Maxwell Alderman, Meyer Levanthal, Morris Bailey, Harry Lamont, Jeanne Conery, Sidney Samuelson, Dr. Morris Fishman, Gold, Hildinger, Wilkins, Lachman, Snaper and Lowenstein. They will meet again tomorrow morning and report tomorrow afternoon.

Among company representatives present are Harry Kalmine, Don Jacocks and Frank Damis of Warners.

The following resolutions are expected to be adopted tomorrow: encouraging films by independent producers to ease the tight picture situation, opposing distributors' demands that films shall not be shown for less than admission prices set by themselves, and supporting all war activities.

### Rodgers Invokes Plea For Better Relations

William F. Rodgers, M-G-M vice-president and general sales manager, in a message to the New Jersey Allied conference, declared: "If, during the next 20 years of our business life, ours can be the opportunity to serve further and to play our part in the stabilization of the industry and in the creating within the industry of a better understanding—if, through a friendly understanding of the problems of the industry, we can be permitted to play our part toward equipping that industry to serve the public more efficiently—then, indeed, we will feel that we have achieved a success built on a firm foundation.

"Certainly," he continued, "during the past twenty years, the ethics of the business have made a fine change for the better. The business has grown up. Now we find an industry concerned with better understanding, concerned with making the investments of the theatre owners more secure, and concerned with bringing better pictures to the American public. We are giving thought, too, to making more secure our position with the public after the war.

"I would certainly be most remiss if I did not use this opportunity to compliment exhibitors on the remarkable war job the industry has done. It would not have been possible to come through with flying colors in war bond, Red Cross and other drives, had it not been for the effort put through by theatre owners.

"I am not unmindful of the fact that this great job was done at a tremendous sacrifice, because, like all other industries, you have faced a terrific manpower problem. I am sure, however, that you feel, as we do, that there is something satisfying in this sacrifice, knowing that—permitted as we have been to carry on the important role of entertaining the public and the armed forces both here and abroad—ours has been an important contribution to the peace that we hope will come soon," he concluded.

## John Golden Gives $100,000 to Fund

John Golden, theatrical producer, has established the John Golden Theatre Fund with an initial grant of $100,000 for the benefit and cultural advancement of the legitimate theatre, according to an announcement yesterday by Richard Rodgers, president of the Dramatists Guild.

The fund will be administered by the Foundation Advisory Committee of the Theatre, of which Mr. Rodgers is chairman. Subcommittees will be in charge of carrying out the various projects of the fund, the first purpose of which will be to provide relief of the theatre's needy in the form of loans.

## T. H. Druitt Is Dead

T. Harry Druitt, for more than 28 year executive secretary of The Lambs, died here yesterday at his home. His age was 69.

## Rose Forecasts Postwar Boom In Film Industry

(Continued from page 1)

ish Expeditionary Force in 1939 with its total of three accompanying cameramen against the present invasion armies with 400 cameramen.

In England alone, Paramount's English manager declared, there are 11,000,000 more filmgoers now than before the war. Rose said business after the war is expected to go even higher.

The rising interest in films Rose attributed in part to the fact that they satisfy the people's curiosity about the war better than other media, and with this as a starting point, new audiences are won over to films as entertainment.

"British production has developed, especially in the last few years," Rose declared. British producers, he said, are acquiring the "knack" of making pictures for the world market.

Rose revealed that he was leaving for the Coast to confer with Hal Wallis to work out details of the first two features that Wallis will produce in England for Paramount. As reported in MOTION PICTURE DAILY on May 26, Wallis' deal with Paramount calls for two to four films annually for Paramount worldwide distribution for an as yet undesignated period.

### Old Deal in Force

A deal made some time ago by Paramount with J. Arthur Rank for two pictures to be made in England by Paul Soskin, Rank producer, is still in force, despite the production-distribution agreement recently effected by Spyros Skouras between Rank and 20th Century-Fox, Rose said. Soskin will make the films if he can obtain a cast and if suitable scripts can be found, Rose stated. Rank and Paramount are to split 50-50 on capital for the productions, with Rank to distribute in England and Paramount the rest of the world.

Business in London's West End is still off because of the deep inroads the invasion has made in troops formerly stationed there. Rose is of the opinion that the public as a whole will want more serious films and less of satirical themes. Serious films are doing much more business than before.

Rose discounted reports that the British industry is lining up Allied governments for distribution deals. Some smaller countries might insist on incorporating in newsreels some of their own material such as is being done in North Africa, where the De Gaullist French national committee insists that reels contain one-third local material.

Rose will leave for the Coast Friday and will return to England in about six weeks. His present trip was his 19th crossing.

## 'Wilson' Campaign Planned in July

An advance newspaper campaign for 20th-Fox's "Wilson" will start early in July, Tom Connors, distribution vice-president, announced this week. In addition, a full-coverage outdoor billposting campaign is now under way, with over 5,000 three-sheets already up. The world premiere at the Roxy here on Aug. 1 will be supervised by Hal Horne.

# 3,410 'Free Movie Days' Booked; 4th Drive Total Topped

A total of 3,410 "Free Movie Days" have been set to date at theatres for the "Fighting Fifth" War Loan, already surpassing the total for the Fourth Loan, national industry chairman R. J. O'Donnell announced here yesterday following a report by Ned E. Depinet, national distributor chairman.

Meanwhile, the number of war bond premieres jumped more than 200 in 24 hours. A count at noon yesterday showed 3,870, representing some 700 more than were reported during the entire fourth loan. In addition, exhibitors have set 677 children's premieres, a type of activity comparatively new to bond campaigns.

**80,000 at 'Parade of Stars' in Chicago**

CHICAGO, June 20.—Despite a storm, 80,000 bond buyers packed Soldiers Feld here last night for the "Parade of Stars" sponsored by the "Fighting Fifth" committee, the Hollywood Victory Committee and the Treasury's War Finance Division.

In addition to Hollywood stars and an Army Air Forces orchestra who are featured on their tour, there were 200 bluejackets and a Navy Band. With Jack Benny as master of ceremonies, the unit made a special half-hour coast-to-coast broadcast over the Blue Network, featuring Secretary of the Treasury Henry Morgenthau, Jr.

The program also included Lynn Bari, Orson Welles, Lana Turner, Paul Lukas, Rochester, Susanna Foster, Paul Whiteman, Oscar Levant, Eileen Woods, Lt. William Holden, Pvt. John Payne and Ray Bolger.

The troupe will appear in Atlantic City Wednesday.

**$17,500,000 Sale Due At Houston Fights**

HOUSTON, Tex., June 20.—With nearly $15,000,000 of an expected $17,500,000 in war bonds already set, this city is ready for its "Texas Championship Boxing Show" tomorrow at the Sam Houston Coliseum, according to Al Lever, War Activities Committee area chairman.

Lt. Commander Jack Dempsey of the U. S. Coast Guard will referee a number of the bouts, as will Lou Nova and Juan Zurita, boxing champion of Mexico. All fighters will be service men, with the main bout between Al Hostak and Glenn Lee, Pacific Coast champion.

The Houston Elks Club has furnished more than $3,500 for expenses of the fighters and referees, and a special section of the Coliseum has been set aside for Texas war heroes.

## *Disney Lists 4 Live And Cartoon Films*

HOLLYWOOD, June 20.—Walt Disney, returning here today from his vacation in New York, signed Dinah Shore for a role in "Swing Street" and disclosed his intention to film "Uncle Remus," "Cinderella," "Alice in Wonderland" and "Sword in the Storm" as combination live-action and cartoon features aimed at the postwar market. The producer set no dates for these but contemplates one to three features every two years.

# *Para. Stockholders Vote Balaban 'Incentive' Plan*

(*Continued from page* 1)

and general counsel, presided at the meeting.

The stockholders voted down three proposals advanced by James Fuller, minority holder, of Hartford, which would have made it obligatory that 10 of the Paramount board of directors be outsiders not connected with the corporation; which would have made it necessary to appoint special auditors to inquire into corporation accounting; and which would have obligated the corporation to render a stenographic transcript of proceedings of annual stockholders' meetings to all stockholders. The Paramount management opposed all three resolutions as such but Balaban indicated that the company will furnish stockholders with a copy of his annual report delivered at the meeting as well as a summary of the proceedings. It was also decided that a regular appointment of Price, Waterhouse & Co. as Paramount's auditors should be made yearly rather than proceed on the assumption that such an appointment was unnecessary

**Board Reelected**

The stockholders re-elected the present board of directors to serve for another year, as follows: Balaban, Stephen Callaghan, Y. Frank Freeman, Harvey D. Gibson, Leonard H. Goldenson, A. Conger Goodyear, Stanton Griffis, Duncan G. Harris, John D. Hertz, John W. Hicks, Jr., Keough, Earl L. McClintock, Maurice Newton, E. V. Richards, Edwin L. Weisl and Adolph Zukor.

In his report to stockholders at the meeting, Balaban estimated that Paramount's profit for the second quarter of 1944 would exceed the $3,827,000 net for the same quarter in 1943. "There has been a levelling off of Paramount income during June, however," he said, attributing this to warm weather. "Income from film rentals will follow the general trend of the box office," he said in discussing possible recessions in business.

**Owns 50% of Wallis**

"Paramount owns 50 percent of the stock in the recently-formed Hal Wallis independent production unit," Balaban disclosed. He said that Paramount has definite plans to figure in film production in England and that Wallis figures prominently in these plans.

Balaban estimated that Paramount is now receiving between 16 and 17 percent of its previous 30 percent revenue before the war from foreign markets. Future operations in countries which are freed from Axis domination will add between 12 and 15 percent to Paramount's world income, he said.

"Television will add to the attraction of theatres," Balaban said. The company has an interest in a process which enables it to take telecasts off the air and put it on film which will enable it to bring an event telecast to the theatre screen within several minutes, he pointed out. "Paramount has a 44 percent interest in DuMont Television and a substantial interest in Scophony," he said, adding, "Television will have a pronounced effect on the entertainment field."

Balaban disclosed that the company's "For Whom the Bell Tolls," which has only played about 700 advanced-price theatre engagements, has already paid off its negative cost. He explained that the company is rushing "Frenchmen's Creek" into early release in line with the policy of keeping negative inventories as low as possible to guard against any possible recessions. The film will follow "The Story of Dr. Wassell" into the Rivoli here.

"Paramount in its post-war thinking is giving serious consideration to making visual-education films for use in educational fields," Balaban said, pointing to the wide use of such films by the Armed Forces during the war.

Balaban read a note from the late Secretary of the Navy Frank Knox paying tribute to Paramount for the donation of the facilities of the Balaban and Katz television station in Chicago for training Navy personnel in radio and radar work. "Paramount is continuing to pay the cost for the upkeep of the station which amounts to several hundred thousand dollars a year," Balaban said.

## *UA Reelects Raftery And Other Officers*

(*Continued from page* 1)

ment of Walter Gould as foreign manager, and Lou Pollock as director of advertising and publicity. "The board also approved the acquisition of two highly important production assets in property and personality to be disclosed as quickly as formal contracts are signed," said Raftery.

It was also disclosed by Raftery that henceforth the board will meet on the second Tuesday of each month, the next meeting being scheduled for July 11. "Prior to the next meeting, members of the board will study plans for long range development within the company, such as the possibility of acquiring theatres in the United States and abroad as well as new studio facilities and any other forms of expansion consistent with the aggressive and constructive development agreed upon," said the company statement.

Board members attending yesterday's meeting were: E. Claude Mills, Rex Dennant, Sears, Raftery, Bagnall, Neil W. Agnew, Isaac Pennypacker and Charles P. Blinn.

## *WMC Assures WAC On Suppy of Labor*

(*Continued from page* 1)

pinet of the WAC distributors' division and A. A. Schubart, RKO exchange head.

It was made clear that there is no intention on the part of the WMC to destroy any activity but that the importance of motion pictures in the war effort is fully realized. The WAC representatives were told that the film industry may be given a high priority locally, the level, of course, depending upon local conditions.

All applications for assistance should be laid before the regional officials of the WMC, where each local situation will be considered with reference to the industry's relationship to other industries. Members of the WMC expressed confidence that local priority committees can be expected to be liberal and to recognize the importance of maintaining film exchange activities.

# 'Hitler's Gang' Is High on $14,000

ST. LOUIS, June 20.—Temperatures in the high 90's cut grosses at first-runs here this week.

Estimated receipts for the week ending June 21:

**"The Eve of St. Mark" (20th-Fox)**
**"Ladies of Washington" (20th-Fox)**
FOX—(5,038) (40c-50c-60c) 7 days. Gross: $14,500. (Average: $18,700).

**"Two Girls and a Sailor" (M-G-M)**
**"The Black Parachute" (Col.)**
LOEW'S STATE—(3,162) (40c-50c-60c-65c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $13,500. (Average: $18,900).

**"Show Business" (RKO)**
**"The Falcon Out West" (RKO)**
AMBASSADOR—(3,154) (40c-50c-60c) 7 days. Gross: $15,000. (Average: $15,700).

**"The Hitler Gang" (Para.)**
**"Gambler's Choice" (Para.)**
MISSOURI—(3,514) (40c-50c-60c) 7 days. Gross: $14,000. (Average: $9,900).

**"Meet the People" (M-G-M)**
**"She's a Soldier, Too" (Col.)**
LOEW'S ORPHEUM—(1,900) (40c-50c-60c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $7,000. (Average: $7,100).

**"And the Angels Sing" (Para.)**
**"Henry Aldrich Plays Cupid" (Para.)**
SHUBERT—(1,900) (40c-50c-60c) 7 days. Gross: $6,500. (Average: $6,100).

**"Buffalo Bill" (20th-Fox)**
**"Four Jills in a Jeep" (20th-Fox)**
ST. LOUIS—(4,000) (45c-50c) 7 days. Gross: $5,000. (Average: $5,200).

## *Decree Draft Is Due In Washington Today*

(*Continued from page* 1)

advised that the proposals are on the way, and they are expected to reach the Department of Justice tomorrow for study by Robert L. Wright, who will report to Clark when the latter returns on Saturday.

While the Department is said to be without official information of the details of the new proposals, it is understood here that the decree's cancellation provision has been revised to give exhibitors "a better break" and that some changes are suggested in the arbitration provisions.

As reported Friday in MOTION PICTURE DAILY, the distributors' formula proposes a minimum of 20 per cent cancellation where average license fees do not exceed $100 per picture, 15 per cent from $101 to $250, and 10 per cent from $251 to $350.

It is understood also that the new proposals will represent the limit to which the distributors will go in the effort to develop a satisfactory consent decree and that a final decision whether to accept a decree or fight the issue out in the courts may be reached next week.

## *UJA Fund Appeal Is Launched Here*

(*Continued from page* 1)

Paramount, served as amusement division co-chairmen. B. S. Moss, chairman of the luncheon committee, presided.

Dr. Silver described the activities of the UJA in caring for refugees. He declared that the opening of Palestine to mass Jewish immigration after the war was indispensable to a realistic solution of the current problems. Lucy Monroe and a chorus of WAVES sang the National Anthem.

Among those on the dais were: Joseph Bernhard, Bernstein, Louis Nizer, Harry Brandt, Moss, Jack Cohn, Si Fabian, Sam Rinzler, Herman Robbins, George J. Schaefer, Abe Schneider, Dr. Silver, Maurice Silverstone, Major Warner, Malcolm Kingsberg, Bob O'Donnell, Joe Kinsky, Lou Walters, Oscar Karlweiss and others.

# Short Subject Reviews

### "Halfway to Heaven"
*(Paramount)*

That engaging pair, Johnnie Johnston and Betty Rhodes are reunited once again in a Musical Parade featurette in color to provide an entertaining 19 minutes. Johnston, as a trumpet player, is granted three wishes through the medium of a magic lamp. One wish is for his trumpet; the second for a swanky nightclub and the third is for "the girl." They offer several nice songs including the title song, "Halfway to Heaven." Oscar O'Shea has a straight role while the Four Copelands and Ray Riggs provide variety entertainment in the night club sequences. Walter MacEwen produced, Noel Madison directed and Robert Stephen Brode did the screen play. Running time, 19 mins.

### 'The Winner's Circle'
*(Warners)*

This will especially please racehorse fans. An intelligent treatise upon the handling of a race-horse beginning with the birth of "Red," a thoroughbred Kentucky colt, "The Winner's Circle," follows his grooming for the "big time" track through to his triumph at Belmont. Filmed in rich, though pleasantly subdued, color, the subject is presented interestingly and in a way to make it entertaining for both young and old. Van Campen Heilner and A. Pam Blumenthal produced. Andrew De La-Varre directed. Running time, 20 mins.

### "We're on Our Way to Rio"
*(Paramount)*

Latest of the Popeye series is in color and the locale is Rio de Janeiro where the Samba holds sway. Two catchy Latin-American tunes, "We're on Our Way to Rio" and "Samba LeLei" enhance the short's attractiveness. Popeye and Bluto compete for Olive Oyl, who turns up as a Latin singer and dancer. Popeye wins, but not before exhibiting surprising prowess at the Samba. Running time, 8 mins.

### 'Crazy Like a Fox'
*(Columbia)*

Billy Gilbert, comedian, gets involved with an up-and-coming press agent, Jack Norton, who takes taxi-driver Billy to a hotel, where he gets him to pose as an Indian Prince for the sake of a story. Billy's wife doesn't approve of the still-picture background — several glamour girls draped all over "Prince" Billy. This is entertaining film fare. Jules White produced and directed from Elwood Ullman's screenplay. Running time, 18½ mins.

### 'Russian Rhapsody'
*(Warners)*

In this cleverly done cartoon, "Adolph Hitler" undertakes to bomb Moscow, personally. On the way to the Kremlin, a corps of gremlins climb aboard and what they do to Adolph makes for hilarious entertainment. Leon Schlesinger produced. Running time, 7 mins.


Paramount NEWS

AND NOTHING BUT THE NEWS



MOTION PICTURE DAILY REPORTS FIRST WEEK OF "THE STORY OF DR. WASSELL" 50% OVER COMBINED HOUSE AVERAGES IN PREMIERE ENGAGEMENTS AT LOS ANGELES AND HOLLYWOOD PARAMOUNTS.....DE MILLE HIT STARRING GARY COOPER IS RUNNING AHEAD OF ROADSHOW AND GRIND SHOWINGS OF "BELL TOLLS" AS IT GOES INTO THIRD WEEK. AT NEW YORK RIVOLI.


# 'Gaslight' Shines In Phila. Under Bright $27,200

PHILADELPHIA, June 20.—"Gaslight" at the Boyd got off to a good start pointing to $27,200 for the week with an additional $3,500 already in for a dual Sunday showing at the Earle. Among other new openings, "The Eve of St. Mark" at the Fox expects a $21,300 gross.

Estimated receipts for the week ending June 21-23:

**"Up in Mabel's Room" (UA)**
ALDINE—(900) (40c-45c-50c-65c-75c-85c) 7 days. Gross: $14,200. (Average: $14,600).

**"Between Two Worlds" (WB)**
ARCADIA—(600) (40c-45c-50c-65c-75c) 7 days, 2nd run. Gross: $4,000. (Average: $4,000).

**"Gaslight" (M-G-M)**
BOYD—(3,000) (40c-45c-50c-65c-75c-85c) 7 days. Gross: $27,200. (Average: $18,000).

**"The Navy Way" (Par.) (6 days)**
**"Gaslight" (M-G-M) (1 day)**
EARLE—(3,000) (50c-65c-85c-95c) 6 days of vaudeville, including "George White's Scandals," with Master & Rollins, Ming Lee & Hooshee, Miriam LaVelle, Al Klein, Prof. Backwards, Audrey Young, Eddie Nelson, and Sam Lewis. Gross: $22,000. (Average: $27,600).

**"The Eve of St. Mark" (20th-Fox)**
FOX—(3,000) (40c-45c-50c-65c-75c-85c) 7 days. Gross: $21,300. (Average: $20,500).

**"The Heavenly Body" (M-G-M)**
KARLTON—(1,000) (40c-45c-50c-65c-75c-85c) 7 days, 2nd run. Gross: $4,500. (Average: $6,600).

**"The Hour Before Dawn" (Par.)**
KEITH'S—(2,200) (40c-45c-50c-65c-75c-85c) 7 days, 2nd run. Gross: $3,500. (Average: $5,800).

**"Up in Arms" (UA)**
MASTBAUM—(4,700) (40c-45c-50c-65c-75c-85c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $21,900. (Average: $22,500).

**"And the Angels Sing" (Par.)**
STANLEY — (3,000) (40c-45c-50c-65c-75c-85c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $17,800. (Average: $20,000).

**"Man From Frisco" (Rep.)**
STANTON — (1,700) (40c-45c-50c-65c-75c-85c) 7 days. Gross: $8,600. (Average: $9,400).

# Heat Contracts Balto. Theatre Business

BALTIMORE, June 20.—Openings of new pictures met a torrid heat wave that extended over the weekend and proved a drawback to business. Amusement seekers, according to theatre managers, sought outdoor diversions. In the lead among the newcomers is "And The Angels Sing," scoring an average $18,000 at the Stanley.

Estimated receipts for the week ending June 22:

**"Two Girls and a Sailor" (M-G-M)**
CENTURY—(3,000) (35c-45c-55c and 60c weekends) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $16,600. (Average: $17,500).

**"The Hour Before the Dawn" (Para.)**
KEITH'S—(2,405) (35c-40c-50c-60c) 7 days. Gross: $15,000. (Average: $15,000).

**"The Eve of St. Mark" (20th-Fox)**
NEW—(1,581) (30c-40c-60c) 7 days. Gross: $12,500. (Average: $13,000).

**"And the Angels Sing" (Par.)**
STANLEY—(3,280) (35c-44c-55c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $18,000. (Average: $18,000).

**"Show Business" (RKO)**
HIPPODROME—(2,205) (35c-44c-55c-65c) 7 days, 2nd week. New stage show: Milt Britton and his Musical Maniacs. Gross: $17,500. (Average: $18,000).

**"The Black Parachute" (Col.)**
MAYFAIR—(1,000) (35c-54c) 6 days. Gross: $5,500. (Average: $7,000).

**"Three Men in White" (M-G-M)**
VALENCIA—(1,466) (35c-45c-55c and 60c weekends) 7 days. Gross: $6,500. (Average: $5,000).

## Levin Joins CTO

CLEVELAND, June 20.—Michael Levin, former manager of the Jewel Theatre here, and Herman Mandel have joined Cooperative Theatres' booking department. Howard Spies, former booker with Cooperative, has been inducted into the Marine Corps.



THE STARS OF "PISTOL PACKIN' MAMA"
IN THE GAYEST SCREWBALL COMEDY
OF THIS OR ANY OTHER SEASON.



# GOODNIGHT SWEETHEART

ROBERT LIVINGSTON and RUTH TERRY

HENRY HULL
THURSTON HALL

GRANT WITHERS
LLOYD CORRIGAN

JOSEPH SANTLEY — Director

Original Story by Frank Fenton — Joseph Hoffman
Screenplay by Isabel Dawn — Jack Townley

A REPUBLIC PICTURE

**JOIN THE FIGHTING FIFTH WAR LOAN**

A REPUBLIC PICTURE

Fifth War Loan Drive!

# MOTION PICTURE DAILY

Keep Backing the Invasion!

VOL. 55. NO. 122 NEW YORK, U. S. A., THURSDAY, JUNE 22, 1944 TEN CENTS

## Permit Union Group Report Of Finances

### *But Provision Is Under Study by Treasury*

WASHINGTON, June 21.—Internal Revenue Bureau and Treasury officials were revealed today to have undertaken a sudden study of the form on which financial reports must be filed by unions, following the disclosure that the form, first made available last Saturday, permits the making of group returns by central, parent or like organizations for their chartered, affiliated or local unions.

The form, "990 Revised," was prepared last month, after the unions had been given an extension from May 15 to Aug. 15 of time in which to file. As issued, it would permit the

(*Continued on page* 10)

## RKO Sets Deal for Singer Circuit

A deal whereby RKO will acquire the 16 theatres of the Mort H. Singer circuit in which it now owns a 50 percent interest, will be signed June 29. The theatres are in Minneapolis, Omaha, New Orleans, Waterloo, Marshalltown, Davenport, Sioux City, Cedar Rapids and Dubuque, Iowa.

The actual purchase price has not been revealed, but it is understood to be small in view of the fact that RKO already owned several of the houses and leased them to the Singer circuit. By the terms of its partnership with the late Mort Singer who died early this year, RKO had an option to pur-

(*Continued on page* 6)

## Equipment Supply Far Under Needs

WASHINGTON, June 21.—The War Production Board today made public estimates of the Office of Civilian Requirements of the amounts of essential goods needed by the civilian economy, showing that from 3,625 to 4,934 units of 35mm motion picture equipment will be required during the coming quarter, while not more than 1,290 units will be produced.

In a letter to WPB chairman Donald M. Nelson, William Y. Elliott,

(*Continued on page* 6)

### *Convention Will Swell Chi. Gross*

**Chicago, June 21.—City authorities here estimate that the Republican and Democratic conventions will spend $5,000,000 while in the city during the weeks of June 26 and July 9, and at least 10 percent of that will wind up in the box offices of motion picture houses. Because of the added out-of-town trade during those weeks, holdovers will be the rule in most Loop houses.**

## *Labor Halts Coast Houses*

WASHINGTON, June 21.—War-time theatre construction on the West Coast has been seriously slowed down by the manpower situation and a number of applications for new houses in congested defense areas have been held up by the War Production Board, it was learned here today.

Among the applications for which the WPB facilities bureau is not expected to give the green light until the labor situation has eased are those of Fox West Coast Theatres and sev-

(*Continued on page* 6)

## Bond Events, High On Showmanship, Bring Heavy Sales

Record amounts on theatre "Bond Premieres" continue to be reported to national "Fighting Fifth" War Loan headquarters here, giving evidence of unparalleled showmanship used by exhibitors in putting over the events for huge "grosses." Typical of the grosses were the following: Alexander Buist, manager of the Rialto Theatre of the Consolidated Theatres circuit in Westfield, N. J., staged a premiere and rally augmented by a big stage show and netted $1,170,000. Buist reported that in addition to the bonds sold, "I can safely say that we have more friends today than ever before."

A premiere with "Lady in the Dark," as the attraction netted $447,-

(*Continued on page* 10)

### *Decision Withheld on New Prefect Trial*

NEW HAVEN, June 21.—Judge Carroll Hincks in Federal District Court here today withheld decision on the Prefect Theatres' motion for a new trial of its $5,452,575 anti-trust suit against a number of distributing companies. Lengthy arguments were presented this afternoon by Saul Rogers, plaintiffs' counsel, in support of the

(*Continued on page* 6)

## *Leo Roars Lustily Today On MGM's 20th Birthday*

Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer and Leo start their 20th anniversary celebration today. With it, practically every theatre in the country will begin showing a feature or short with the Leo traemark, in tribute. Many theatres will show the company's anniversary picture, "The White Cliffs of Dover."

Nicholas M. Schenck, president of Loew's, some years ago stated, "There is nothing wrong with this business that good pictures can't cure." It was considered a significant statement then, and it still is today in the opinion of many prominent in the industry.

William F. Rodgers, M-G-M's vice-president and general sales manager, now on the Coast visiting the studio, declares, "It has always been the ambition of M-G-M to deal fairly. M-G-M today, has the greatest number of accounts in its history." The industry has responded well to our anniversary week, Rodgers added.

"M-G-M's anniversary does not end

(*Continued on page* 6)

### *Schenck Tribute to MGM Workers*

**"The 20-year anniversary of M-G-M would be little more than a number if the company had not represented a standard of production and a principle of fair practice—this anniversary, then, is a tribute to the men and women of our organization, and a measure of the tribute may be found in whole-hearted attitude of theatre owners," Nicholas M. Schenck, president of Loew's, declared yesterday.**

**Schenck also thanked the thousands of exhibitors who during the company's anniversary week, starting today, will present an M-G-M picture on their screens.**

## Allied Seeks More Decree Concessions

### *Officers of Jersey Unit Are Reelected*

ATLANTIC CITY, June 21.—Delegates and visitors to the annual convention of Allied Theatre Owners of New Jersey at the Hotel Chealsea here today heard Abram F. Myers, general counsel and board chairman of Allied States, warn consent decree companies that "price fixing combinations will bring down their house of cards upon them."

Myers said he had no news on the decree that was not available in the trade press and reviewed what has transpired. He said when producer-distributors say the decree changes

(*Continued on page* 10)

## To Re-Elect Para. Officers, July 6

The newly re-elected Paramount board of directors will meet here, July 6, to elect Paramount officers for the coming year.

Slated for re-election are Barney Balaban, president; Adolph Zukor, chairman of the board; Stanton Griffis, chairman of the executive committee; Y. Frank Freeman, Henry Ginsberg, Leonard H. Goldenson, John W. Hicks, Jr., Austin C. Keough and Charles M. Reagan, vice presidents; Walter B. Cokell, treasurer; Keough, secretary; Norman Collyer, Jacob H. Karp and Frank Meyer, assistant secretaries; and Fred Mohrhardt, comptroller.

## Warners Will Buy Schlesinger Studio

Warners will acquire the Leon Schlesinger cartoon studio to operate as a direct subsidiary, effective July 1, under the terms of a sale now in its finalistic stage. The purchase for undisclosed price includes all of Schlesinger's film properties and rights but excludes his by-products business consisting of cartoon strips, books, etc., to which he will devote his future activities.

The Warner deal provides for the appointment of the company's own

(*Continued on page* 6)

## Dietrich Commends Films at Front

Marlene Dietrich, film star now under contract to M-G-M returned to New York this week from a 10-week tour of the Italian and African War Theatres, under the auspices of USO-Camp Shows and the Hollywood Victory Committee, yesterday reaffirmed the importance of films to the morale of the men on the fighting lines, in a press interview held at USO headquarters, 8 W. 40th St.

Miss Dietrich, in Italy on D-Day with the rest of her comany, including Milton Frome, actor and singer; Danny Thomas, comedian, Lin Mayberry and Jack Snyder, stated that entertainment units arrived in one Italian town to stage a show just six hours after the evacuation of the Nazi occupation troops.

In Rome, herself, two days after the Allied occupation, the star remarked that organized entertainment programs were in full swing one week after the triumphal entry of the Fifth Army into the Axis-held Italian capital.

She will return to Hollywood in the near future to discuss plans for her next picture for M-G-M following which she intends to go on tour again. One of her more recent vehicles, "Kismet," is pending release.

## *Lackenbauer to ASC Board of Appeals*

The appointment of William Lackenbauer of the Jewel Music Publishing Co., Inc., to the American Society of Composers, Authors and Publishers' Board of Appeals is the only change in the board slate as a result of the election held recently.

Representing standard writers is John Tasker Howard, while Peter De Rose and Abel Baer represent popular writers. Still on the board for standard publishers is John Sengstack of Clayton F. Summy & Co., and for popular publishers Lester Santly of Santly-Joy and Lackenbauer, who replaces Max Mayer of Paull-Pioneer.

Sam H. Stept, chairman of the election committee, will certify the election results at the next ASCAP board of directors meeting.

## *Robert Ferry Resigns OWI Domestic Post*

WASHINGTON, June 21.—The resignation of Robert F. Ferry as assistant director for operations of the domestic branch of the Office of War Information was announced today by Director George W. Healy, Jr. Ferry, who has been connected with OWI since April, 1943, will leave the organization July 2 and will be succeeded by David N. Frederick, chief of the Office of Program Coordination.

## *Raibourn Tele. Talk*

Paul Raibourn, head of Paramount's television activities, will speak on the relationship between motion pictures and television at this evening's session of the Radio Executive Club's television seminar.

# *Personal Mention*

JAMES R. GRAINGER, president and general sales manager of Republic Pictures, has returned to the home office following a visit to the company's North Hollywood studios, with stopovers on his return trip at Dallas, New Orleans and Atlanta.

•

Lt. (j. g.) JOSEPH G. FEENEY, son-in-law of M. J. O'TOOLE, public relations counsel for Comerford Theatres in Scranton, has been promoted to the rank of full lieutenant in the U. S. Navy and has been appointed liaison officer to the U. S. Senate. LT. FEENEY was recently awarded the Purple Heart.

•

ROBERT M. GILLHAM, director of advertising and publicity for Paramount, will arrive in Chicago from Hollywood tomorrow with CECIL B. DEMILLE. GILLHAM will then proceed to New York while DEMILLE will remain in Chicago.

•

HAROLD BELL, manager of the Roosevelt Theatre in Scranton and editor of the Comerford *Salute*, Comerford Theatres publication, will leave today for service with the Navy.

•

PHIL REGAN, singer and film actor, will appear in person at the New York Strand starting tomorrow with Warners' "Mask of Dimitrios."

•

FRED SAMMIS, editorial director of *Photoplay*, left recently for Hollywood.

•

ALEX HILLMAN, publisher of *Movieland*, returned this week to New York from a week's visit to Washington.

RUDY WEISS, head of the Warner Theatres real estate department, is in Buffalo for a few days on business.

•

JOE ABRAMSON, secretary to JACK KIRSH, president of Illinois Allied, will leave Chicago July 4 for a two-weeks' visit with his son, Cadet AL ABRAMSON, stationed at the Santa Ana, California, Army Air base.

•

PFC. ERNEST O. VAN WEY, former partner with his father in the Sun Theatre at Gothenburg, Nev., has been awarded the combat infantry badge for exemplary conduct in action against the Japanese on Bougainville.

•

Corp. ERWIN H. LANG, formerly with the United Artists exchange in Chicago and son of MOE LANG, owner of the Harrison Theatre, Chicago, is now in Italy.

•

EDWARD WALTON, Midwest sales manager for Republic, has returned to Chicago from a tour of exchanges to join MRS. WALTON, recently back from Seattle.

•

WILLIAM J. GELL, independent British distributor of American films, has returned to London after a visit here of several months.

•

WILLIAM F. SCHNEIDER of the Paramount advertising department has returned to his desk after a two-weeks' vacation.

•

ARY LIMA, Warners' manager in Brazil, will return to the home office from the Coast at the weekend.

## *Houston War Plants Aid Republic Film*

The Southwestern premiere of Republic's "Man From Frisco," at the Palace Theatre in Houston, Tex., today has received considerable promotion through tie-ups with local shipyards and other business organizations handling shipbuilding equipment. The film deals with shipbuilding.

Jack Jackson, publicity director of Interstate Houston Theatres, is handling the campaign and Steve Edwards, Republic's director of publicity, spent a week in Houston in connection with the promotion.

## *U.A. Releases Two 'Action' Films*

United Artists will release two new "World in Action" documentaries this week, it was reported yesterday by the home office here.

"Zero Hour," the story of the invasion, will open at the TransLux Theatres on Broadway and 49th and E. 60th Sts. today, while "Global Air Routes," a treatment of postwar air traffic problems, will be released nationally tomorrow. "World in Action" films are edited by the National Film Board of Canada and distributed in this country by United Artists.

## *CBS Answers FCC on Its FM Policies*

Columbia Broadcasting System, in agreement with its Affiliates Advisory Board, favors providing the same program service to both FM and AM stations throughout the development of frequency modulation broadcasting.

In a detailed statement by Paul W. Kesten, CBS executive vice-president, filed with the Federal Communications Commission in response to the Commission's request for a full explanation of present and future policies and methods of operation relative to FM broadcasting, CBS has enunciated this policy.

## *Pre-Release Runs for 'Mr. Skeffington' Set*

Warners' final release of the 1943-44 season, Bette Davis in "Mr. Skeffington," scheduled for national distribution in August, is being set for a limited number of special summer pre-release engagements.

Currently in its premiere run at the Hollywood on Broadway, the picture opens tomorrow at the Warner Theatre, Atlantic City, with engagements following immediately in two other houses in the resort city.

## Some Run, Clearance Complaints Entered

The L. G. M. Memorial Theatre Corp., operator of the L. G. M. Memorial Theatre, Lowell, Mass., has filed a clearance complaint against Warners, and a some run complaint against Paramount and RKO in the Boston tribunal, the American Arbitration Association reported here yesterday.

Complainant, which is subject to clearance after the Crown Theatre, which has a 30-day clearance after the Rialto, which in turn follows Lowell first-runs by 60 days, alleges that said clearances are unreasonable and asks that they be reduced to 28 days between first and second run and to 15 days between second and third run. Eight other Lowell theatres: the Strand, Keith's, Merrimack, Rialto, Royal, Crown, State and Capitol were named as interested parties by the complainant.

In its some run complaint against Paramount and RKO, complainant alleges that they have refused to license product in accordance with provisions of Section 6 of the consent decree and asks that they be directed to offer product in accordance with its terms. The theatres were also named as interested parties.

## *Theatres Benefit by Tax Rate Reduction*

New York theatre owners, along with other property owners, will receive the benefit of a 15-point reduction in the local basic real-estate tax rate for 1944-45, voted unanimously this week by the City Council. The new rate will be $2.74 on $100 of assessed valuation, dropping from the present all-time high of $2.89. It will be lower than at any time since 1937, when the rate was $2.64.

The new rate, recommended by Comptroller Joseph D. McGoldrick, will go into effect July 1. Following adjustments for assessments for improvements, it will stand in the various boroughs as follows: Manhattan $2.91, Bronx $2.89, Brooklyn and Queens $2.93, and Richmond $2.90. There have been three-point increases in borough assessments for Manhattan and Brooklyn and a four-point decrease for Queens.

## *Special Offering of Para. Shares Sold*

A special offering of 52,800 shares of Paramount Pictures common stock was sold on the New York Stock Exchange yesterday before the close of the market by Merrill, Lynch, Pierce, Fenner and Beane.

The stock was offered at 28½. The closing price for Paramount was 28⅜ or a drop of ⅞ from the opening price of 29½.

## *Col. Preferred Dividend*

The Board of directors of Columbia Pictures has declared a quarterly dividend of 68¾ cents per share on the corporation's $2.75 convertible preferred stock, payable August 15 to stockholders of record August 1.

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## 'Indiana's' Initial Gross Is $18,500

CINCINNATI, June 21.—Backed by a heavy campaign and personal appearances of June Haver, featured player, at its premiere, "Home in Indiana" is racing to an expected $18,500 at the RKO Palace, the highest figure at that house in many months.

Temperature at the weekend hit 98 degrees.

Estimated receipts for the week ending June 21-24:

**"Ladies of Washington" (20th-Fox)**
RKO ALBEE—(3,300) (44c-50c-55c-65c-85c) 7 days. Stage: Ted Lewis' orchestra and revue. Gross: $22,000. (Average: $22,000).

**"Song of the Open Road" (UA)**
RKO CAPITOL—(2,000) (44c-50c-60c-70c) 7 days, plus Saturday midnight show. Gross: $7,000. (Average: $10,000).

**"The Black Parachute" (Col.)**
**"Outlaws of Santa Fe" (Rep.)**
RKO FAMILY—(1,000) (30c-40c) 4 days. Gross: $1,450. (Average: $1,600).

**"Hot Rhythm" (Mono.)**
**"Thundering Gun Slingers" (PRC)**
RKO FAMILY—(1,000) (30c-40c) 3 days. Gross: $700. (Average: $800).

**"The Uninvited" (Para.)**
RKO GRAND—(1,500) (44c-50c-60c-70c) 7 days, plus Saturday midnight show; 2nd week moveover from the Palace. Gross: $5,000. (Average: $6,500).

**"Between Two Worlds" (WB)**
KEITH'S—(1,500) (44c-50c-60c-70c) 7 days, plus Saturday midnight show. Gross: $4,500. (Average: $5,000).

**"Make Your Own Bed" (WB)**
**"Yellow Canary" (Wilcox-RKO)**
RKO LYRIC—(1,400) (44c-55c-60c-70c) 7 days, plus Saturday midnight show. Gross: $5,000. (Average: $5,000).

**"Home In Indiana" (20th-Fox)**
RKO PALACE—(2,700) (44c-50c-60c-70c) 7 days, plus Saturday midnight show. Gross: $18,500. (Average: $15,000).

**"See Here, Private Hargrove" (M-G-M)**
RKO SHUBERT—(2,150) (44c-50c-60c-70c) 7 days, 5th week, moveover from four weeks at the Grand. Gross: $3,000. (Average: $5,000).

## Coustan Named to Head Local F-45

CHICAGO, June 21.—Herman Coustan of Columbia was named president of Local F-45, office employees union, at a meeting held here recently.

Others named to office were Harold Wise of Monogram, business manager, succeeeding George Benson, resigned, who in turn was named to the organization's executive board; Oscar Bernstein of United Artists, vice-president, and Marion Shannon, also of United Artists, treasurer.

## Services Today for Lillian G. Harvey

Funeral services will be held here today at the Riverside Memorial chapel for Mrs. Lillian Grossman Harvey, secretary to Austin C. Keough, Paramount vice-president and general counsel for over 15 years, until her resignation due to illness several months ago.

Mrs. Harvey died at her home here on Monday.

## Requiem for Mrs. Grebe

Requiem high mass will be sung for Mrs. Robert E. Grebe, who died yesterday at Samaritan Hospital, Brooklyn, on Saturday morning at the Church of the Holy Innocents, Brooklyn. Mrs. Grebe, veteran film critic, was for many years with the Motion Picture Bureau, the Legion of Decency, the National Board of Review and the Motion Picture Council of Brooklyn. She is survived by her husband and a son, Robert E. Grebe, Jr.

# Reviews

## "Step Lively"

*(RKO)*

DESPITE a rather loosely strung story, "Step Lively," the new Frank Sinatra film, should ring the box office bell. The "swoon" boy's fans will be delighted with the "voice," who is given numerous opportunities to display his vocal technique and personal charm. An ample cast of established stars, including George Murphy, Gloria De Haven, Walter Slezak, Adolphe Menjou, Eugene Pallette, Alan Carney and Wally Brown make for bright marquee material. Several new songs are introduced by Sinatra, Miss De Haven and Murphy in the lavishly staged production numbers.

Purportedly based on the Broadway stage show, "Room Service," the story has George Murphy, a producer, struggling to promote money for the "smash hit" of his still purely imaginary career while he lives luxuriously, with his entire cast, in and "on" Slezak's hotel. When Menjou, a hotel executive, comes to inspect the books and sees Murphy's staggering bill, he attempts to evict the entire company. Eugene Pallette arrives to back the show, but withdraws his offer, without Menjou's knowledge, when he learns of Murphy's status. Sinatra, a budding playwright, who has sent Murphy $1,500 and a manuscript, comes into town to inquire as to the disposition of his funds and his play, but is duped by Miss DeHaven into singing in the show. The "voice," however, leaves town when he learns he has been tricked by the woman he loves, but returns on opening night to save the day for Murphy, whose lack of funds has been discovered by Menjou. After an hilarious session the show goes on and is a huge success. Miss De Haven and Sinatra declare their love and "Step Lively" ends in a blaze of musical comedy glory.

Tim Whelan directed from a screen play by Warren Duff and Peter Milne. Robert Fellows produced. Credit for creation and staging of musial numbers goes to Ernst Matray. The songs are by Sammy Cahn and Jule Styne.

Running time, 88 mins. "G."* Released in Block 6.

HELEN MCNAMARA

## "Marine Raiders"

*(RKO-Radio)*

*Hollywood, June 21*

FITTED out with the names of Pat O'Brien, Ruth Hussey, Robert Ryan, Frank McHugh and Barton MacLane for marquee use, this Robert Fellows' production of "Marine Raiders" flies more sail than is warranted by anything in the way of action or entertainment contained in excessive footage. It's an indolently told and altogether superficial story about some Marines on Guadalcanal, in Australia, back in San Diego, then back in Australia and, finally, charging some unnamed beach. It's in the style of the shorts made for recruiting purposes early in the war, but it's 90 minutes long.

Such story as there is in Warren Duff's script, based on an original by himself and Martin Rackin, concerns a Marine who meets a girl on his way back from Guadalcanal but is prevented from marrying her for a while by his Major, who thinks he shouldn't. For less reason than that the Major changes his mind and they marry. A few sequences at start and finish, depicting jungle conflict, get into melodramatic tempo. The others are paced like travelogues and training films. Direction by Harold Schuster is leisurely beyond casualness.

Running time 90 minutes. "G."* Release date not set.

WILLIAM R. WEAVER.

**"G" denotes general classification.*

## Edw. Dobkin Nominated

BOSTON, June 21.—Edward Dobkin has been nominated for commander of the Lieut. A. Vernon Macauley Theatrical Post No. 270 of the American Legion here on a slate also including: Charles E. Kurtzman, vice-commander; Harry Spingler and John Foley, junior vice-commanders; Joseph Kantor, finance officer; Maxwell Melincoff, adjutant, and Dr. A. Edward Melincoff, chaplain.

Named as delegates to the state convention are Alvin Kenny and Kenneth Forkey, with Patrick Healy and Harry F. Browning as alternates. David Fineburg was put up as a delegate representing World War II.

## Asks for QuoWarrant In 'Blue Laws' Test

JACKSON, Miss., June 21.—Attorney-General Greek L. Rice of Mississippi announced today he would allow his name as attorney general to be used in *quo warrant* proceedings against Mississippi theatre owners if they attempted to operate on Sundays in violation of the state's "Blue Laws."

A decision by the state supreme court declared that the attorney general was the only state official who had the authority to file such a suit. The court dismissed a previous suit in which a district attorney had attempted to have Jackson theatre owners deprived of their franchise on charges of Sunday showings.

# Coast Flashes

*Hollywood, June 21*

J. CHEEVER COWDIN, chairman of Universal's board, expects to remain here another month.

•

Cecil B. DeMille left today for Chicago to attend the Republican Convention as a delegate from California and participate in the Midwest war bond premiere of "The Story of Dr. Wassell," at the State-Lake Theatre Friday.

•

Irene Manning, Warner actress who was married last night to Keith Kolhoff, learned today of her father's death. He was Shriley E. Harvuot, 68, pioneer Los Angeles real estate man.

•

Paramount added "Ambassadors in White," dealing with American doctors in Central America, to its production schedule, Kenneth MacGowan producing.

•

Anna Lee, British film actress, and Capt. George H. Stafford of Houston, Tex., have announced that they will be married tomorrow in Beverly Hills Congregational Church.

•

Virginia Van Upp will produce "Road to Yesterday," formerly on Sol Siegel's Columbia schedule. The latter is now producing "And Now Goodbye" and "War Sings a Lullaby."

•

Robert M. Gillham, Paramount director of advertising and publicity, left for New York today after spending two weeks at the studio viewing new pictures and mapping campaigns.

•

Lieut. Bruce Cabot is leaving the Army and will resume his acting contract with Paramount this week. He is expected here from New York on July 1.

•

William Pine and William Thomas, Paramount producers, will both Superchief next Tuesday for home office conferences in New York.

•

Roscoe Ates, film comedian who entered the Air Corps as a captain in June, 1942, will be placed on the inactive list July 18.

•

Joseph Szigeti, concert violinist, will make his screen debut in Warners' "Hollywood Canteen."

•

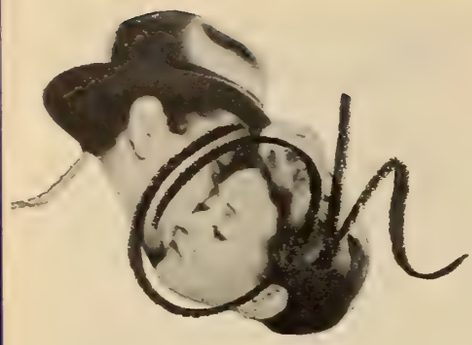
John Ridgely has had his player's contract renewed by Warners.

## 'My Way' in 8th Week

Paramount's "Going My Way" yesterday went into its eighth week at the Paramount Theatre here, thereby becoming the third film to record such a run in the history of that house. With the film is a stage show headed by Charlie Spivak.

## Bergman to Boston

Maurice Bergman, Universal's Eastern advertising and publicity director, left last night for Boston to set the campaign for the Deanna Durbin-Gene Kelly film, "Christmas Holiday." After three days there, he will go to Atlanta on a similar mission.



Oh

MR. SKEFFINGTON

You haven't changed a bit!


BETTE DAVIS in "MR. SKEFFI

JACK L. WARNER, *Executive Producer*
*Produced by* JULIUS J. & PHILIP G. EPSTEIN



**FIRST DAY AT THE N.Y. HOLLYWOOD**



**21st DAY AT THE N.Y. HOLLYWOOD**

!!!!!!!!!!

# GTON" is THE WARNER KIND OF PICTURE!

!!!!!!!!!!

CLAUDE RAINS and WALTER ABEL • RICHARD WARING • GEORGE COULOURIS • MARJORIE RIORDAN

# Equipment Supply Far Under Needs For Third Quarter

(Continued from page 1)

vice chairman for civil requirements, explained that five items comprise the motion picture equipment needed. The 3,625 units, he said, represent minimum essential requirements with no control on distribution, "in other words, a short supply on the market but sufficient so that people can find the products if they shop around enough." With distribution controlled through rationing or some similar system so that products actually get to those for whom the OCR programmed them, 4,221 units would be required, he said, while the 4,394 units represents an unrestricted supply, based on the probable production of the industry and not on unrestricted demand.

### Recommendations Made

It was also disclosed that at recent meeting of the photographic equipment industry advisory committee, recommendations were made that production of civilian goods should be resumed at the earliest possible date and that the present equipment limitation order should be amended to permit small manufacturers to operate at 100 per cent of their base period or up to ten tons per quarter of materials, with other manufacturers receiving ten tons or the amount permitted under quota, which ever is greater.

It was urged that the distribution controls of Order L-267 be eliminated as soon as possible and that as military contracts are cancelled the non-military quotas of the order should be increased for all companies. It was estimated that while purchases of photographic equipment by Government agencies have averaged about $30,000,000 a quarter since the issuance of L-267, less than 50 per cent of this represents typical consumer goods, but it was urged that the industry should be provided with an itemized estimate of the quantity and dollar value of Government purchases, for use in planning the disposition of surpluses which are expected to accrue from now on.

### Freon Not Up to Expectations

Another recent industry committee meeting, attended by representatives of the conditioning industry, developed that production of freon last month amounted to 3,250,000 pounds but did not meet expectations. Little improvement is expected before August, when a new East Chicago plant is scheduled to come into production, adding 500,000 pounds to the gas supply. When that plant is in complete operation it will produce 2,000,000 pounds of freon monthly. It was indicated that no freon will be available this summer for theatre air-conditioning and that the allocations for civilian use generally may have to be cut in view of Navy requirements.

## Pitts to Indiana

INDIANAPOLIS, June 21.—Charles Pitts, formerly of the Rockefeller Center Newsreel Theatre in New York City, has been named assistant manager of the Monarch circuit's Circle Theatre here.

# Leo Roars Lustily Today On MGM's 20th Birthday

(Continued from page 1)

on June 28," said Rodgers, citing some of the product coming from the M-G-M studios. He named "An American Romance," "Dragon Seed," "Kismet," "Thirty Seconds Over Tokyo," "Meet Me in St. Louis," "Ziegfeld Follies," "Bathing Beauty."

Many events have preceded the opening of the anniversary. Among them was the selection of Charles A. Midelburg, owner of the Capitol, Charleston, W. Va., as M-G-M's "Typical 20-Year Showman," having bought, booked and played every subject of Leo's for the past 20 years. He was the guest of the company for two weeks at its Culver City studio.

### Loyalty Pins Given

Many employes in the field who have been with the company for 10 years or more have been given loyalty pins. More than 100 were honored with 20-year pins and at least three times that number with 10-year pins. The pins were distributed by E. K. O'Shea, Eastern sales manager; John E. Flynn, Western sales manager, and John J. Maloney, Central sales manager, at luncheons held in key cities.

Many letters of congratulations have been received from industry factors as well as outside interests. A special pressbook has been sent to every theatre owner booking an M-G-M short or feature during the week. A special anniversary edition of *The Lion's Roar* is being prepared for every exhibitor in the country. Billboards all over the country and Canada have been blanketed with 24-sheets on "The White Cliffs of Dover." A tieup was effected with American Express trucks covering every city in the United States.

Special 100-line "White Cliffs of Dover" teaser ads have appeared in newspapers in 129 cities. Quarter-page insertions also have appeared advertising future M-G-M pictures. *Life, Red Book, Cosmopolitan, Liberty, Look, Woman's Home Companion, McCall's, Good Housekeeping, Parents' Magazine* and a number of Canadian publications have had page advertisements on the anniversary picture. *Lion's Roar* anniversary columns in 26 magazines also featured it. Anniversary salutes on key city radio programs are keyed to local playdates over a period of 52 weeks. Screen test radio programs over 87 Mutual stations and WHN have been launched. Special fan magazine advertisements have appeared, and a special short, "Twenty Years After" was made for the Romance of Celluloid series.

### 'Bathing Beauty' Promotion

A $1,000 war bond "Bathing Beauty" promotion was set for national tieup with "Swim for Health Week." *Modern Screen* and *Screenland* devoted their entire issues to M-G-M's anniversary. Other magazines have given considerable editorial space to the company as well as numerous feature articles by syndicate writers which have appeared in hundreds of newspapers throughout the country.

M-G-M added ten names to the list of its players who are now rated as stars, including Laraine Day, Kathryn Grayson, Van Johnson, Gene Kelly, George Murphy, Margaret O'Brien, Susan Peters, Ginny Simms, Robert Walker and Esther Williams. The anniversary tour of the M-G-M *Show Builder Caravan* was started in the South from Memphis as a stimulus for small town operators.

## Theatre Building Waits Labor-Ease

(Continued from page 1)

eral filed by independent exhibitors on the Pacific Coast.

It is understod that a decision was reached to hold the theatre applications in abeyance because of the difficulties which war plants are experiencing in filling their labor requirements and the necessity for concentrating such construction labor as is otherwise available on housing and other construction more immediately necessary.

As soon as the manpower situation eases, however, it has been indicated the theatre and other applications now held up in the Facilities Bureau will be acted upon.

## RKO Sets Deal for Singers Circuit

(Continued from page 1)

chase the circuit's interest if Singer ceased to operate the houses. Since Singer's demise, the houses have been operated for his estate and RKO by Joseph Berne of Cleveland who was elected president of the circuit, to succeed Singer.

Details of the deal were worked out by Malcolm Kingsberg, RKO vice-president and treasurer.

## Omaha Grosses Dip In Warm Weather

OMAHA, June 21.—Grosses slipped this week, but "Woman of the Town," drew $14,000 at the Orpheum.

Estimated receipts for the week ending June 21-22:

**"Are These Our Parents?" (Mono.)**
**"The Chinese Cat" (Mono.)**
BRANDEIS—(1,200) (44c-60c) 5 days. Gross: $4,100. (Average: $6,500).
**"Uncertain Glory" (WB)**
OMAHA—(2,000) (44c-60c) 7 days. Gross: $8,500. (Average: $8,400).
**"The Woman of the Town" (UA)**
ORPHEUM—(3,000) (44c-55c-70c) 7 days. Stan Kenton's orchestra on stage. Gross: $14,000. (Average: $14,900).
**"Andy Hardy's Blonde Troubles" (M-G-M)**
PARAMOUNT—(2,000) (44c-60c) 7 days. Gross: $9,100. (Average: $11,700).

## Warners Will Buy Schlesinger Studio

(Continued from page 1)

management, with the present Schlesinger personnel to remain intact. Warners has released the Schlesinger cartoons for the past 15 years but has not previously owned a share in the business.

## ATO to Unveil Plaque

CHICAGO, June 21.—A plaque, inscribed with the names of 400 employees of Allied Theatre Owners of Illinois, will be unveiled at Allied headquarters early next month.

# Hollywood

By THALIA BELL

*Hollywood, June 21*

SOMETHING new has been added to the contract handed Howard da Silva by Paramount. It's a clause which permits the actor, should he so desire, to take the second and fifth years out of the seven-year deal in order to go back to Broadway. It was on that celebrated street that he scored his first success, as Jud, the heavy, in the musical comedy "Oklahoma." Currently da Silva is working in "Two Years Before the Mast," adaptation of Richard Dana's classic, which John Farrow is directing for producer Seton I. Miller.

•

**Columbia has signed Richard Wallace to direct two pictures. . . . Bonita Granville will have one of the top roles in "Betrayal from the East" at RKO. . . . Newest recruit to the cast of "Hollywood Canteen" is Nora Martin, an Eddie Cantor discovery. . . . Warners will remake "Of Human Bondage," in which Bette Davis won her first laurels 10 years ago. . . . Ella Raines, last seen in Paramount's "Hail the Conquering Hero" and currently working in RKO's "Tall in the Saddle," is to return to Universal, her home studio, to appear opposite Charles Laughton in "The Suspect." . . . Jack Carson has been added to the cast of "Roughly Speaking" at Warners. . . . Robert Livingston has been set by producer Bobby North for the second male lead in Republic's "Brazil." . . . That studio has added Andrew Tombes to the cast of "San Fernando Valley," new Roy Rogers' starrer. . . . Sylvia Thalberg, who is scripting "The Greeks Had a Word for It" for Producers Corp. of America, has been given a long-term contract.**

•

*"Gone Are the Days," which Columbia has had in preparation for some time, and which was on Sol Siegel's schedule before he left the studio to engage in independent production, has been assigned to producer Richard Blumenthal. . . . Bruce Cabot, who was recently discharged from the Army, and Billy de Wolfe, discharged from the Navy, have returned to Paramount to resume their contractual obligations. De Wolfe will have a guest-star spot in the studio's forthcoming "Duffy's Tavern." . . . Clarence Muse will direct "Four and Twenty Blackbirds," the stage revue of which Lou Victor is producer. . . . "Hit the Ice," the Bud Abbott and Lou Costello starrer, was the first film to be shown in Rome after its liberation, according to dispatches received here. Italian was dubbed in for the occasion.*

## Decision Withheld on New Prefect Trial

(Continued from page 1)

motion and by Joseph Berry, defense counsel, opposing it.

A 20-day trial of the suit, claiming a conspiracy to keep product from the Pickwick Theatre, Greenwich, ended April 14 at the conclusion of the plaintiffs' testimony, when Judge Hincks took the case from the jury and handed down a verdict for the distributors.



*You have never seen her like this before...*

*Love... was her crime*



*Love... was her punishment*

**DURBIN**...passionately creating her greatest role . . . as Abigail . . . who became "Jackie". . . to live in the shadow of a merciless love!

**DEANNA Durbin** **GENE Kelly**

*in* **W. Somerset Maugham's**

# *Christmas Holiday*

UNIVERSAL

*with*

RICHARD WHORF DEAN HARENS
GLADYS GEORGE DAVID BRUCE
GALE SONDERGAARD

Produced by FELIX JACKSON
Directed by ROBERT SIODMAK • Associate Producer, FRANK SHAW
As written for the screen by HERMAN J. MANKIEWICZ
A UNIVERSAL PICTURE

This is one of the national newspaper advertisements which also can be found in the press book. It is also representative of the magazine campaign used in Life, Look, and Liberty.

NIGHT AND DAY! REMEMBER
THE FIGHTING FIFTH WAR LOAN!

# MOTION PICTURE DAILY'S BOOKING CHART

| WEEK OF | COLUMBIA | M-G-M | MONO. | PARA. | PRC | REPUBLIC | RKO RADIO | 20TH-FOX | U. A. | UNIVERSAL | WARNERS |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| May 27 | ADDRESS UNKNOWN<br>Paul Lukas<br>K. T. Stevens<br>D—72 mins. (5010) | | | (Fifth Block)<br>AND THE ANGELS SING<br>Dorothy Lamour<br>Fred MacMurray<br>Betty Hutton<br>M—96 mins. (4321) | SPOOK TOWN<br>(Texas Rangers)<br>O—(457)<br>James Newill<br>Tex O'Brien | MELODY TRAIL<br>(Reissue)<br>Gene Autry<br>O—60 mins. (3304) | (Fifth Block)<br>THE FALCON OUT WEST<br>Tom Conway<br>Barbara Hale<br>D—64 mins. (421) | (May Releases. No definite date set) | SONG OF THE OPEN ROAD<br>Edgar Bergen<br>M—93 mins.<br>MYSTERY MAN<br>Wm. Boyd<br>O—58 mins. | THE SCARLET CLAW<br>Basil Rathbone<br>Nigel Bruce<br>D—74 mins. (8019)<br>BOSS OF BOOMTOWN<br>Rod Cameron<br>Vivian Austin<br>O—(8085) | |
| June 3 | | (Seventh Block)<br>ANDY HARDY'S BLONDE TROUBLE<br>Mickey Rooney<br>Lewis Stone<br>C—107 mins. (424) | FOLLOW THE LEADER<br>East Side Kids<br>D | | | SILENT PARTNER<br>Beverly Loyd<br>William Henry<br>Grant Withers<br>O—55 mins. (317) | DAYS OF GLORY<br>Tamara Toumanova<br>Gregory Peck<br>D—86 mins. (422)<br>THE YELLOW CANARY<br>(British)<br>Anna Neagle<br>Richard Greene<br>D—84 mins. (423) | PIN-UP GIRL<br>Betty Grable<br>John Harvey<br>Martha Raye<br>Joe E. Brown<br>M—83 mins. (427)<br>(Color) | | THIS IS THE LIFE<br>Donald O'Connor<br>Susanna Foster<br>C—87 mins. (8012) | |
| June 10 | THEY LIVE IN FEAR<br>Otto Kruger<br>Pat Parrish<br>Clifford Severn<br>D—65 mins. (5043) | GASLIGHT<br>Ingrid Bergman<br>Charles Boyer<br>D—114 mins. (425) | SONORA STAGE COACH<br>(Trailblazer)<br>O—(365) | DOUBLE INDEMNITY<br>Fred MacMurray<br>Barbara Stanwyck<br>Edward G. Robinson<br>D—106 mins. (4325) | WATERFRONT<br>John Carradine<br>J. Carroll Naish<br>D—(415)<br>65 mins. | | SEVEN DAYS ASHORE<br>Wally Brown<br>Gordon Oliver<br>C—74 mins. (424) | BERMUDA MYSTERY<br>Preston Foster<br>Ann Rutherford<br>D—65 mins. (428) | THE HAIRY APE<br>William Bendix<br>Susan Hayward<br>D—90 mins. | THE INVISIBLE MAN'S REVENGE<br>Jon Hall<br>Evelyn Ankers<br>Alan Curtis<br>D—78 mins. | MAKE YOUR OWN BED<br>Jack Carson<br>Jane Wyman<br>Irene Manning<br>C—82 mins. (317) |
| June 17 | THE LAST HORSEMAN<br>Russell Hayden<br>Bob Wills<br>"Dub" Taylor<br>O—(5208) | MEET THE PEOPLE<br>Dick Powell<br>Lucille Ball<br>M—100 mins. (426) | RETURN OF THE APE MAN<br>Bela Lugosi<br>John Carradine<br>D | HENRY ALDRICH PLAYS CUPID<br>Jimmy Lydon<br>Diana Lynn<br>Charles Smith<br>65 mins. (4322) | | GOOD NIGHT SWEETHEART<br>Robert Livingston<br>Ruth Terry<br>D—67 mins. (302) | SHOW BUSINESS<br>Eddie Cantor<br>Joan Davis<br>George Murphy<br>Constance Moore<br>M—92 mins. (425) | | FORTY THIEVES<br>Wm. Boyd<br>Andy Clyde<br>Jimmy Rogers<br>O—60 mins. | GHOST CATCHERS<br>Olsen and Johnson<br>Gloria Jean<br>C—68 mins. | |
| June 24 | SHE'S A SOLDIER, TOO<br>Beulah Bondi<br>Nina Foch<br>Jess Barker<br>D—67 mins. (5040) | THREE MEN IN WHITE<br>Lionel Barrymore<br>Van Johnson<br>D—85 mins. (427)<br>TWO GIRLS AND A SAILOR<br>Jimmy Durante<br>Van Johnson<br>C—126 mins. (428) | | GAMBLER'S CHOICE<br>Chester Morris<br>Nancy Kelly<br>66 mins. (4324) | MINSTREL MAN<br>Benny Fields<br>Gladys George<br>Roscoe Karns<br>O—(404) | YELLOW ROSE OF TEXAS<br>Roy Rogers<br>Dale Evans<br>O—(343)<br>69 mins. | (Special release)<br>ATTACK!<br>(Documentary)<br>56 mins. | | SENSATIONS OF 1945<br>Eleanor Powell<br>Dennis O'Keefe<br>M—85 mins. | SOUTH OF DIXIE<br>Anne Gwynne<br>David Bruce<br>D—61 mins. | THIS IS THE ARMY<br>(Re-issue)<br>George Murphy<br>Joan Leslie<br>M—(224)<br>115 mins.<br>(Color) |
| July 1 | | | RANGE LAW<br>Johnny Mack Brown<br>O—57 mins (355) | (Sixth Block)<br>HAIL THE CONQUERING HERO<br>Eddie Bracken<br>Ella Raines<br>C—100 mins. | | MAN FROM FRISCO<br>Michael O'Shea<br>D—91 mins. (318)<br>CALL OF THE SOUTH SEAS<br>D—59 mins. (319)<br>MARSHALL OF RENO<br>Wild Bill Elliott<br>O—56 mins. (3312) | (Sixth Block)<br>GILDER-SLEEVE'S GHOST<br>Harold Peary<br>Marian Martin<br>C—63 mins. (426)<br>MARINE RAIDERS<br>Pat O'Brien<br>Ruth Hussey<br>D—91 mins. (427) | (June Releases—no definite date set)<br>EVE OF ST. MARK<br>Anne Baxter<br>William Eythe<br>Michael O'Shea<br>(429) D—96 mins.<br>LADIES OF WASHINGTON<br>Sheila Ryan<br>Trudy Marshall<br>Doris Merrick<br>D—95 mins (430) | | CHRISTMAS HOLIDAY<br>Deanna Durbin<br>Gene Kelly<br>M—93 mins. | THE MASK OF DIMITRIOS<br>Sidney Greenstreet<br>Zachary Scott<br>D—95 mins. (318) |
| July 8 | LOUISIANA HAYRIDE<br>Judy Canova<br>Ross Hunter<br>C | | JOHNNY DOESN'T LIVE HERE ANYMORE<br>Simone Simon<br>James Ellison<br>D—79 mins. | TAKE IT BIG<br>Jack Haley<br>Harriet Hilliard<br>C—75 mins. | BRAND OF THE DEVIL<br>Jim Newill<br>Dave O'Brien<br>O—(458) | CALL OF THE ROCKIES<br>Smiley Burnette<br>Sonny Carson<br>O—56 mins. (356) | A NIGHT OF ADVENTURE<br>Tom Conway<br>Audrey Long<br>D—65 mins. (428) | | SUMMER STORM<br>George Sanders<br>Linda Darnell<br>D—107 mins. | TRIGGER TRAIL<br>O—(8086)<br>JUNGLE WOMAN<br>Evelyn Ankers<br>J. Carroll Naish<br>D—60 mins. | |
| July 15 | SECRET COMMAND<br>Pat O'Brien<br>Chester Morris<br>Ruth Warrick<br>D—80 mins. | (Eighth Block)<br>(incomplete)<br>BATHING BEAUTY<br>Red Skelton<br>Esther Williams<br>M—101 mins.<br>(Color)<br>CANTERVILLE GHOST<br>Chas. Laughton<br>Margaret O'Brien<br>C—95 mins. | ARE THESE OUR PARENTS?<br>Helen Vinson<br>Lyle Talbot<br>D—73 mins. | THE GREAT MOMENT<br>Joel McCrea<br>Betty Field<br>D—80 mins. | DELINQUENT DAUGHTERS<br>June Carlson<br>Fifi D'Orsay<br>D—(416) | COMIN' ROUND THE MOUNTAIN<br>(reissue)<br>Gene Autry<br>O—(3305)<br>SILVER CITY KID<br>Allan Lane<br>O—55 mins. (461) | STEP LIVELY<br>Frank Sinatra<br>George Murphy<br>M—88 mins. (429)<br>YOUTH RUNS WILD<br>Kent Smith<br>Jean Brooks<br>D—67 mins. (430) | | | TWILIGHT ON THE PRAIRIE<br>Eddie Quillan<br>Vivian Austin<br>O—62 mins. | (Re-issues)<br>MANPOWER<br>103 mins. (341)<br>TIGER SHARK<br>79 mins. (345)<br>THEY MADE ME A CRIMINAL<br>92 mins. (342) |
| July 22 | | | THREE OF A KIND<br>Billy Gilbert<br>Maxie Rosenbloom<br>Helen Gilbert<br>C | HENRY ALDRICH'S LITTLE SECRET<br>Jimmy Lydon<br>Charlie Smith<br>C—75 mins.<br>I LOVE A SOLDIER<br>Paulette Goddard<br>Sonny Tufts<br>D—105 mins. | FUZZY SETTLES DOWN<br>Buster Crabbe<br>Al 'Fuzzy' St. John<br>O—(465) | SECRETS OF SCOTLAND YARD<br>Edgar Barrier<br>Stephanie Bachelor<br>S. Aubrey Smith<br>D—68 mins. (321) | (Special Release)<br>GOYESCAS<br>Imperio Argentina<br>M—110 mins. (461) | (July Releases—no definite date set)<br>ROGER TOUHY, GANGSTER<br>Preston Foster<br>Victor McLaglen<br>D—65 mins. (431) | | ALLERGIC TO LOVE<br>Noah Beery, Jr.<br>Martha O'Driscoll<br>C—65 mins. | THE WALKING DEAD<br>66 mins. (344) |
| July 29 | MR. WINKLE GOES TO WAR<br>E. G. Robinson<br>Ted Donaldson<br>Ruth Warrick<br>D | | TRIGGER LAW<br>Hoot Gibson<br>O<br>CALL OF THE JUNGLE<br>Ann Corio<br>D | | SEVEN DOORS TO DEATH<br>D—(417)<br>MACHINE GUN MAMA<br>Armida<br>El Brendel<br>Wallace Ford<br>C—(421) | | SNOW WHITE<br>and the<br>SEVEN DWARFS<br>(reissue)<br>83 mins. (492)<br>(Disney Feature Cartoon)<br>(Color) | HOME IN INDIANA<br>Walter Brennan<br>Jeanne Crain<br>D—103 mins. (433)<br>(Color) | ABROAD WITH TWO YANKS<br>William Bendix<br>Dennis O'Keefe | | BROTHER RAT<br>65 mins. (343)<br>POLO JOE<br>89 mins. (346) |
| Aug. 5 | | | LEAVE IT TO THE IRISH<br>James Dunn<br>WEST OF THE RIO GRANDE<br>Johnny Mack Brown | (Special Release)<br>GOING MY WAY<br>Bing Crosby<br>Barry Fitzgerald<br>Rise Stevens<br>D—130 mins. | | SONG OF NEVADA<br>Roy Rogers<br>D—75 mins. (399)<br>GIRL WHO DARES<br>Lorna Gray<br>D—56 mins. (322) | | CANDLELIGHT IN ALGERIA<br>(British)<br>James Mason<br>Carla Lehmann<br>D—85 mins. (432) | | | (Regular Release)<br>ADVENTURES OF MARK TWAIN<br>Fredric March<br>Alexis Smith<br>D—130 mins. (315) |

*Dates Are Based on National Release Schedules and Are Subject to Change. Letters Denote the Following: (D) Drama, (M) Musical, (C) Comedy, (O) Outdoor Action. Production Numbers Are in Parentheses.*

# Permit Union Group Report Of Finances

(*Continued from page* 1)

CIO political action committee, the IATSE or other individual organizations to file through the parent body, together with all other member groups, making it impossible to identify the financial statistics of any specific organization.

In the consideration of that provision of the new revenue act, which calls for the filing of returns by unions and other tax-exempt organizations, it was made apparent in Congress that the desire was to secure financial information of the individual unions rather than merely to secure a general balance sheets from the parent organizations.

### U. S. Is a Tenant

The two points which are bothering Bureau and Treasury officials are the provision of the form permitting group reports and another provision which requires the disclosure of complete information of any union which receives income from rents. The U. S. Government occupies and pays rent for space in several Washington buildings owned by unions.

Officials refused to divulge whether it had been proposed to make any changes in the form or regulations for the filing of union returns but said that the whole matter is receiving further attention in the Bureau and the Treasury and that a statement will be issued in the near future.

Meanwhile, Congress prepared for a further scrutiny of union political activities when the House today adopted a resolution providing for investigation of any suspected election frauds this year.

### New This Year

Heretofore the biennial investigation of Congressional campaigns has been confined to contributions that may have been made illegally by corporations or other business associations, but this year's resolution provides also for investigation of contributions made by labor unions and also of money "raised, contributed and expended by any labor organization, trade or business association and any other agency."

An effort to include "any political committee" connected with a labor organization was defeated on the ground that it was aimed directly at the CIO Political Action Committee, but the resolution as finally drafted was said to be sufficiently broad to take in that and all other organizations.

## *Cahoon to Princeton*

James Cahoon, former film editor for Columbia in Hollywood, and more recently film editor for the overseas motion picture division of the Office of War Information, has joined the Princeton Film Center, where he will be in charge of documentary film edition. His first assignment will be "Wings for Tomorrow," being produced by the Princeton organization for the Coordinator of Inter-American Affairs.

# *Bond Events, High on Showmanship, Bring Sales*

(*Continued from page* 1)

000 for Robb & Rowley United Theatres in San Angelo, Tex., according to John D. Jones, local manager.

Arthur Lehmann, Mississippi state exhibitor chairman, reports $153,000 realized from a bond auction held in front of the Canton Theatre, Canton, Miss., sponsored by the local Lions Club with a professional auctioneer.

For 13 bond premieres in Northern California, a total of 24,574 "E" bond units were sold with a maturity value of $2,358,546, Charles M. Thall, northern California exhibitor chairman, reported. With a total seating capacity of 22,000 the 13 theatres turned in sales of better than a bond per seat, in the aggregate. A total of 18 premieres were held in that area in the first three days of the drive.

### Comparisons Noted

For comparison, the Fox, San Francisco, in the Fourth War Loan sold 4,851 bonds at a premiere with a value of $500,000. The Fifth War Loan premiere sold 5,200 bonds with a value of $502,000. Other comparisons are: United Artists, Berkeley, Fourth War Loan, 1,702 bonds, $83,325; Fifth War Loan, 2,050 bonds, $200,500. California, San Jose, Fourth War Loan, 1,819 bonds, $126,525; Fifth War Loan, 2,300 bonds, $161,450. Fox, Watsonville, Fourth War Loan, 930 bonds, $49,700; Fifth War Loan, 1,370 bonds, $155,025.

Thall reported the territory is practically set for its goal of 225 premieres, as against 183 in the Fourth War Loan.

In a tieup with the Los Angeles *Examiner,* which is helping to promote Southern California theatres' goal of 500,000 or more "E" bond units, the first two of many scheduled Los Angeles premieres drew capacity audiences.

Southern California expects to top the Fourth War Loan premiere total by at least 150 over the previous figure.

### Discs by Hollywood Stars Are Available

Twelve Hollywood stars have made special recordings with a "Fighting Fifth" War Loan appeal, and the platters are going forward to theatres throughout the country, R. J. O'Donnell, national "Fighting Fifth" chairman, announced. The two-sided disks are for use as lobby broadcasts, especially at show-break time.

The bond messages, set to a musical background, have been cut up into a series of two programs. The first presentation includes Bing Crosby, Cary Grant, Gene Tierney, Fred MacMurray, Deanna Durbin and Jack Carson. The second War Bond "pitch," on the reverse side of the platter, is to be used the following week. It contains dramatic appeals by Joan Blondell, Van Johnson, John Wayne, Jane Wyman, James Dunn and Louise Allbritton.

O'Donnell expressed his appreciation to the Hollywood Victory Committee, the Hollywood division of the War Activities Committee and the Radio Division of the War Finance Committee for making the recordings possible. All of the recordings were handled through the office of John C. Flinn, Hollywood division coordinator of the WAC, and his associate coordinator, Tom Baily.

The disks are free to exhibitors. They can be obtained by writing to Martin Starr, War Activities Committee, 1501 Broadway, New York 18, N. Y.

### Depinet Urges War Bond Booths for Exchanges

A bond-selling booth in every film exchange building or on every film exchange row, is the suggestion of Ned E. Depinet, national distributor chairman, to all distributor chairmen in the field.

Depinet advises that during the Fourth War Loan a bond-selling booth was set up in the lobby of the Film Exchange building in Detroit. At this booth were sold many hundreds of thousands of dollars worth of War Bonds. This same booth has been set up for the Fifth War Loan, and Depeinet says he has been advised by M. Dudelson, distribution chairman for the Detroit area, that the present quota has been doubled and "we expect to reach it."

There is no reason, he states, why the same can not be done everywhere.

### Texas Aims to Be First in the Fifth

DALLAS, June 21.—The 1,200 Texas showmen who are participating in the Fifth War Loan campaign will gear their efforts in the drive to the example of fellow Texans Robert J. O'Donnell, national industry drive chairman, and Ray Beall, national publicity chairman, it was reported here by John Q. Adams, exhibitor state chairman, who has set the Texas slogan of "Let's Be First in the Fifth."

Adams, executive secretary of Interstate Circuit, has been vice-chairman for this state in previous War Loan drives, with O'Donnell as Southwestern and Texas chairman of the WAC. Robert Kelly, also of Interstate, is temporarily replacing Beall as state publicity chairman.

### $6,000,000 Studio Sale

HOLLYWOOD, June 21.—Chairman Henry Ginsberg of the War Finance Committee has tabulated studio war bond sales totalling $6,000,000, a new record for the first nine days of any campaign. The Universal studio today bought $1,000,000 worth.

## *Miskell Receives Plaque*

OMAHA, June 21.—William Miskell, district manager of Tri-States Theatres here, has been awarded a special treasury plaque for Tri-States efforts in the current and preceding War Bond campaigns. The presentation, made by Allen Hupp, Douglas County War Bond chairman, is believed to be the first of its kind issued to a theatre or a circuit.

## *Fidler to Open Office*

Fred H. Fidler, for many years with the J. Walter Thompson Company in San Francisco, Hollywood, St. Louis and New York, in public relations, has resigned to come to New York, where he will open his own offices to specialize in the motion picture, television and radio fields.

# Jersey Allied Asks For More Product

(*Continued from page* 1)

proferred are uneconomic they "had better go to school and study economics again." He brought out that distributors have fewer pictures but are getting proportionately more per picture and for lower production costs.

"The theatre owner and customer is the foundation of this business," he said, explaining the foundation can crumble and the whole structure fall if producers and distributors persist in fighting exhibitors who are seeking a fair deal. Myers got a big hand from the exhibitors assembled.

### Price Boosts Hit

The convention approved resolutions attacking advanced admission prices, supporting new independent production as an alleviation of the current product shortage, endorsing national Allied's policies on the consent decree, and pledging continued support of all war activities.

Officers reelected yesterday were: Harry H. Lowenstein, president; Louis Gold and Ralph Wilkins, vice-presidents; David Mate, secretary; David Snaper, treasurer; Edward Lachman, assistant treasurer, and Maurice Spewack, sergeant-at-arms.

The new board of directors of Jersey Allied comprises Cy Myers, Mate, Louis Martin, Sam Frank, Frank Gravett, Louis Patterson, Jack Unger and Gold. Mrs. Helen Hildinger and Myers were named co-chairmen of the south Jersey unit.

### Dollinger Makes Plea

Irving Dollinger, Eastern regional vice-president of Jersey Allied, made a plea for closer industry cooperation. Bert Sanford of Altec Service spoke on post war problems and anticipated multiple sound tracks as the most immediate major equipment development after the war. He hinted at post war third dimensional pictures and spoke of advances in loud speaker equipment. Tomorrow's program will include golf and a meeting of exhibitors with distributors later. Speakers will be: H. M. Richey, M-G-M; Harry Kalmine, Warners; Sam Lefkowitz, United Artists; Leon Bamberger, RKO; Claude Lee, Paramount; David Levy, Universal; Sam Gillis, Republic; A. W. Smith, 20th Century-Fox; Joseph Felder, Monogram; Irving Wormser, Columbia.

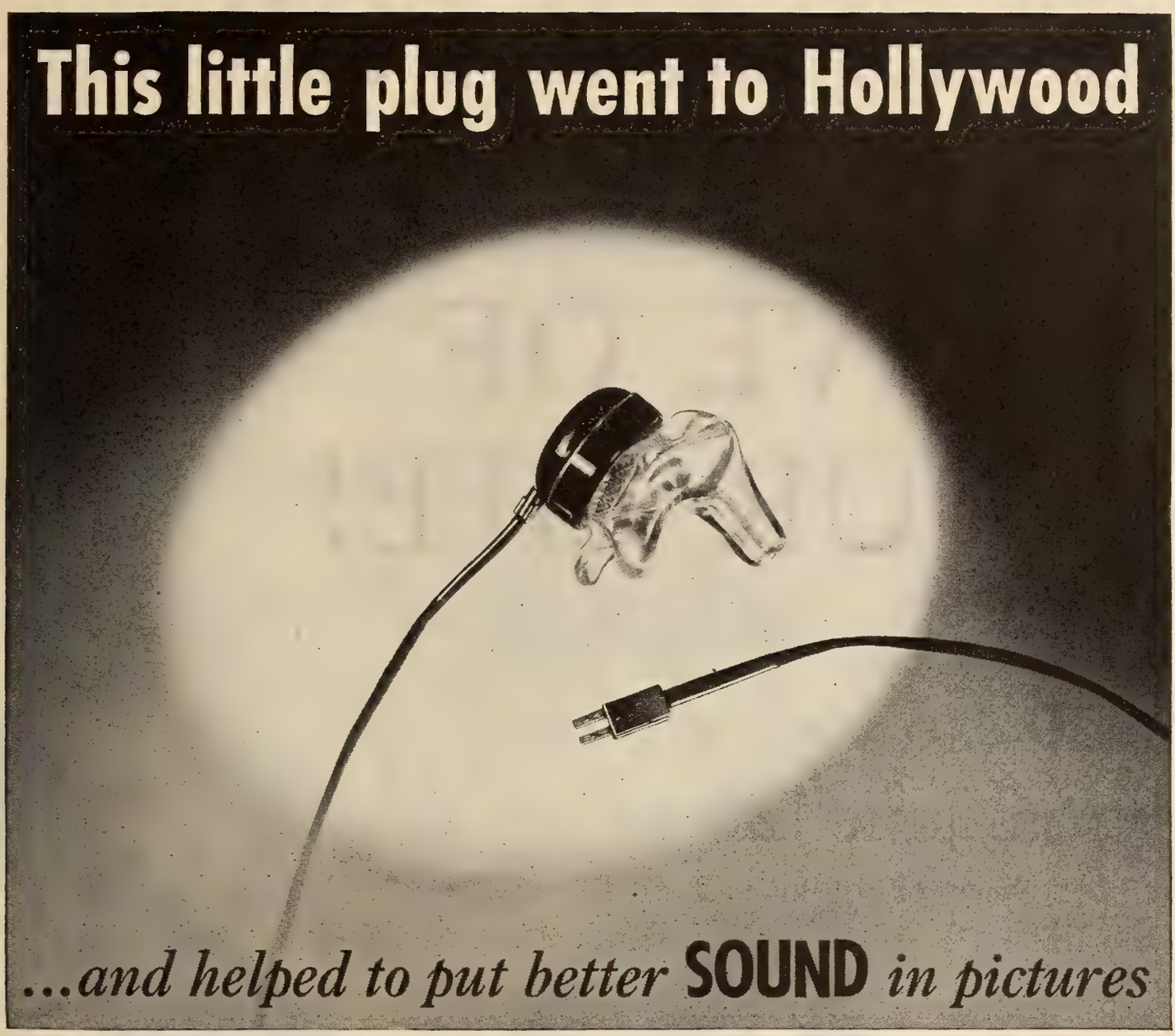
## *$250,000 in Bonds for 'Wassell' Premiere*

CHICAGO, June 21.—The Fifth War Loan Bond premiere of "The Story of Dr. Wassell," to be held at the State Lake Theatre, Friday night, is a sell-out with an estimated total of over $250,00 in bonds sold. The opening is being sponsored by the Chicago *Herald-American.*

The premiere will be attended by Cecil B. DeMille, producer- director; Carol Thurston, who appears in the picture; Sophie Tucker, Mayor Kelly and Navy and Treasury Department officials and stars of the stage, radio and night clubs.

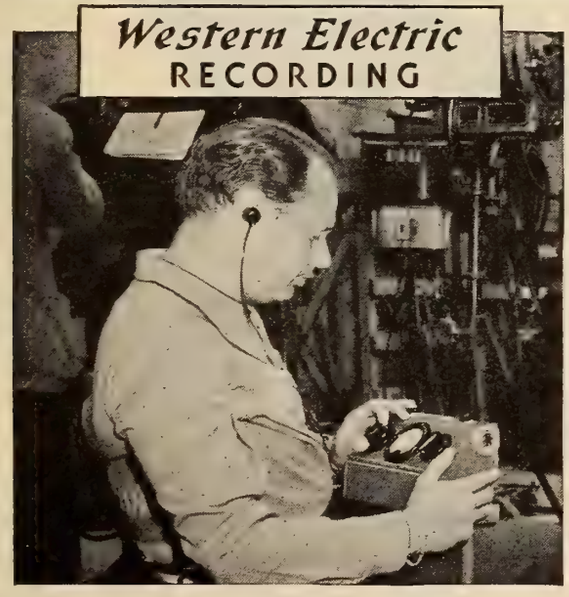
Chicago operators' Local 110 has pledged to buy $135,000 worth of bonds during the drive for the purchase of a hospital plane.

# This little plug went to Hollywood



## ...and helped to put better SOUND in pictures

*Western Electric*
RECORDING



*James Flaster, Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer sound mixer, using Western Electric hearing aid type receivers with molded ear pieces on the "Kismet" set.*

LITTLE earphones and earplugs like this—originally designed for use with Western Electric aids for the hard of hearing—were first tried out for monitoring sound in Hollywood in 1941. Soon they were generally accepted and now they are used widely.

Sound mixers find that what they hear through the earphones most closely matches the sound they later hear reproduced from the screen. Hence they are better able to control the quality of sound recording.

A small thing, perhaps—but an interesting example of how Bell Telephone Laboratories' developments for other purposes have contributed to better sound in pictures.

*Electrical Research Products Division*
OF
*Western Electric Company*
INCORPORATED
195 BROADWAY, NEW YORK, N. Y.

★ SPEED THE DAY OF VICTORY BY BUYING WAR BONDS — MORE WAR BONDS — AND STILL MORE! ★

# TEED-UP FOR THE BIGGEST DRIVE OF YOUR LIFE!

## There's only one ball to keep your eye on from June 12th to July 8th!




At press-time news of the Invasion has electrified the nation. The best way to thank our heroes is to re-dedicate our hearts and energies to the job ahead.

*Sponsored by War Activities Committee of Motion Picture Industry, 1501 Broadway, N. Y. C.*



MOTION PICTURE HERALD ANNOUNCES PUBLICATION OF A SPECIAL SECTION SIGNALIZING THE NOTABLE TWENTIETH ANNIVERSARY OF METRO-GOLDWYN-MAYER IN THE ISSUE OF THIS WEEK DATED JUNE 24, 1944

# TO THE STAFF OF M-G-M's NEWS OF THE DAY

*"Cigars for the boys!"*




**With pride in your handling of the Invasion newsreel that inspired this editorial in the N. Y. World-Telegram:**

## Invasion Pictures.

We have just seen a preview of the first moving pictures of the invasion—an MGM compilation from the work of newsreel men and of Army, Navy, Coast Guard and Canadian cameramen, with commentary by Quentin Reynolds.

It is a magnificent and breathtaking chronicle of the audacity of our assault troops, our naval men, our fliers, our airborne guerrillas and, by no means least, our combat photographers.

Anybody who can watch this film—watch our grimy parachutists grinning as they board their planes, watch our vast convoys set out to sea, watch our aircraft beat up enemy airdromes and shipping from sometimes fatally low altitudes, watch a doughboy pat his buddy solicitously on the shoulder just before they plunge off a landing boat in the face of machine guns, watch from the shore as defending cross-fire cuts down heroes in the sand—anybody who can watch all this without fierce pride and deep humility might as well be dead.

FROM EDITORIAL PAGE N. Y. WORLD-TELEGRAM JUNE 15, 1944

Fifth War Loan Drive!

# MOTION PICTURE DAILY

Keep Backing the Invasion!

VOL. 55. NO. 123 NEW YORK, U.S.A., FRIDAY, JUNE 23, 1944 TEN CENTS

## No Impact of Television on Pictures Soon

### *Financing Conservatism Seen by Raibourn*

Television will not have much impact upon motion pictures or any other existing form of entertainment or culture until a satisfactory profit becomes available from it, Paul Raibourn, head of Paramount's television activities, told the Radio Executives Club here last night at their television seminar session. Raibourn's subject was the impact of television on motion pictures.

"There have been several ambitious attempts to launch television on its way," Raibourn pointed out, but like the launching of motion pictures, sound motion pictures and color motion pictures, television will not be launched in a big way until business entrepeneurs can get back within a reasonable length of time their original capital plus a comfortable profit.

"Motion picture companies may make films for television and televi-

(Continued on page 3)

## N. J. Allied Weighs Product Shortage

ATLANTIC CITY, June 22.—The annual convention of Allied Theatre Owners of New Jersey at the Hotel Chelsea here closed today with general attention being given by speakers to the shortage of product and to appeals for improved Jersey efforts in the current Fifth War Loan drive.

Distribution representatives who addressed the session ascribed most of the product shortage in this area to the difficulties of getting first run playing time. Lack of first run outlets delays openings of new product,

(Continued on page 6)

## MGM Managers to Make Visits Here

M-G-M branch managers will again start visiting the home office at the rate of two a week shortly after William F. Rodgers, vice-president and general sales manager, returns from a visit to the coast. Each will spend a week here getting acquainted

(Continued on page 6)

## Print Processing Behind in Britain

LONDON, June 22.—The severely limited color film processing facilities available here as a result of the requirements of government and Army film units is creating a serious distribution problem for commercial films, the Kinematograph Renters Society general council was informed today.

Topical films in Technicolor awaiting distribution here, among them Paramount's "The Story of Dr. Wassell," are in a particularly sensitive position inasmuch as prolonged delays in color print processing may lead to loss of topical value at the box office, it was pointed out. Processing of "Dr. Wassell" prints now appears to be destined for postponement here until 1945.

As a result of the situation methods were discussed at the KRS general council meeting of granting processing priorities for the limited color facilities available to new and important features and to Walt Disney short subjects over reissues and the dubbing

(Continued on page 6)

## *WLB Approves WB Sound Men's Pact*

The War Labor Board has approved the first of the new contracts. recently negotiated between the IATSE and Altec, RCA and the sound maintenance departments of the large circuits and covering 560 sound maintenance men. The first contract approved by the WLB covers some 33 sound maintenance men through-

(Continued on page 3)

## *Name Liberty Ship To Honor Warners*

**Richmond, Cal., June 22.—The last of the Liberty ships—the 599th—to be built at the Henry Kaiser plant at Richmond yard here, when completed shortly, will be christened the "Benjamin Warner," in honor of the father of the Warner Bros.—Harry M., Col. Jack L. and Maj. Albert Warner.**

**The "Benjamin Warner" will be sponsored by Lita B. Warner, daughter of the late Sam Warner, while Mrs. Anne Robbins, oldest daughter of Benjamin Warner, will be matron of honor.**

## *Group Union Filing Stands*

WASHINGTON, June 22. — No changes will be made in the former regulations for the filing of financial statements by unions and other tax-exempt organizations, due by August 15, it was announced today by the Internal Revenue Bureau.

It was disclosed, however, that where a parent organization files group returns for its local organizations, the parent must file a separate return covering its own income and expenditures. As reported yesterday, any subordinate organization included in a group return which has income from rents or business activities must

(Continued on page 3)

## *$29,357,000 in Bonds Raised at 3 Rallies*

A total of $29,357,000 in war bonds was realized at three industry bond rallies in Houston, Tex., Atlantic City and New York to boost the totals being accumulated for the "Fighting Fifth" War Loan drive.

With appearances of the Hollywood "Stars on Parade" unit in Atlantic City and Wilmington, Del., to aid the "Fighting Fifth" War Loan drive the troupe will next appear in Norfolk, Va., today and in Richmond tomorrow, accompanied by the Army Air Forces Training Command orchestra.

Sponsored by the Amusement Men's Association, the Atlantic City show was a sellout at the 4,200-seat Warner Theatre, with $7,200,000 in bonds realized. The house was scaled from $25 to $50,000 per seat.

Paul Whiteman, Oscar Levant, Lynn Bari, Pvt. John Payne, Lt. William Holden, Mischa Auer, Rosemary Lane, Dennis O'Keefe and Eileen Woods are in the troupe, most of which entertained patients at the England General Hospital No. 1, where Payne took charge of a bond-selling rally conducted by the patients. Members of the troupe also appeared before the Allied Theatre Owners of New Jersey convention at the Chelsea Hotel.

**Houston Bond Rally Nets $22,080 000**

HOUSTON, June 22.—Uncle Sam's "Fighting Fifth" War Loan cash reg-

(Continued on page 3)

## OWI Will Get 48 Dubbed Feature Films

### *Companies to Furnish Films in 3 Versions*

An "agreement in principle" has been reached between the foreign distribution heads of eight film companies and the overseas film bureau of the Office of War Information whereby the distributors will each furnish six dubbed versions of Hollywood features for distribution in Europe's liberated areas by the Army Psychological Warfare Board, in which is incorporated the OWI's film unit.

The films, which are being acquired by OWI to provide Europe's liberated millions escape entertainment and to give a picture of American life, will eventually number 48, two in French, two in Italian and two in German, from the eight companies. They will supplement the 40 films with foreign subtitles already acquired by the

(Continued on page 6)

## Films to Troops In France by Sat.

LONDON, June 22.—American troops in France soon will be able to see the same films concurrently with their showing to the military in camps in England, under arrangements approved today by the Kinematograph Renters Society general council.

London distributors will supply the films at token royalty terms agreed upon with the British Joint Ordering Board and the army will fly them to and from France, where free troop

(Continued on page 3)

## *Hearing on RKO Circuit Union's Plea*

The New York State Labor Relations Board held a hearing here this week on the petition of the newly-organized Motion Picture Theatre Managers, Assistants and Cashiers Union to be designated collective bargaining agent for managers, assistants and cashiers in RKO theatres in the metropolitan area.

The hearing followed the submission of briefs by both sides as directed by the SLAB. A decision on the petition is expected shortly with an election expected to be ordered.

# FP-C Exploitation Plans Stepped up As War Boom Fades

BANFF SPRINGS, Alberta, June 22.—Declaring that the end of the wartime boom is in sight, vice-president R. W. Bolstad of Famous Players-Canadian is urging augmented exploitation activities in view of indications that a business recession is already being felt in some sections of the Dominion.

Speaking here at FP-C's three-day Western managers' convention, which closes tonight, Bolstad brought out that many employes returning from war service may be unwilling to accept junior positions with the company after an absence of three or four years. He urged the managers to join with government rehabilitation officials in finding suitable places elsewhere for those to whom FP-C has a civilian-reinstatement obligation. Bolstad suggested that not more than 50 per cent of the employees on leave for war service will return to their old positions in the circuit and that provision must be made for those who have grown up while away.

President J. J. Fitzgibbons heads the Toronto home office delegation attending the convention. Also present are chief booker Ben Geldsaler and James R. Nairn of the advertising department. The meetings have dealt principally with the discontinuance of double bills and "Fotonite" features during the coming season.

## *WB Takes Leases on 2 of Its Theatres*

PHILADELPHIA, June 22.—Warner Theatres will take over operation of the Strand and Victor theatres in Pottstown beginning Oct. 1, it was reported at the local Warner office yesterday. The two houses owned by Warners have been operated by William Goldman under lease.

Ted Schlanger, zone manager, and other officials of the local branch, are making plans for operating the houses.

## *Banowitz Gets 'Follies'*

CHICAGO, June 22.—Ben Banowitz, operator of four theatres here, has acquired local stage rights to "Swing-Shift Follies," feature of the Blue Network. Banowitz will follow the pattern set in Detroit and New York for staging the production, drawing talent from local defense plants. Negotiations are underway for booking the show in 20 theatres in this territory. Billy Weinberg, former Banowitz theatre manager, is handling the program.

## *To Plan Blue Expansion*

Don Gilman, vice-president in charge of the Western division of the Blue Network is in New York this week to discuss plans for the expansion of the network's facilities on the Pacific Coast which call for a remodeling of Station KECA in Hollywood and the erection of a new building in Los Angeles.

# *Personal Mention*

CHARLES SKOURAS, president of National Theatres, will arrive here from Hollywood today to enroll his son, CHARLES, JR., at the United States Military Academy at West Point.

•

STEVE EDWARDS, Republic home office publicity representative, will return here from Providence on Monday.

•

BOB GOODFRIED, United Artists exploiteer, has returned to the home office from Portland, Ore.

•

PHIL FOX, Columbia branch manager in Buffalo, and salesmen JIM FATER, GEORGE FERGUSON and JACK BULLWINKLE have returned to Buffalo from New York.

•

SGT. and MRS. HARRY KAPLOWITZ became the parents of a son born yesterday in New York. SGT. KAPLOWITZ, former assistant to SAM E. MORRIS in the Warner Theatres home office, is now on active duty in England.

•

SAUL ROGERS, film attorney, left yesterday for Atlantic City for a few days.

MORRIS GOODMAN, Republic vice-president in charge of foreign sales, will leave next month for Mexico.

•

TED BALDWIN of Columbia was recently named second vice-president of the Publicity Club of New York.

•

MISS DIANA SKOURAS, daughter of MR. and MRS. SPYROS SKOURAS, will be married Wednesday morning in the Holy Trinity Church at Mamaroneck to DR. GEORGE ANDERSON FOWLER.

•

MEYER FOX, booker for Columbia in Buffalo, is vacationing in Boston.

•

ROY HAINES, Western and Southern division sales manager for Warners, is in Detroit for a few days.

•

EDDIE SELETTE, manager of Warners' Strand in Pittsburgh, returned to that city yesterday from New York.

•

LARRY REID, executive editor of Fawcett Publications' screen magazines, left Wednesday for Hollywood for a month's stay.

## *Republic to Set Up Mexico Exchange*

Morris Goodman, Republic's vice-president in charge of foreign sales, will leave shortly for Mexico to set up a sales distribution company in Mexico City, which will replace the company's existing Mexican franchise holder. This is part of Republic's continuing policy of expansion in Mexico and South America. Previously acquired in the last year were exchanges in Argentina, Brazil, Paraguay and Uruguay, formerly operated by franchise holders, and the setting up in Puerto Rico of its own exchange.

Additional foreign sales outlets are expected to be acquired by Republic in the next six months.

Republic is also going ahead with a Mexican production program and recently signed James A. Fitzpatrick, travelogue producer, to make a series of features which will employ native talent when possible. Fitzpatrick's first is expected to start soon.

# Mexico Played 379 American Films

MEXICO CITY, June 22.—Only 43 Mexican pictures were exhibited in Mexico in 1943, as compared to 379 American screened in the same period. Some Mexican product, however, had a larger gross than American pictures.

Other foreign entries were: Russia, seven; Argentina, five; Egypt, two, and Cuba and China, one each. The report neglected to note two high grossers, "Desert Victory" (British) and "The Heart of a Nation" (French).

## *Universal Concludes Chicago Sales Meet*

CHICAGO, June 22.—Universal concluded a three-day regional sales meeting at the Blackstone Hotel here today. Production schedules and policies revealed at the recent convention in Los Angeles were discussed before branch managers, bookers and salesmen from Chicago, Minneapolis, Detroit and Milwaukee.

A. J. O'Keefe, Western division manager, who conducted the sessions, left for Kansas City to night to hold another regional meeting there this week-end.

## *Brooks and O'Bannon Promoted by Ross*

E. C. O'Bannon, Ross Federal Service branch manager at New Haven, has been promoted to the managership at Cincinnati by president Harry A Ross, and B. J. Brooks, national supervisor for the New England area, has taken over the New Haven branch.

O'Bannon joined Ross in 1939 as a field representative and in 1942 was appointed service manager, serving at Dallas and Minneapolis. Brooks started as a field representative out of Boston.

## *Goldwyn to Release 'Way Ahead' Here*

"The Way Ahead," produced by Two Cities Films in England as a tribute to the British Army, will arrive by clipper here next week for its American preview, the Sam Goldwyn office reported yesterday. Goldwyn holds all distribution rights to the film outside of the British colonies. David Niven is starred. An early release is planned.

# Envoy Appointments Held up by Invasion

The invasion of Europe has temporarily delayed the appointment of six or more special industry envoys for assignment to foreign capitals to watch American film interests, it was learned here yesterday.

Home office foreign department heads, however, are scheduled to meet next week and resume discussion of candidates for appointment to posts in London, Rio de Janeiro, Buenos Aires, Mexico City, Barcelona and, possibly, Moscow, Bombay and elsewhere. Although the decision to open offices in these capitals was reached more than a month ago, selections have been held up by various wartime difficulties.


# NEW YORK THEATRES

RADIO CITY MUSIC HALL
Showplace of the Nation Rockefeller Center
HELD OVER 7TH WEEK
A Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer's Picture
"THE WHITE CLIFFS OF DOVER"
Starring IRENE DUNNE
with ALAN MARSHAL
SPECTACULAR STAGE PRESENTATION
First Mezzanine Seats Reserved. Circle 6-4600

LOEW'S STATE B'WAY & 45 ST.
ON SCREEN
Charles BOYER
Ingrid BERGMAN
Joseph COTTEN
in M-G-M's
'GASLIGHT'
IN PERSON
DENNY BECKNER and ORCH.
GAY NINETIES REVUE

RKO PALACE B'WAY & 47th St.
TAMARA TOUMANOVA
GREGORY PECK
"DAYS OF GLORY"

PARAMOUNT'S
"GOING MY WAY"
with BING CROSBY
In Person
CHARLIE SPIVAK and His Orch.
PARAMOUNT Times Square

PARAMOUNT PRESENTS
GARY COOPER in
CECIL B. DEMILLE'S
"The Story of Dr. Wassell"
★ In Technicolor ★
RIVOLI B'way & 49th St.

20th Century-Fox Presents
'HOME IN INDIANA'
IN TECHNICOLOR
PLUS ON STAGE — ENRIC MADRIGUERA and ORCHESTRA • HAZEL SCOTT
JOE BESSER • CARMEN AMAYA & CO.
BUY MORE BONDS ROXY 7th Ave. & 50th St.


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# No Early Impact of Television on Films

(*Continued from page* 1)

ion may supplement feature film fare n theatre programs," Raibourn declared, "but on the other hand, television might displace 16 mm films in he home or schools in a reasonable eriod of time and thereby destroy the ream of film manufacturing comanies of an expanding market."

Contrasting the relative appeal of elevision as against film entertainnent, Raibourn emphasized the fact hat while television has the advantage f permitting simultaneous viewing nd hearing in many places of a single vent at the time that event is taking lace, film can record the event and llow it to be seen later. "Time of iewing a film can be selected with a iew to the comforts and convenience f an audience," he said. Further, in ointing out the advantage of film entertainment, he added, "An order of precedence can be arranged by which those who see are placed in the same time sequence as their willingness to pay a large or small amount for that privilege."

**Television vs. Pictures**

"Television, so far, has been more or less visually imperfect as compared with motion pictures," Raibourn said. These visual imperfections are both artistic in view of the attempt at spontaniety and those which are inherent in the physical media used, he pointed out.

"There is one phase of the motion picture field where television is going to definitely apply," Raibourn said, "and this is the theatre itself." "We may have purely television theatres, as we now have news theatres, but there is reason to doubt that it is a probability," he indicated, pointing to the dearth of material which television is in a position to offer and still have box office appeal. "Television could compete with films as a distribution medium to the theatre if the programs were shown over and over but the present economics are against such a possibility," according to Raibourn.

Raibourn outlined Paramount's reasons for acquiring television interests, stating that the company, in view of its extensive theatre holdings, was interested in any medium that might have an effect upon the box office returns of these theatres. "The theatre will lend certain values to television which are not possible in the ordinary home assembly," Raibourn said. He also discussed the new Scophony and RCA large theatre screen television mediums.

## *Films to Troops In France by Sat.*

(*Continued from page* 1)

shows will be given in requisitioned French cinemas. Officials hope to put on the opening show in France next Saturday.

Meanwhile, military commanders at Supreme Headquarters here have expressed their appreciation to distributors for having provided films and shows for 24-hour grinds for the troops while they were awaiting embarkation orders at secret points prior to D-Day.

"The motion picture industry did a magnificent job in keeping Allied soldiers in good heart and quiet mind," was one high ranking officer's tribute.

# *$29,357,000 in Bonds Raised at 3 Rallies*

(*Continued from page* 1)

ister rang up $22,080,000 here last night as 10,000 fans overflowed the Coliseum here for the Bond Boxing Carnival sponsored jointly by the War Activities Committee, the Houston War Sports Activities Committee and the Elks Club Bond group, which underwrote the $8,000 expense of the show.

R. J. O'Donnell, "Fighting Fifth" national industry chairman, was master of ceremonies, flying here from New York. Fans bought bonds to get tickets, and the show raised more than 25 per cent of Harris County's Fifth War Loan quota, giving Houston the lead in bond sales percentage over the nation with about 30 per cent of the quota already sold, according to officials. Commander Jack Dempsey refereed the final bout.

**N. Y. Paramount Nets $77,000 at Bond Rally**

A total of $77,000 in bonds was sold at a "Fighting Fifth" War Loan rally at the New York Paramount Theatre this week, Robert M. Weitman, managing director, has announced.

Ed Sullivan brought in $66,000 of the total at the first evening performance, and Ben Grauer was responsible for the remainder. Sullivan's total was augmented by a $10,000 bond purchase by Pvt. Benny Benjemen, composer of "When the Lights Go On Again All Over the World."

**Loew's Sets 10 Bond Premieres**

Loew's theatres have 10 War Bond premieres scheduled for the Fifth War Loan, with admission only through the purchase of bonds. With the exception of the Yonkers, which will premiere "See Here, Private Hargrove" on July 5th at 8:45 p.m., all the premieres will be held at midnight.

"See Here, Private Hargrove" will be shown at midnight at the 175th Street; on July 3 at the Boro Park; on July 7 at the Apollo, Pitkin, Prospect and American Theatres. "The Story of Dr. Wassell" will be shown at midnight (July 7th) at the Valencia and Paradise Theatres, while the Metropolitan will offer "Two Girls and a Sailor" and a stage show at midnight on Friday, July 7.

**Pittsburgh Bond Show Nets Half Million**

PITTSBURGH, June 22.—More than $500,000 in War bonds was netted at the Enright Theatre Fifth War Loan show held Tuesday evening here, it was reported by M. A. Silver, zone manager for Warners here. The stage show was headed by Ella Fitzgerald, the Ink Spots and Cootie Williams' orchestra.

Another bond show has been scheduled for tomorrow night at the Fulton Theater while arrangements are being completed for premieres at Loew's Penn and the Warner Theatres. More than 204 other bond shows are being held throughout Western Pennsylvania under the supervision of Silver and Herb Greenblatt of the local RKO exchange.

## *Group Union Finance Reports to Stand*

(*Continued from page* 1)

file a separate balance sheet as part of the group report.

The form for the filing of these returns was made available last Saturday and a formal announcement was scheduled to be made early this week. The announcement was held up, however, while Bureau and Treasury official reconsidered the form in the light of charges that organized labor had secured a "victory" in the file joint returns, but it was decided that if more definite information regarding the operations of individual unions was to be required, the rule to that effect should be specifically laid down by Congress.

## *20th-Fox Officials to Confer on 'Wilson'*

HOLLYWOOD, June 22. — Spyros Skouras, Thomas J. Connors, W. J. Kupper, Charles Schlaifer and Jules Fields will arrive here next week for conferences with Joseph M. Schenck and Darryl F. Zanuck on the exploitation campaign for the "Wilson," feature.

## *16 MM D-Day Films Out*

Eight and 16 mm prints of films of the Invasion of Europe and the fall of Rome have been released by Castle Films for distribution here and overseas, it was disclosed yesterday.

## Australia Gross Up Despite 70% Tax

Film business in Australia is good, but it needs to be good in light of the Government's 70 per cent tax on gross profits, Herschel Stuart, National Theatres' Australian representative, stated here this week. He is conferring with home office executives and "seeing a few shows."

The good business is the result of strict rationing, leaving few outlets for excess spending money; and the theatre is a staple outlet, Stuart said. He added that picture runs generally are nine months behind those in this country. Formerly, they had been about four. Pictures now run six or seven weeks; they "run as long as there is any life in them."

Shipping to Australia is delayed but slightly, awaiting the necessary priorities. It generally takes two to three months to ship film. There have been no sinkings of American shipments, but some British, and there have had to be repeat orders for British films.

Theatres, rationed in the use of paper and display boards, are making the best of it, using the boards over again, he said. Masonite, often used before the war, may not be used now, he said.

National Theatres holds a major stock block in Hoyts Theatres, Ltd., in Australia. Stuart has represented the U. S. circuit for three years.

# *Coast Flashes*

*Hollywood, June 22*

BEN STOLOFF has reported to RKO Radio to start work as a producer under Sid Rogell's supervision. A former director for RKO, he returns after three years.

•

"G. I. Josie," a two-reel color subject, will be produced by Gordon Hollingshead for Warners with Crane Wilbur directing. It depicts the activities of the U. S. Marine Corps Women's Reserve.

•

Robert Wilmot, former European director, has been signed by Columbia to direct "A Nazi in the U. S. A." Wilmot collaborated with Charles Kenyon on the story on which the film is based.

•

Capt. Madison Lacy, who has been placed on inactive status by the Army, has reported to the Selznick-Vanguard publicity department here as portrait photographer and still man.

•

Joe E. Brown will arrive in Sacramento tomorrow to be the guest of the city and to take part in launching the Fifth War Loan in that territory.

•

Lester Cowan has signed Irving Rubine as his executive assistant. Rubine will assist Cowan on three pictures which will be released by United Artists.

•

Only two Monogram Westerns remained to be filmed for completion of its 1943-44 program. They are "Fool's Gold" and "Trigger Law."

## *WLB Approves WB Sound Men's Pact*

(*Continued from page* 1)

out the country employed by the Warner theatre circuit.

Provisions of the new contract, which are retroactive to May 1, provide for raising the present minimum to $92 a week, two weeks' vacation with pay after a year's service, seniority rights and other benefits relating to hours. The new contract also provides for the engineers to work on the installation of television in theatres.

## *Cantor to Resume 'Purple Heart' Tour*

Eddie Cantor will leave here for Hollywood today, stopping over at Washington, Cleveland, Ogden, Utah; Portland and San Francisco, where he will play his "Purple Heart" circuit show at rehabilitation hospitals.

Cantor, who has completed his current series of broadcasts from New York, will also participate in bond rallies in Cleveland and Portland en route. While in Hollywood, he will discuss plans for producing another film for RKO.

## *Sol Francis Appointed*

LOS ANGELES, June 22.—Monogram today appointed Sol Francis Midwest district manager supervising Dallas, Kansas City, Omaha, Oklahoma City and Des Moines exchanges. He will make his headquarters in Dallas.


R
SHOW BUSINESS
DAYS OF GLORY
TENDER COMRADE
HEAVENLY DAYS
STE
LIVE


KO
muel Goldwyn's
P IN ARMS
MARINE
RAIDERS
Walt Disney's
SNOW WHITE
-isn't it
a pleasure?

# N. J. Allied Weighs Product Shortage

(*Continued from page* 1)

and, consequently, its subsequent release, the exhibitors here were told.

Leon Bamberger, of RKO, speaking on behalf of the industry Fifth War Loan drive, said that Jersey has fallen behind other areas in scheduling war bond premieres. He said that 3,831 such premieres have been set thus far in the entire country. Harry Lowenstein, Jersey Allied president, added a plea to Jersey exhibitors for more bond premieres. Earle Sweigert, Paramount Philadelphia manager, speaking for Claude Lee, who was unable to be present, stressed the bond drive and industry war activities.

### 20th-Fox Host

Twentieth Century-Fox was host to the delegates at a cocktail party preceding the grand ball which wound up the social affairs. Mayor Joseph Altman of Atlantic City spoke at the latter gathering. Other speakers included Sidney Samuelson, H. M. Richey and Lowenstein. Life membership certificates in Jersey Allied were presented to Samuelson and P. S. Harrison, and wallets were presented to Abram F. Myers, Irving Dollinger, George Gold, Lee Newbury, Joseph Seider and Leon Rosenblatt. All but Myers are past presidents of the Jersey organization.

Late yesterday, the convention adopted a resolution opposing sales of pictures on percentage terms and demanding flat rentals on all pictures. The resolution authorized a fund-raising move to obtain the objectives named by legal processes should negotiations fail.

## *Protest Film Ridicule on BBC*

LONDON, June 22.—The Kinematograph Renters Society general counsel gave attention today to alleged hypercritical observations on motion pictures by a British Broadcasting Co. commentator in a number of recent broadcasts.

Described as having an "intellectualist's" preoccupation for wisecracking about popular films, the commentator is said to have moved Joseph Friedman, Columbia managing director here, to object to his curt remarks concerning "Cover Girl." Friedman's protest was withdrawn when he was given official assurance that BBC has dealt firmly with its commenator. In addition, influential representations are being made to BBC to bring its commentators further into line on matters of popular entertainment and to avoid employment of "intellectualist wisecrackers."

## *ITOA Pledges Aid To Jewish Appeal*

Members of the Independent Theatre Owners Association here were pledged to support the United Jewish Appeal drive at the ITOA meeting held yesterday at the Hotel Astor. A committee has been appointed to solicit contributions from independent theatre operators in the metropolitan area.

Sam Rinzler addressed the meeting, stressing the importance of the UJA campaign and urging theatre owners to cooperate. President Harry Brandt conducted the session.

# *OWI Will Get 48 Dubbed Films in 3 Languages*

(*Continued from page* 1)

OWI and currently being exhibited in Italy and other liberated areas.

Additionally, many companies are building up a huge backlog of dubbed versions of their outstanding product in French and Italian for commercial distribution after the OWI overseas film bureau relinquishes control, as reported by MOTION PICTURE DAILY on June 8. Many titles have already been dubbed or are in the process of dubbing with a mad scramble ensuing for existing facilities with available raw stock, sound tracks and foreign speaking talent looming as handicaps for some companies.

### Roundup

A roundup of the eight companies' foreign departments revealed the following titles ready in French and Italian with dubbing in German not very far advanced if at all:

Joseph Hummel, Warners' foreign distribution manager, reported that 18 Warner features have already been dubbed in French, and 10 in Italian, "with more in production." He indicated that the dubbed versions stand to obtain wider distribution than those with super-imposed titles. Warners have the following features completed in French: "Sergeant York," "All This and Heaven, Too," "The Sea Hawk," "Virginia City," "They Drive by Night," "Till We Meet Again" and "Yankee Doodle Dandy." The following French versions are in work: "Air Force," "Strawberry Blonde," "The Great Lie" and "Always in My Heart." The following Italian versions have been completed: "Sergeant York," "The Sea Hawk" and "Yankee Doodle Dandy." It was also reported that Warners is currently dubbing in French "Saratoga Trunk" and "Arsenic and Old Lace."

Mort Spring, acting international department head for M-G-M, revealed that his company was well-advanced in its dubbing program with "enough product accumulated for a year's supply." Spring said that in all probability the OWI would obtain the use in French and Italian of "The Ziegfeld Girl" and "The Shop Around the Corner." "If the OWI wants them, we'll dub in German," he said. To date 18 French and 18 Italian versions of features have been produced by M-G-M.

A Universal foreign department spokesman said that the OWI would select two from among the following completed French versions: "It Started with Eve," "Destry Rides Again" and "Phantom of the Opera," In work are "Back Street" and "Flesh and Fantasy," with Charles Boyer doing the French dubbing in both. The spokesman stressed that the studios were faced with the problem of obtaining the proper voices, space and writers. Joseph Seidelman, vice-president in charge of foreign distribution for Universal, and Al Daff, foreign sales supervisor, are at present on the Coast conferring with studio executives on future dubbing plans.

### U. A. Plans

Thomas P. Mulrooney, assistant to Walter Gould, United Artists foreign manager, indicated that Gould, who is at present in Mexico, had conferred with UA producers on the Coast on tentative dubbing plans but that UA had made "none so far."

Jacob Segal, assistant foreign manager for Columbia, said that his company would probably deliver to the OWI in French and Italian "Men in Her Life" and "The Lady Is Willing." Other French and Italian versions by Columbia are: "Cover Girl," "Sahara," "Adam Had Four Sons," "This Thing Called Love," "The Desperadoes" and "You Belong to Me."

Phil Reisman, vice-president in charge of foreign sales for RKO Radio, said his company had "none dubbed at the moment, but we contemplate dubbing in the future."

A Paramount foreign department representative observed that his company has adopted a policy of "watchful waiting" as far as dubbing was concerned "but had done no actual physical work."

Maurice Silverstone, vice-president in charge of foreign sales, indicated that "Claudia" was ready in French and "The Song of Bernadette" was being prepared for the Spanish-speaking market.

## *Authorized NY Film Trucks Unsuitable*

Certificates of authorization of purchase seven-ton trucks secured for New York film truckers from the WPB through the aid of Claude R. Collins, War Activities Committee liaison, and H. M. Richey, M-G-M exhibitor relations head, apparently does not solve the truckers' delivery problems.

A spokesman for the New York State Film Delivery Service said here yesterday that the trucks authorized are of the low-gear type and are not suitable. Another effort will be made to secure authorization for larger trucks, he said.

## *Robinson Meets Press*

CHICAGO, June 22.—RKO here honored Casey Robinson and Toumanova, producer and star, respectively, of "Days of Glory," at a reception at the Blackstone Hotel today.

## *'U' Holds Press Meet*

BOSTON, June 22.—Officials of Universal held a press conference and luncheon at the Ritz Carlton here yesterday. Among those in attendance were E. T. Gomersall, assistant general sales manager; Fred Meyers, Eastern sales manager; Maurice Bergman, Eastern advertising manager, and John Scully, sales manager for the Northeastern district, who presided.

## *Lambs Honor Troops On 2nd Anniversary*

Approximately 300 service men were honored last night by the Lambs at their headquarters. Yesterday marked the end of the second year of Thursday night shows and dinners for the armed forces, sponsored by the Lambs.

Last night's host was Ben Blumenthal. S. Jay Kaufman presided as toastmaster.

# Print Processing May Impair Films

(*Continued from page* 1)

of foreign versions of British films. The latter two classifications now enjoy equal claim to the limited processing facilities with new films. It is also suggested that the dubbing of American reissues be done in Hollywood entirely.

It is learned authoritatively that American distributors here have agreed to exchange among themselves previously contracted for Technicolor processing facilities when one or more of them have a topical film of importance ready for release and processing facilities for it are not available, in order that box office values of such topical films will not be sacrificed through prolonged processing delays.

Two Cities Films' "Henry V" and "Blithe Spirit" cannot be processed until next year. The former was in production for two years and the latter has been completed.

Little hope is held out by government and military officials for an improvement in the processing situation here at any time in the near future.

## *M-G-M Managers Make Visits Here*

(*Continued from page* 1)

with innovations, ideas and other phases of operations.

Although it was originally intended to have the managers start arriving from the field early in March, after the company's Chicago sales conference, the plan was delayed to permit them to concentrate on the company's 20th anniversary and to take vacations.

According to present plans, the managers will begin arriving July 10. Sam Gardner, of Salt Lake City, and Lou Amacher, of Portland, Ore., are the first scheduled. All will attend sales cabinet meetings during their stay and visit every department, including the theatre division.

## *Mrs. Will Rogers, 65, Dies in Santa Monica*

SANTA MONICA, Calif., June 22.—Mrs. Will Rogers, 65, who died last night at her home here after a lingering illness, will be buried beside her husband, the late humoroist and comedian, in Claremore, Okla., at a time to be announced later.

Mrs. Rogers was the author of "Will Rogers: His Wife's Story." She is survived by two sons, James, film actor, and Will, Jr., a second lieutenant with the Army overseas, and a daughter, Mary. A funeral service will be held today at the Church of the Flowers, Forest Lawn Memorial Park, at a date to be announced later.

## *WAC Luncheon for MacArthur Aide*

HOLLYWOOD, June 22.—Over 100 leaders in the industry will attend the War Activities Commitee luncheon for Lieut.-Col. Joseph McMicking of Gen. MacArthur's staff next Monday at the Beverly-Wilshire Hotel, it was announced by Maj. John Hubbell, in charge of the Overseas Motion Picture Service. Officers, who arrive tomorrow, Friday, will discuss the system by which films are distributed and exhibited in combat areas.

# Boston Grosses Dip Below Par in Heat

BOSTON, June 22.—A heat wave gripped Boston this week and grosses slipped accordingly with all houses registering below par. "Gaslight" with a combined $34,400 gained at the Orpheum and State, shared the lead with "Harvest Moon" on a dual, with $28,600.

Estimated receipts for the week ending June 22:

**"Bermuda Mystery" (20th-Fox)**
RKO BOSTON—(3,200) (50c-65c-85c-$1.10) 7 days. Stage show with Billy Rose Diamond Horseshoe unit. Gross: $24,000. (Average: $27,800).
**"Going My Way" (Para.)**
FENWAY—(1,373) (40c-55c-74c) 7 days. Gross: $6,400. (Average: $8,300).
**"The Song of Bernadette" (20th-Fox)**
MAJESTIC—(1,350) ($1.10) 7 days. Gross: $13,500. (Average: $20,000).
**"Show Business" (RKO)**
**"Yellow Canary" (RKO)**
MEMORIAL—(2,900) (40c-55c-65c-85c) 7 days. Gross: $23,000. (Average: $23,800).
**"Harvest Moon" (WB)**
**"Candlelight in Algeria" (20th-Fox)**
METROPOLITAN — (4,367) (40c-55c-65c-85c) 7 days. Gross: $28,600. (Average: $30,000).
**"Gaslight" (M-G-M)**
ORPHEUM—(2,900) (40c-55c-65c-85c) 7 days. Gross: $23,400. (Average: $23,800).
**"Gaslight" (M-G-M)**
STATE—(3,200) (40c-55c-65c-85c) 7 days. Gross: $11,000. (Average: $13,000).
**"Going My Way" (Para.)**
PARAMOUNT—(1,700) (40c-55c-65c-74c) 7 days. Gross: $10,000. (Average: $11,500).
**"Are These Our Parents?" (Mono.)**
**"Waterfront" (Mono.)**
TRANS-LUX—(990) (30c-55c-74c) 7 days Gross: $6,000. (Average: $7,200).

# 'Voice in Wind' Injunction Denied

Federal Judge Samuel Mandelbaum in U. S. District Court here today refused to enjoin United Artists from distributing "Voice in the Wind," which May Davies Martenet, author of a novelette by the same title which was published in *McCall's Magazine* in August, 1942, sought to enjoin, holding that the mere title to a literary work conveys no property right.

The court held that the film and the novelette tell entirely different stories. "It has been held," said Judge Mandelbaum, "that an author or proprietor of a literary work has no property in its name and that it is merely a term of description which serves to identify the work. Annyone may use it, unless some fraud is intended. No such claim is made here. Therefore, the only right to damages the plaintiff may have would arise from any possible secondary meaning in the title, resulting in confusion to the public. I do not believe that the plaintiff has made a sufficient showing of irreparable harm to warrant injunctive relief."

The plaintiff claims she sold publication rights to the novelette and its title but that she reserved film rights to herself, and demanded injunctive relief and an accounting. The film has been shown in New York City, and contracts for 4,000 additional showings throughout the country have been negotiated, United Artists having spent large amounts in advertising according to the papers on file in Federal Court.

## *Alan Ladd Injured*

HOLLYWOOD, June 22.—Alan Ladd Paramount star, received a back injury this week on the set of "Two Years Before the Mast."


Paramount NEWS

AND NOTHING BUT THE NEWS



NEWEST STARRING ROLE FOR PAULETTE GODDARD BEGAN YESTERDAY AT PARAMOUNT STUDIOS WHEN "KITTY" WENT BEFORE THE CAMERAS, MITCHELL LEISEN DIRECTING....THIS MARKS THIRD IMPORTANT PART FOR PAULETTE THIS YEAR, FIRST BEING IN RECORD-BREAKING "STANDING ROOM ONLY," FOLLOWED BY MARK SANDRICH'S PRODUCTION OF **"I LOVE A SOLDIER,"** WITH SONNY TUFTS, DUE FOR GENERAL RELEASE SEPT. 1st.


# 'Wassell' Takes $41,000 in 2nd L.A. Week

LOS ANGELES, June 22.—"The Story of Dr. Wassell," in its second week at the two local Paramount theatres, continued to draw above average. It got $41,000, against the houses' average of $31,300.

Estimated receipts for the week ending June 21:

**"Home in Indiana" (20th-Fox)**
**"Three Men in White" (M-G-M)**
CARTHAY CIRCLE—(1,516) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 7 days. Gross: $9,200. (Average: $11,200).
**"Home in Indiana" (20th-Fox)**
**"Three Men in White" (M-G-M)**
CHINESE—(2,500) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 7 days. Gross: $14,300. (Average: $15,500).
**"Are These Our Parents?" (Mono.)**
**"Johnny Doesn't Live Here Any More" (Mono.)**
EGYPTIAN—(1,500) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 6 days. Gross: $6,200. (Average: $9,500).
**"Voice in the Wind" (UA)**
**"That Nazty Nuisance" (UA)**
HAWAII—(1,000) (50c-60c-75c-85c) 7 days, 3rd week. Gross: $5,750. (Average: $6,200).
**"Cobra Woman" (Univ.)**
**"Timber Queen" (Para.)**
HILLSTREET—(2,700) (50c-60c-80c) 5 days, 2nd week. Gross: $10,500. (Average: $19,700).
**"Home in Indiana" (20th-Fox)**
**"Three Men in White" (M-G-M)**
LOEW'S STATE—(2,500) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 7 days. Gross: $27,500. (Average: $24,100).
**"Are These Our Parents?" (Mono.)**
**"Johnny Doesn't Live Here Any More" (Mono.)**
LOS ANGELES—(2,096) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 6 days. Gross: $16,500. (Average: $14,900).
**"Cobra Woman" (Univ.)**
**"Timber Queen" (Para.)**
PANTAGES—(2,096) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 4 days, 2nd week. Gross: $6,250. (Average: $17,700).
**"The Story of Dr. Wassell" (Para.)**
PARAMOUNT HOLLYWOOD—(50c-60c-80c-$1.00) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $14,000. (Average: $11,000).
**"The Story of Dr. Wassell" (Para.)**
PARAMOUNT DOWNTOWN — (50c-60c-80c-$1.00) 7 days. Gross: $27,000. (Average: $20,300).
**"Are These Our Parents?" (Mono.)**
**"Johnny Doesn't Live Here Any More" (Mono.)**
RITZ—(1,376) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 6 days. Gross: $4,600. (Average: $8,700).
**"Home in Indiana" (20th-Fox)**
**"Three Men in White" (M-G-M)**
UPTOWN—(1,716) (50c-60c-95c-$1.00) 7 days. Gross: $10,200. (Average: $10,500).
**"Make Your Own Bed" (WB)**
WARNERS' HOLLYWOOD—(3,000) (50c-60c-80c-$1.00) 7 days. Gross: $14,110. (Average: $17,600).
**"Make Your Own Bed" (WB)**
WARNERS' DOWNTOWN—(3,400) (50c-60c-80c-$1.00) 7 days. Gross: $15,142. (Average: $18,700).
**"Make Your Own Bed" (WB)**
WARNERS' WILTERN—(2,200) (50c-60c-80c-$1.00) 7 days. Gross: $12,208. (Average: $15,200).

## *Films to Assist New ODT Travel Drive*

Every available publicity channel, including screen, radio, newspapers and advertising, will be used to boost the Office of Defense Transportation's new drive against civilian travel, which Charles Prins, ODT's national director of information, outlined at a meeting of the Writers War Board here this week.

A film bulletin entitled "Last Furlough," which deals with the subject and is scheduled for July 20 release, will assist in the campaign, it was stated at War Activities Committee headquarters yesterday.

In his meeting with writers, Prinz warned unless civilians cease all unnecessary travel, they will find themselves "bumped" out of drawing rooms and even stranded because of the problem of transporting wounded from the invasion front.

# STEADILY IMPROVED

**THE PREFERENCE of cameramen and directors of photography for Eastman Films has a sound basis. In the face of wartime pressures, the exceptional quality of these films has been not merely maintained but steadily improved. Eastman Kodak Company, Rochester, N. Y.**

**J. E. BRULATOUR, INC., *Distributors***
**Fort Lee Chicago Hollywood**

# EASTMAN FILMS

# MOTION PICTURE DAILY

VOL. 55. NO. 124 | NEW YORK, U. S. A., MONDAY, JUNE 26, 1944 | TEN CENTS


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## 30% More Raw Stock Made in '43 than '41

### *Restrictions to Continue Despite Higher Output*

WASHINGTON, June 25.—Film production in 1943 reached a total of 546,000,000 square feet it was disclosed at the weekend by the War Production Board.

Statistics regarding film manufacture, showing an increase last year of 30 per cent as compared with 1941, were given by officials of the Motion Picture Section to the photographic film industry advisory committee.

While excellent progress has been made in increasing the production of film it was said further increases in some types may be necessary to meet increasing military and industrial needs. Members of the industry committee urged that military programs be developed as far in advance as possible so that manufacturers of film might have time to plan production.

## RCA Expands Film Equipment Service

A broad expansion of equipment service to motion picture exhibitors was disclosed today by the RCA Victor division of the Radio Corporation of America with the announcement that a complete line of theatre equipment will be offered exhibitors in the immediate postwar period.

Homer B. Snook, sales manager of

(*Continued on page 29*)

## *'Hargrove' N.Y.Astor Run Yields $300,000*

M-G-M's "See Here, Private Hargrove" wound up a 14-week run at the Astor Theatre here yesterday with a gross of approximately $300,000. No week grossed less than $12,000

The week-by-week figures are as follows: First week, $26,500; Second, $29,500; third, $27,250; fourth, $35,100; fifth, $26,000; sixth, $22,400; seventh, $21,000; eighth, $15,500; ninth, $16,250; 10th, $15,550; 11th, $16,600; 12th, $14,300; 13th $12,500; and 14th, $13,000.

## To Hold Vanguard Sales Talks In Chicago Today

The first sales conference of Vanguard top executives will get underway in Chicago today with David O. Selznick, Neil F. Agnew, vice-president and distribution head and Hugh Owen, general sales manager for U. S. and Canada participating.



David O. Selznick

Selznick is a delegate to the Republican National Convention and is in Chicago in that capacity and Agnew and Owen left here for Chicago over the weekend. It was learned that the conferences will include discussions of final

(*Continued on page 29*)

## Nine War Activities Per Warner Official

Reflecting the extensive services being contributed by motion picture theatre personnel to the war effort, Warner circuit executives, from general manager Joseph Bernhard through the list of zone managers, advertising men, theatre managers and others, have each served to date as chairman of an average of nine different wartime committees, it is shown in a report on the circuit's war activities being compiled by the home office.

Approximately 400 of the circuit's

(*Continued on page 25*)

### *Plan to Meet 40% Cartoon Cost Rise*

**Hollywood, June 25.—The Cartoon Producers Association has set June 29 for a meeting at which Walter Lantz will present a detailed survey of his plant's operation costs as a foundation for association action designed to effect an increase in exhibition rental prices for cartoon shorts. Lantz is basing his suggestion on the assertion that costs have risen 40 percent since 1942, although prices have remained static.**

## Pathe Shareholders To Vote on Merger

Stockholders of Pathe Laboratories, Inc., a New Jersey corporation and of Pathe Laboratories, Inc., a California corporation, will meet today in Bound Brook, N. J., and Hollywood, to vote on the merger of their respective corporations into Pathe Industries, Inc., an Ohio corporation.

The officers and directors of both corporations have approved the merger plan. The board of directors of the merged corporation will consist of Henry J. Guild, Raymond J. Morfa, Robert W. Purcell, J. Stinson Young, and Kenneth M. Young. The merger agreement provides for the following officers: Kenneth M. Young, chairman of the board; J. Stinson Young, president; Purcell, vice-president; Karl Herzog, treasurer; C. L. Peckham, assistant treasurer; Arthur B. Johnson, assistant treasurer; M. M. Malone, secretary; Peckham and Johnson, assistant secretaries.

## 36 from M-G-M Next Year, 35 For This Year

### *1944-45 Budget to Run 40 to 45 Millions*

HOLLYWOOD, June 25.—M-G-M's production plans for 1944-45 point to a minimum of 36 features and the same amount of shorts as released during the current season, with a budget outlay of between $40,000,000 to $45,000,000. More top pictures are said to be on the new schedule than ever before. The company's 1943-44 budget was the highest in its history, it is stated.

***Twenty-two pages on Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer's 20th Anniversary appear in this issue, starting on page three, highlighting the company's anniversary product announcement and "The Story of M-G-M — 1924-1944," a feature tracing the company's activities from its inception and the beginnings of Marcus Loew, its founder.***

Average cost of each of the 34 pictures produced on the M-G-M lot

(*Continued on page 25*)

## Passage to London Awaited by Sears

Gradwell L. Sears, United Artists vice-president confirmed at the weekend that he will leave for London when he can secure transportation. As previously reported, the purpose of Sears' visit is to survey UA's British operations.

The mission, it is understood, will

(*Continued on page 29*)

## *M. P. Daily Man Is Wounded in Italy*

Sergeant Gene T. Arneel, formerly of the editorial staff of MOTION PICTURE DAILY, has been wounded in action in Italy, according to word received in New York. Arneel has served with an infantry company on the Italian front for more than six months.

## *Kennedy Hails 'Fifth Loan' Aid of Small Town Showmen*

Theatre owners and managers in the small communities are proving their worth in the "Fighting Fifth" War Loan by selling more bonds than ever before, despite the fact that Hollywood star participation is not possible for them, R. M. Kennedy, industry campaign vice chairman, declared at the weekend.

"Proving their right to be called showmen, these theatremen are arranging their own bond shows with local entertainers and war heroes from

(*Continued on page 29*)

"HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO LEO"

# Personal Mention

DAVID ROSE, Paramount managing director for Great Britain and MRS. ROSE left New York for Hollywood at the weekend.

•

JAMES J. MURPHY, JR., assistant executive director of the motion picture arbitration system, is expected back from vacation Monday.

•

W. C. GEHRING, 20th Century-Fox Western sales manager, left New York at the weekend for Chicago, Denver and Salt Lake City.

•

JOHN STUART, JR. has resigned from the staff of MOTION PICTURE HERALD to join the Overseas Branch of the OWI.

•

DORIS CLINE, editor of Hillman Periodicals' *Movieland* magazine, is expected in New York today from Hollywood.

•

ALLEN USHER, Paramount district manager in Chicago, left recently for Canada on a two-week fishing trip.

•

FRANK N. PHELPS, Warner Theatres labor relations contact, left New York yesterday for Chicago.

•

NORMAN AYERS, Warner's Eastern district manager, will return today from a week's trip upstate.

•

CHARLES CHAPLIN left for the Coast over the weekend after a visit of several weeks in the East.

•

T. NEWMAN LAWLER, film attorney, is expected back in New York from the Coast about July 1.

•

CHARLES SCHWARTZ has taken up summer residence in Connecticut with his family.

•

SAMUEL GOLDWYN will arrive here today from California for a week's stay.

•

JOSEPH R. VOGEL left Friday for a vacation of several weeks.

## PRC Convention Opens Wednesday

PRC Pictures, Inc., will open its national sales convention here Wednesday with a luncheon at 1 p.m. in the Essex House, according to an announcement made by the company at the weekend.

## Paramount Confirms New De Sylva Unit

**Hollywood, June 25.—Paramount at the weekend made official announcement of the deal whereby Buddy De Sylva, executive producer, will establish his own production unit.**

# Tradewise . . .

By SHERWIN KANE

THE industry this week joins with M-G-M in marking the company's 20th anniversary.

It is significant that more than 99 per cent of the operating theatres in the nation will, during the seven-day period ending Wednesday, make place on their screens for a picture bearing the M-G-M trade mark. Behind that remarkable manifestation of good will and esteem on the part of America's exhibitors lies recognition of M-G-M's contributions to the institution of the motion picture during the past two decades and the company's earnest efforts to establish the fairest possible standards of business relations with its exhibitor customers.

The success of M-G-M in its 20 years of existence is known to all in the industry. Its success gives it a stability outstanding in all industry. The company weathered the national depression of the early 1930s, when its tenth anniversary still was more than a year in the future, and emerged from that depression unscarred. Throughout the company's existence it has attracted —and held—outstanding executives, department heads and loyal rank-and-file employes, all of whom can, and most of whom have made a career of M-G-M.

•

It has, perhaps, experienced fewer losses of or changes in ranking home office and studio executives than any other company in the span of its existence. Continuity of service is, at M-G-M, a fact as well as a legend. It is a product of relations within the company family, currently exemplified by M-G-M's pension plan for executives and employes which company stockholders will be asked to approve next month.

An extension of that family policy to M-G-M's relations with its customers and the rest of the industry has won it respect and loyalty on all sides, and has contributed much to the company's business popularity and financial position. Times without number exhibitors have been aided in difficult circumstances by M-G-M, and more than one competing major company can tell of the time or times when M-G-M assistance, sought or unsought, helped it over a difficult hurdle or saved it from a crisis. This attitude of the company was expressed by Nicholas M. Schenck, when the depression was reaping its toll within the industry. When some were too preoccupied with their own trials to bother with those of others, Schenck declared that the misfortunes of one company are the concern of all because the industry can be no stronger than the combined strength of its individual members.

That is a viewpoint, translated into policy and action, that has added not only to the strength of M-G-M but to the strength of the industry.

May it see Leo through countless more anniversaries.

• •

A signal honor is bestowed on the Brothers Warner and their families in the naming of the last Liberty ship to go down the ways at the Henry Kaiser yards at Richmond, California, for their father, Benjamin Warner. For members of the family the forthcoming ceremony will be rich in significance. It was realization of and desire for the liberty and opportunities of a free country that led Benjamin Warner to America. His ideals were communicated to his sons, Harry M., Col. Jack L., Major Albert and the late Sam Warner, and as the father without doubt would have willed it, the successes of the sons have been dedicated again and again in contributions and services to the nation. One of the third generation of the family, Captain Jack L. Warner, Jr., is serving with America's fighting forces overseas.

The industry shares in the pride of the Warners, as it shares in the honor that is bestowed on Benjamin Warner.

• •

A London dateline story, published in another trade paper last week, described the trade insignia of J. Arthur Rank's new Eagle-Lion Films as having "emblems on a field of Stars and Stripes, combined with a portion of the Union Jack." If the description is correct, you are not likely to see that Eagle-Lion insignia in this country.

A Federal Act of Feb. 20, 1905, as amended, prohibits the registration of any trade mark employing the American flag, and under the Act of Feb. 8, 1917, the flag may not be used for any commercial or advertising purposes.

## Wright, Paramount Cameraman, Cited

**James Wright, Paramount cameraman, was recently awarded the Order of the British Empire by King George VI, it was reported here yesterday by the home office.**

**Wright, attached to British Paramount News, has been on active duty almost since the beginning of the war, having completed 46 missions over occupied Europe. His son, a flying officer in the RAF, was blinded and seriously burned in a recent flight over Germany.**

## 'Ape' to Play 22 Key Loew Houses in July

United Artists' "The Hairy Ape," produced by Jules Levey, has been booked for early July engagements in 22 key-city Loew houses throughout the country, Carl Lesserman, general sales manager for UA, reported at the weekend.

Starting July 6 the film will play Loew Theatres in Akron, Cleveland, Kansas City, Louisville, Nashville, Norfolk, Providence, Richmond, Toledo and Dayton. Several days later it will open engagements in Atlanta, Baltimore, Canton, Columbus, Harrisburg, Houston, Indianapolis, Memphis, Reading, St. Louis, Syracuse and Wilmington.

"The Hairy Ape" will have its New York premiere at the Globe Theatre on Saturday morning, July 1.

## Col. McMicking Will Tell of Gift Program

LOS ANGELES, June 25.—Hollywood correspondents and syndicate representatives with Mary McCall, chairman of the War Activities Committee here, will meet with Lt. Col. Joseph McMicking of General Douglas MacArthur's staff, tomorrow at a combined luncheon and press conference to discuss the importance of the industry's gift film program in the Southwest Pacific War theatre. Joseph Seidelman, civilian consultant to the War Department on the gift films, will also address the group and explain the program.

Accompanying Lt. Col. McMicking will be Major John Hubbell, chief of the Army overseas motion picture service, and Ed Schreiber, WAC publicity director in New York.

## LeSieur New UA Sales Promotion Manager

Howard R. LeSieur has been named sales promotion manager of United Artists, it was disclosed at the weekend by Louis Pollock, director of advertising and publicity. Nathan Lax, formerly of the Sterling advertising agency, succeeds LeSieur in the post of production manager.

The new sales promotion manager, with U.A. since 1933, was formerly associated with the Hanff-Metzger advertising agency, as contact for the Paramount Pictures account.

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ANY history of Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer must start with Marcus Loew, a member of that group of whom Will Irwin once wrote: "The men who made the motion picture industry the great industrial romance of our times are Horatio Alger characters."

Marcus Loew was born in 1870, in New York's sprawling lower East Side, the son of Ida and Hermann Loew. At the age of nine, already aware of economic struggles, Loew sold newspapers along New York's hurly-burly Bowery. Before he was in his 'teens he had colored maps for a small printing company, solicited advertisements, managed a neighborhood juvenile newspaper, ran errands in factories.

In his early 30's, Loew became an associate of Baehr and Loew, a fur cape outfit; business came along very well. But fur capes failed to satisfy; Loew had the notion that he'd like to do something with broad appeal.

The Mutoscope fitted this description. It was a simple mechanical medium that flicked a string of pictures to create the illusion of motion. Loew decided to experiment. He rented an empty store on New York's 23rd Street and installed penny "slot machines" all over the place. Inside each machine was a sequence of pictures; a penny was inserted and images whisked past to present a brief action story. Friends belittled the idea of a penny-arcade of this sort proving profitable. But the machines flicked at capacity. Canvas sacks containing hundreds of pennies were tied up nightly to be transported to the bank each morning.

One could hardly expect to amass a fortune out of a penny arcade, but to Marcus Loew it was an augury of what the public wanted. Here, in a lavish era, a great public need for inexpensive entertainment remained unsatisfied. Scores of factories and dress shops were being opened in New York to meet the demands of thousands of new workers. They did not have money for expensive entertainment. Loew wondered: What if the Mutoscope novelties could be expanded to provide 60 or 70 minutes of entertainment, instead of a quick-running flash?

## Loew Buys 'The Cozy Corner'

The next step was the Nickelodeon. Deciding to experiment with five, six and eight-minute sequences, Loew took over a fourth-rate burlesque house in Brooklyn, called "The Cozy Corner." Loew first hired several scrubwomen and painters.

Continuing to experiment, first with acts and picture strips, Loew found growing interest for longer subjects. He tried padding films of two and three reels by having actors recite "Gunga Din" or "The Old Horse Shay" between reels.

The old Humanova Company at that time drilled teams of two, a man and a woman, to stand behind a theatre screen and deliver dialogue, matching the action in the picture. Sometimes one or the other got off the track and delivered a completely incongruous line. Loew theatres, which were multiplying following the success of the Cozy Corner, featured the Humanova actors. "The Two Orphans" was the first "feature picture" to be embellished with dialogue of this sort, at Loew's New Gem Theatre on New York's Houston Street.

Marcus Loew was accredited at the time with leading the field in pioneering for the uninterrupted "movie" continuity. Two-reel stories were presented with vaudeville interlude. Loew tried running off the reels consecutively, in 15, 20-minute or half-hour sequences, and met with overwhelming enthusiasm. That established the dictum that the whole picture, long or short, should be shown at one time.

Loew felt that the success of any far-flung business enterprise depends upon organization and organization depends upon the men in charge of all departments. Loew's native shyness and reticence made him all the more conscious of the need for having men capable of "making friends" with the public.

Across the Hudson, in New Jersey, two young brothers were winning wide popularity through their enterprising adventures in an amusement park. Loew, aware of his need for such men, made a point of meeting the brothers, Nicholas and Joseph Schenck. For the next few years they were his chief aides-de-camp.

## Nicholas Schenck Takes Over

Although Joseph Schenck subsequently became associated with other interests, Nicholas remained with the Loew organization throughout the years. After the death of Marcus Loew, he was the choice to carry on Marcus Loew's policies and program. Schenck's outstanding qualities are his simplicity, his intense energy, his sanguine temperament, and his aversion to making statements. His best-known statement contained just 12 words: "There is nothing wrong with this business that good pictures cannot cure." Only recently it was discovered that not a single picture of the president of Loew's, Inc., was on file in any New York newspaper.

Schenck's quick, accurate judgment of men has become a legend. Once he made a 14-year-old usher, who had given him some outspoken criticism, a theatre manager, against the protests of business associates. This youngster, Joseph Vogel, is now a key executive of Loew's.

Schenck's capacity to see pictures is enormous. Last year he looked at more than 350 features. He averages between six and nine every week. in addition to scores of short subjects.

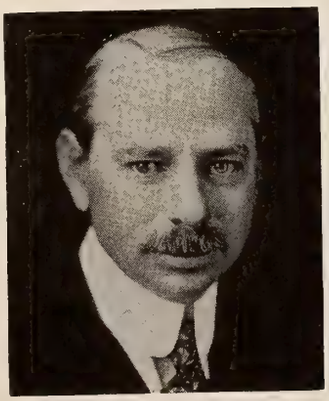
Incidentally, Schenck's earliest ambitions are disclosed by the fact that he still pays his annual state fee for a pharmacy license. He and his brother, Joseph, now a chairman of 20th Century-Fox, have the right to earn a living dispensing ipecac and castor oil any time they choose to do so.

Among the outstanding young executives who were retained in the early days by the Loew or-

(*Continued on following page*)



**NICHOLAS M. SCHENCK**
*President, Loew's, Inc.*



**MARCUS LOEW**



**LOUIS B. MAYER**
*Production Vice-President, MGM*

THE STORY OF

# M-G-M

(Continued from preceding page)

ganization for future posts of importance were Leopold Friedman and David Bernstein. Friedman, now corporate secretary, alone constituted the "legal department" of the early Loew company for many years. It was a long time before a second person was hired to handle legal affairs, and it was four years after that before the department had anything more than chair space.

David Bernstein's career is another Horatio Alger story. The treasurer of Loew's, Inc., rated one of the financial experts of the motion picture business, began his career at $13 a week.

## David Bernstein, Financier

For many years, Marcus Loew had kept his own books. Finally he advertised for a bookkeeper and Bernstein was picked out of a long line of applicants. Loew asked him whether he understood corporation bookkeeping and the young man replied "confidentially" that he did. Bernstein's background, outside of department store experience, was a correspondence course in accounting. But a friend of his was a veteran bookkeeper. Bernstein went to his place of business at midnight, and between that hour and daybreak tried to pick up a general knowledge of corporation bookkeeping.

The lion's share of the credit for the financial stability of Loew's, Inc., during the economic ups and downs of the country is usually given to Bernstein. Financiers in other industries are described as being amazed at the fact that during the depression of 15 years ago Loew's added $4,000,000 to its property account, while other firms showed heavy losses through lower real estate values.

As the circle of Loew theatres increased, one factor became plainly evident. The quality of product avialable was highly uncertain. A theatre had to do a great deal of shopping to find quality films, and even the most diligent search for fresh fare often proved futile.

Hollywood had established itself as a geographical center for the growing industry. In 1920, Marcus Loew, casting about for a favorable base of production on the Coast, acquired Metro Film Company, started five years previously by Richard A. Rowland. It was to serve as the cornerstone of one of the most successful production combines of the following ten years.

It was early in 1924 that Loew executives made successful overtures for the acquisition of Goldwyn Pictures, started in 1916 by Samuel Goldwyn, and the Selwyns and the studio of Louis B. Mayer. Metro had proved itself a worthwhile investment, its product was in demand, but the Goldwyn list of players and properties and the Mayer studio offered obvious opportunities for further expansion. Two leaders might be better than one; three studio rosters certainly were. The deal was completed, Nicholas M. Schenck acting as intermediary.



**1924** ***"The Big Parade", story of World War I, marked the beginning of Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer as a unified production company. Long remembered will be the scene, above, showing the Yanks marching out of the little French village where Renee Adoree clung to John Gilbert after their many tender love scenes.***

Louis B. Mayer and George M. Cohan share the same birthday, July fourth. A native of Boston, educated in St. John's, New Brunswick, Mayer was first in the ship salvaging business. When he left the wharves of New Brunswick and moved to Haverhill, Mass., the transfer altered his interests and his career.

## Mayer Becomes an Exhibitor

There was a rickety old theatre in Haverhill which appealed to Mayer. He acquired it, rebuilt it and advertised it as "The Home of Superior Motion Pictures." After the showing of the initial film, "From the Manger to the Cross," Exhibitor Mayer was a man who was talked about. He became head of the Gordon-Mayer Circuit of New England.

"Dabbling" in film distribution through his own exchanges in New England, Mayer finally became convinced (as had Marcus Loew and other pioneers) that theatres were not getting product of high quality. An increase in quality, Mayer felt, would mean a multiplication of receipts. Deciding to put his theories to the test, he went West. The Mayer Studios in Los Angeles were financed by his limited bankroll and the equally modest funds of some of his friends. He made good pictures. When he stepped into the vastly greater responsibilities of the Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer studio producing post, he continued to make good pictures.

When Irving Thalberg died in Hollywood, at age 37, it ended for Mayer a relationship parallel in many ways to that of father and son.

Thalberg, a Brooklyn boy, studied shorthand and Spanish in night school for an anticipated opening in a department store. Chance led him to the offices of Universal Pictures in New York, answering an ad. He did not get the job at first, but he worked out a follow-up which eventually succeeded. Once in the company, his personality brought him to the attention of Carl Laemmle, and he became his personal secretary.

Not long afterwards, when Laemmle suddenly left for Europe, "Uncle Carl" astounded his studio by placing full managerial responsibility in the hands of this 19-year-old youngster.

Young Thalberg took hold and began a career of generating hits. In the span of a few months, Thalberg's intense, imaginative mind apparently had absorbed the details of production. When an offer came to him, a few years later, to accept a partnership at L. B. Mayer's studio, he did so.

## 'Bob' Rubin Was a Cop

J. Robert Rubin, the third to arrive at M-G-M through Loew's purchase of Goldwyn Pictures, was a native of Syracuse, N. Y. Trained as a lawyer, he was assistant district attorney of New York, and later deputy police commissioner.

He was retained as a lawyer for the old Metro Company, focussing attention on production matters. Rubin proved himself as able a judge of story possibilities as he was of legal statutes. He went to Hollywood and became associated with the Mayer studio. At the time of the 1924 merger, he took up his post as head of the New York offices; since that time he has acted as final arbiter in the buying of hundreds of thousands of dollars worth of stories and talent.

On that sunny California day in 1914, when Loew's, Metro, Goldwyn and the Mayer studios were joined, about 500 workers surveyed the scene with mixed emotions. Will Rogers was master of ceremonies, a civic leader provided a huge floral wreath to drape over the improvised stage that had been erected. But the question in the minds of most employes was: What's going to happen to us? The word "merger" sounds ominous. Would all three units continue to cooperate harmoniously? Would there be room for the old-timers in the new studio roster? The answer was not long a-coming. There was!

While the real birth of Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer as a unified production company came with "The Big Parade" and "Ben-Hur," the leaven on which all future policy was gauged was supplied by Marcus Loew and his new allies the day they set up the new organization, agreeing unreservedly on one point: The necessity of building quality productions.



**1944** ***"The White Cliffs" takes Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer into World War II, spanning 20 years since "The Big Parade". Real-life counterparts of many scenes in both productions are now being enacted at the British and European locales which the film stories represent. Above, in "The White Cliffs", M-G-M's 20th Anniversary production, Irene Dunne and Alan Marshall return to England from a honeymoon to find the country plunged into war.***

1924  1944



# TWENTY YEARS OF M-G-M LEADERSHIP

A Gala Celebration Dedicated to our Friendly Customers. With gratitude to the many thousands of showmen who welcomed The Roaring Lion to their screens during his Anniversary Week.

# M-G-M 1924 - 1944 ANNIVERSARY

## TWENTY YEARS of LEADERSHIP



*Spanning hundreds of acres are the M-G-M studios, largest in the world. Here is a city of magic creating the great Feature productions and outstanding Short Subjects that for two decades have been the nation's leading entertainments.*




# FROM THE HEART OF A LION...

An Anniversary is but a milestone that gives opportunity for brief pause on the way to even greater goals.

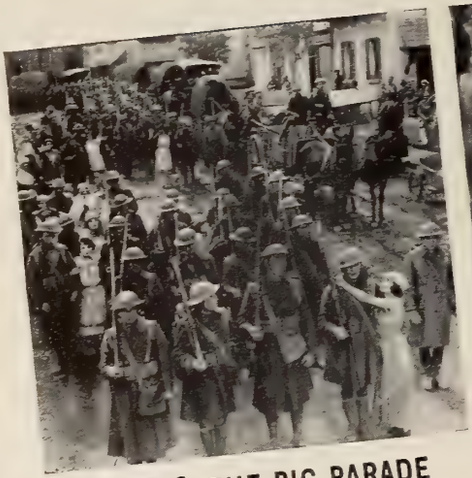
To M-G-M it represents an opportunity to express heartfelt gratitude to you our customers.

Your loyalty and faith have been the strong foundation upon which our mutual success has grown.

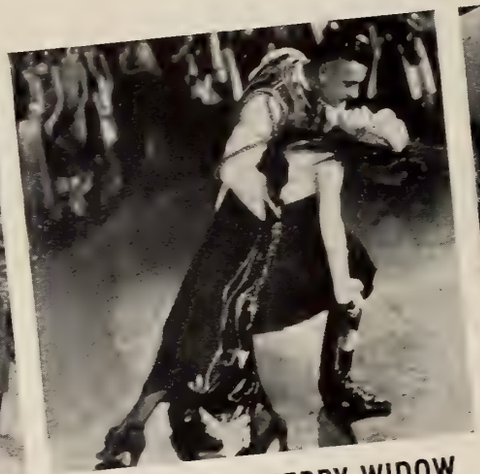
You will see in these following pages joyous recollection of past triumphs in which we shared, and brilliant productions waiting for you which have truly been twenty years in the making.

The bright future is ours together.

# Twenty years



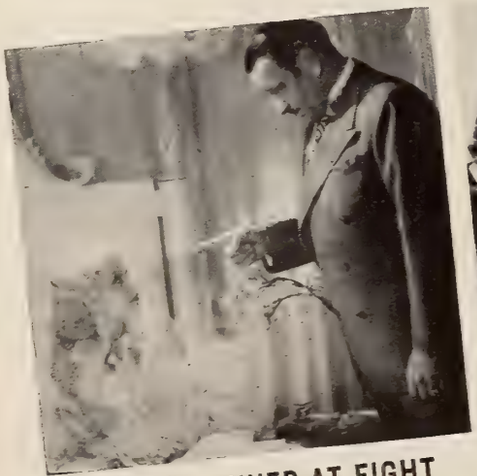
**1924** THE BIG PARADE



**1925** THE MERRY WIDOW



**1926** FLESH AND THE DEVIL



**1934** DINNER AT EIGHT



**1935** MUTINY ON THE BOUNTY



**1936** SAN FRANCISCO

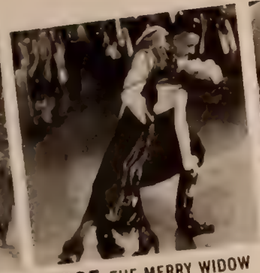
# and


THE AWARD COMPANY
(A few of thousands shown here!)
M-G-M's countless distinguished honors have led the industry for twenty years—and still they come. 40% of all Academy Awards! All-time leader of Film Daily's Annual "Ten Best" poll! First in Blue Ribbon Awards by Boxoffice! In Fan magazines, in the trade press, exhibitors and public alike vote M-G-M the leader.
Parents' Magazine
SPECIAL AWARD
TO
Metro Goldwyn Mayer
FOR
Journey For Margaret
AWARDED TO
METRO-GOLDWYN-MAYER
FIRST PRIZE FOR THE TRADE
BEST CAMPAIGN DIRECT TO THE TRADE
"THE GOOD EARTH"
1942—1943—1944
SIDNEY FRANKLIN
METRO-GOLDWYN-MAYER
PARENTS MAGAZINE AWARD
MICKEY RUONEY
THE PHOTOPLAY MAGAZINE MEDAL
NAACP
THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF COLORED PEOPLE
Thanks and Congratulates
METRO-GOLDWYN-MAYER PICTURES
on
"BATAAN"
which gives those at home a needed brutal picture of what was really at and shines how superfluous racial and religious prejudices are when common danger is faced. May we learn, too, how dangerous such divisive prejudices are before we lose here the liberty fighting men died for on Bataan
MID-SEASON CHAMPIONSHIP COMPETITION
EASTERN CHAMPIONS
JOE FARRELL'S MAGAZINE MEDAL
AWARDED TO
"EDISON, THE MAN"
THE MOVIE OF THE MONTH FOR FAMILY AUDIENCES JULY 1940
CERTIFICATE OF AWARD
New York City Federation of Women's Clubs Inc.
TO
Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer
for the Best Picture of 1941
The Philadelphia Story
Selected for outstanding merit and excellent entertainment
BY
The New York City Federation of Women's Clubs
FRIDAY MAY 2ND 1941
AWARDED BY
RADIO CITY MUSIC HALL
TO
METRO-GOLDWYN-MAYER
FOR THEIR OUTSTANDING PRODUCTION
"THE MIRACLE OF MORGAN'S CREEK"
ESTABLISHED ITSELF AS THE
MOST POPULAR MOTION PICTURE
EVER TO BE PRESENTED BY
THIS THEATER
The New York Film Critics
Present this Award
to
"The Citadel"
as the
Best Motion Picture
of 1938

# Twenty years of MGM hits



1924 THE BIG PARADE



1925 THE MERRY WIDOW



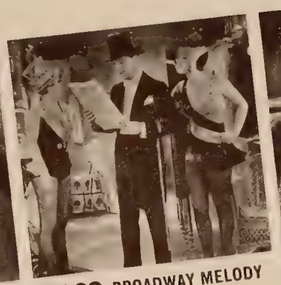
1926 FLESH AND THE DEVIL



1927 BEN HUR



1928 TELL IT TO THE MARINES



1929 BROADWAY MELODY



1930 MIN AND BILL



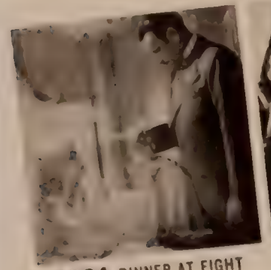
1931 TRADER HORN



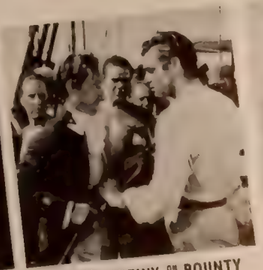
1932 GRAND HOTEL



1933 TUGBOAT ANNIE



1934 DINNER AT EIGHT



1935 MUTINY ON THE BOUNTY



1936 SAN FRANCISCO



1937 THE GOOD EARTH



1938 BOYS TOWN



1939 THE WIZARD OF OZ



1940 BOOM TOWN



1941 HONKY TONK



1942 MRS. MINIVER



1943 RANDOM HARVEST

# and the brightest years are ahead

# Twenty years of M-G-M hits, and as you will see in following pages, the best is yet to come–




*From its brilliant World Premiere at Radio City Music Hall comes M-G-M's glorious Anniversary Picture*

## THE WHITE CLIFFS OF DOVER

*starring*

## IRENE DUNNE

A CLARENCE BROWN PRODUCTION

*and with* ALAN MARSHAL

RODDY McDOWALL • FRANK MORGAN

VAN JOHNSON • C. AUBREY SMITH

DAME MAY WHITTY • GLADYS COOPER

Directed by CLARENCE BROWN • Produced by SIDNEY FRANKLIN

Screen Play by Claudine West, Jan Lustig and George Froeschel

Based on the Poem "The White Cliffs" by Alice Duer Miller

RIO-O-T
SIC




And now the gala M-G-M Anniversary Celebration that begins with the "White Cliffs of Dover" continues with this mighty Technicolor production. Here is the fight, the love, the drama, the adventure that is America! It's the story of a million guys like Steve . . . and a million girls like Anna who believe in their dreams!




*M-G-M Presents in Thrilling Technicolor*

KING VIDOR'S PRODUCTION

# AN AMERICAN ROMANCE

*Starring*

## BRIAN DONLEVY

*with*

ANN RICHARDS • WALTER ABEL • JOHN QUALEN

HORACE McNALLY

PHOTOGRAPHED IN TECHNICOLOR

Screen Play by Herbert Dalmes and William Ludwig

Produced and Directed by KING VIDOR





AN ANNIVERSARY MGM ATTRACTION
TO TAKE ITS PLACE AMONG THE
SCREEN'S IMMORTAL PRODUCTIONS

*M-G-M Presents*

# DRAGON SEED

## KATHARINE HEPBURN

## WALTER HUSTON • ALINE MacMAHON • AKIM TAMIROFF

## TURHAN BEY

HURD HATFIELD • AGNES MOOREHEAD • ROBERT BICE • FRANCES RAFFERTY
J. CARROL NAISH • HENRY TRAVERS • ROBERT LEWIS • JACQUELINE de WIT

Screen Play by Marguerite Roberts and Jane Murfin • Based on the Novel by Pearl S. Buck

Directed by JACK CONWAY and HAROLD S. BUCQUET

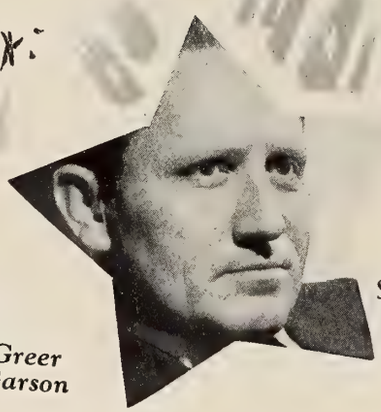
Produced by PANDRO S. BERMAN

*Not since "The Good Earth" . . . a picture such as this! The mighty drama of a brave people and a great love . . . flaming from the pages of the novel that thrilled millions!*

# THE STARS OF M-G-M BRING YOU A WEALTH OF ENTERTAINMENT TO CELEBRATE OUR TWENTY YEAR ANNIVERSARY



Greer Garson



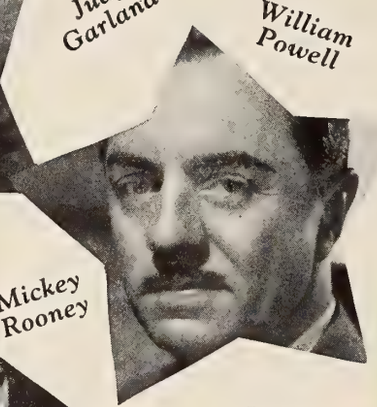
Spencer Tracy



Katharine Hepburn



Judy Garland



William Powell



Lucille Ball



Mickey Rooney



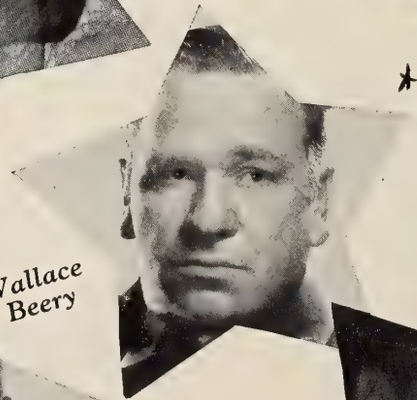
Lana Turner



Frank Sinatra



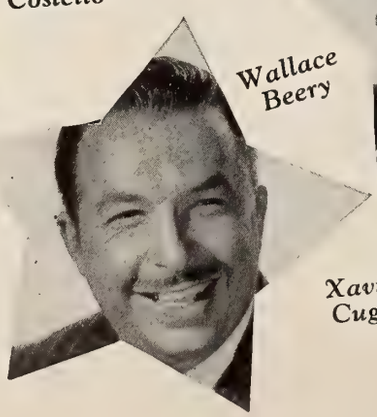
Abbott & Costello



Wallace Beery



Myrna Loy



Xavier Cugat



Harry James

# TWO GIRLS AND A SAILOR

Van Johnson, June Allyson, Gloria DeHaven, Jose Iturbi, Jimmy Durante,
Gracie Allen, Lena Horne, Harry James, Xavier Cugat

# *Bathing Beauty*

*(Technicolor)*

Red Skelton, Esther Williams,
Harry James, Xavier Cugat

# KISMET

*(Technicolor)*

Ronald Colman
Marlene Dietrich
James Craig, Edward Arnold

# MEET ME IN ST. LOUIS

*(Technicolor)*

Judy Garland
Margaret O'Brien, Mary Astor, Lucille Bremer

# *Marriage is a Private Affair*

Lana Turner
John Hodiak, James Craig, Keenan Wynn

# THE SEVENTH CROSS

Spencer Tracy
Signe Hasso, Hume Cronyn, Felix Bressart

# NATIONAL VELVET

*(Technicolor)*

Mickey Rooney
Donald Crisp, Elizabeth Taylor, Jackie Jenkins

# THE CANTERVILLE GHOST

Margaret O'Brien, Charles Laughton, Robert Young

# ZIEGFELD FOLLIES

*(Technicolor)*

(Cast up to press time listed alphabetically): Edward Arnold, Fred Astaire, Lucille Ball, Lucille Bremer, Fannie Brice, James Craig, Jimmy Durante, Judy Garland, Greer Garson, John Hodiak, Lena Horne, Van Johnson, Gene Kelly, James Melton, Victor Moore, Mickey Rooney, Red Skelton, Wilde Twins, Esther Williams.

# THIRTY SECONDS OVER TOKYO

Van Johnson, Robert Walker, Phyllis Thaxter
*and* Spencer Tracy *as Lieutenant General James H. Doolittle*

# *Mrs. Parkington*

Greer Garson—Walter Pidgeon
Edward Arnold, Agnes Moorehead

# WITHOUT LOVE

Spencer Tracy—Katharine Hepburn

# THE THIN MAN GOES HOME

William Powell—Myrna Loy
Gloria DeHaven, Lucille Watson

# LOST IN A HAREM

Bud Abbott—Lou Costello
Marilyn Maxwell

# The Picture of Dorian Gray

George Sanders, Hurd Hatfield, Donna Reed

# *The Honest Thief*

Wallace Beery
Binnie Barnes, John Carradine, Bruce Kellogg

"MORE STARS THAN THERE ARE IN HEAVEN IN GREAT M-G-M HITS"
It's been true for twenty years and more than ever now!





# AND HERE'S WHAT THE FORTUNE-TELLER SAYS!

For the future—as in the past Twenty Years of M-G-M Leadership—in slack days or boom days, year after year after year your success is consistent with THE FRIENDLY COMPANY

**Together for Victory! Fighting Fifth War Loan!**

PRINTED IN U.S.A.

# THE M-G-M STUDIO ROSTER



**METRO-GOLDWYN-MAYER's Studios, 'The Rancho of Romance,' covers 172 acres at Culver City, California, its 81 buildings fanning out from the architecturally-impressive white-stoned Irving Thalberg Memorial Building which is the administrative building of Louis B. Mayer's production domain.**

## EXECUTIVES
LOUIS B. MAYER
E. J. MANNIX
BENJAMIN THAU
SAM KATZ
AL LICHTMAN
J. J. COHN
LOUIS K. SIDNEY
J. K. McGUINNESS
HARRY RAPF
M. J. SIEGEL

## PRODUCERS
PANDRO BERMAN
JOHN CONSIDINE
JACK CUMMINGS
O. O. DULL
ARTHUR FIELD
SIDNEY FRANKLIN
ARTHUR FREED
LEON GORDON
GEORGE HAIGHT
ARTHUR HORNBLOW, JR.
EDWIN KNOPF
SAM MARX
JOSEPH PASTERNAK
CLIFF REID
EVERETT RISKIN
ROBERT SISK
FREDERICK STEPHANIE
LAWRENCE WEINGARTEN
CAREY WILSON
SAM ZIMBALIST

## PRODUCER-DIRECTORS
KING VIDOR
ROBERT Z. LEONARD
CLARENCE BROWN
AL LEWIN

## DIRECTORS
HAROLD S. BUCQUET
EDDIE BUZZELL
JACK CONWAY
GEORGE CUKOR
JULES DASSIN
ROY DEL RUTH
VICTOR FLEMING
TAY GARNETT
WILLIS GOLDBECK
HENRY KOSTER
MERVYN LE ROY
NORMAN McLEOD
VINCENTE MINNELLI
CHARLES RIESNER
ROY ROWLAND
WESLEY RUGGLES
GEORGE SEITZ
GEORGE SIDNEY
SYLVAN S. SIMON
NORMAN TAUROG
RICHARD THORPE
FRED WILCOX
FRED ZINNEMANN

## STARS
ABBOTT & COSTELLO
FRED ASTAIRE
LUCILLE BALL
LIONEL BARRYMORE
WALLACE BEERY
LARAINE DAY
MARLENE DIETRICH
ROBERT DONAT
BRIAN DONLEVY
IRENE DUNNE
JUDY GARLAND
GREER GARSON
KATHRYN GRAYSON
KATHARINE HEPBURN
VAN JOHNSON
GENE KELLY
HEDY LAMARR
MYRNA LOY
GEORGE MURPHY
MARGARET O'BRIEN
SUSAN PETERS
WALTER PIDGEON
WILLIAM POWELL
MICKEY ROONEY
GINNY SIMMS
FRANK SINATRA
RED SKELTON
ANN SOTHERN
SPENCER TRACY
LANA TURNER
ROBERT WALKER
ESTHER WILLIAMS
ROBERT YOUNG

## FEATURED PLAYERS
JUNE ALLYSON
LEON AMES
MORRIS ANKRUM
EDWARD ARNOLD
MARY ASTOR
KATHERINE BALFOUR
MARION BELL
BEN BLUE
RAY BOLGER
WARD BOND
LUCILLE BREMER
FELIX BRESSART
SPRING BYINGTON
JAY CLAYTON
GLADYS COOPER
JAMES CRAIG
HUME CRONYN
DONALD CURTIS
HENRY DANIELS, JR.
GLORIA DE HAVEN
PHILIP DORN
TOM DRAKE
JIMMY DURANTE
AVA GARDNER
FRANCES GIFFORD
CONNIE GILCHRIST
BONITA GRANVILLE
EDMUND GWENN
SARA HADEN
SIGNE HASSO
DICKIE HALL
HURD HATFIELD
JOHN HODIAK
FAY HOLDEN
LOU HOLTZ
LENA HORNE
MARSHA HUNT
RUTH HUSSEY
JOSE ITURBI
JACKIE JENKINS
BILL JOHNSON
BRUCE KELLOGG
ANGELA LANSBURY
PETER LAWFORD
MADELEINE LE BEAU
DIANA LEWIS
MARTA LINDEN
JUNE LOCKHART
KEYE LUKE
MARJORIE MAIN
PEGGY MALEY
HUGH MARLOWE
HERBERT MARSHALL
MARILYN MAXWELL
HORACE McNALLY
DONALD MEEK
LAURITZ MELCHIOR
JAMES MELTON
AGNES MOOREHEAD
FRANK MORGAN
DOROTHY MORRIS
DOUGLAS MORROW
TIM MURDOCK
VIRGINIA O'BRIEN
HENRY O'NEILL
REGINALD OWEN
CECILIA PARKER
SHIRLEY PATTERSON
JEAN PORTER
JANE POWELL
FRANCES RAFFERTY
RAGS RAGLAND
CARLOS RAMIREZ
BASIL RATHBONE
DONNA REED
JACK REILLY
ANN RICHARDS
ROCHESTER (EDDIE ANDERSON)
JEAN ROGERS
LINA ROMAY
LEWIS STONE
JOE SULLIVAN
ROBERT SULLY
ELIZABETH TAYLOR
PHYLLIS THAXTER
NANCY WALKER
ARTHUR WALSH
JOHN WARBURTON
JACQUELINE WHITE
DAME MAY WHITTY
RICHARD WHORF
LEE WILDE
LYN WILDE
WILLIAMS BROTHERS
KATHLEEN WILLIAMS
CHILL WILLS
KEENAN WYNN

## ZIEGFELD GIRLS
KATHERINE BOOTH
HAZEL BROOKS
LUCILLE CASEY
AINA CONSTANT
ELIZABETH DAILEY
NATALIE DRAPER
AILEEN HALEY
LORRAINE MILLER
HELEN O'HARA
NOREEN ROTH
ELAINE SHEPARD
DOROTHY VAN NUYS
EVE WHITNEY

## BANDS
XAVIER CUGAT
JIMMY DORSEY
TOMMY DORSEY
HARRY JAMES
GUY LOMBARDO
VAUGHN MONROE

## ARMED FORCES
DESI ARNAZ
JEAN PIERRE AUMONT
LEW AYRES
TOMMY BATTEN
RICHARD CARLSON
JOHN CARROLL
DAN DAILEY, JR.
MELVYN DOUGLAS
CLARK GABLE
VAN HEFLIN
WILLIAM LUNDIGAN
RAY McDONALD
ROBERT MONTGOMERY
BARRY NELSON
RICHARD NEY
RICHARD QUINE
ROBERT STERLING
JAMES STEWART
ROBERT TAYLOR




*The Mighty*

# M. G. M. LION ROARS

from 600 National Theatre Screens
throughout 19 States in a Nationwide

*Salute*

to

# METRO ★ GOLDWYN ★ MAYER's TWENTIETH ★ ANNIVERSARY

★

With Pride, We Congratulate the Entire
M. G. M. Organization on

*Twenty Years of*

FRIENDSHIP
PROGRESS
QUALITY

in Production and Superiority of Entertainment
which has been the Backbone of our Theatres

**NATIONAL THEATRES AMUSEMENT CO., INC.**

Charles P. Skouras, *President*

## Hochstein Trial is Set for Sept. 5

The trial of Harry Hochstein, former Chicago official, scheduled for today, will be postponed in Federal Court here until Sept. 5, Boris Kostelanetz, special assistant U. S. Attorney General, has announced.

Hochstein is charged with perjury before a special Federal grand jury probing racketeering within the motion picture industry. According to Kostelanetz, Hochstein lied when he testified that George E. Browne, convicted head of the IATSE, and William Bioff, convicted labor racketeer, were not present with certain members of the Capone mob in Hochstein's Riverside, Ill., home in 1934.

During the recent trial, which resulted in the conviction of six Capone ring gangsters, and a Newark, N. J., IATSE leader, it was brought out that the Capone mob planned the 1934 election of Browne to the IATSE presidency in Hochstein's home.

The reason for the postponement is that Kostelanetz is currently engaged on a "confidential mission" before a Federal grand jury in Scranton, Pa.

## Nine War Activities Per Warner Official

(Continued from page 1)

executives are included in the tabulation, which covers only the chairmanships and does not include other participation in local, regional and national activities.

Among the champion war-workers on the list is Joseph Borenstein, manager of the Embassy, New Britain, with 14 posts to his credit to date. Nat Wolf, zone manager of the Northern Ohio territory, has held more than a dozen, as has Moe Silver, zone manager with headquarters in Pittsburgh. More than 30 other Warnerites held 10 or more war posts.

Bernhard was national theatre chairman of the first USO campaign in September, 1941, and for the past several months has served as national industry chairman of the 1944 Red Cross Drive, which nearly doubled the previous record in theatre collections. Harry Goldberg was campaign manager in both drives.

## NSS to Classify 200 Office Workers Here

Officials of National Screen Service are understood to have agreed to work out job classifications and minimum wage scales for some 200 of their office workers in their New York office and exchange. These workers are represented by Screen Office and Professional Employes Guild, Local 109, CIO.

Wage increases for these workers which will come through, putting the classification system into effect, will be retroactive to Jan. 3, 1944.

## Variety Annual Dance

BUFFALO, June 25.—Tent No. 7, Variety Club, will hold its annual summer dinner dance and field day July 17 at the Automobile Club in nearby Clarence.

## RKO Scrap Donation

Seven and one-half tons of obsolete tickets were contributed to New York City's waste collection at the weekend.

# 36 from MGM Next Season; This Year's Total is 35

(Continued from page 1)

for the current season is estimated at $1,500,000. This is twice, and in some cases more, than the company spent per picture, on the average, just before Pearl Harbor. Rising costs, which embraces labor, materials and unforeseen delays, are largely responsible for the doubling of figures. However, there is a general feeling that with the return of stars and directors from the Army, such as Clark Gable and others, the production budgets might be pared. Much of the excess costs today is attributed to inexperienced help. That not only includes personnel whose names do not appear on the screen, but those who get credits as well.

### 1943-44 Program

M-G-M's 1943-44 program will most likely wind up with 35, including "Tunisian Victory," released by the company but made jointly by the U. S. and British Army staffs. The company had 12 pictures in its first two blocks this season, five in the third and has set two for the eighth. The eighth is the smallest the company has ever released as a package, but the move was necessitated because of the crying demand for product by many first run houses throughout the country. "Bathing Beauty," which is slated for release July 14, and "The Canterville Ghost," which will be ready for exhibitors the third week in July, comprise the eighth block.

### Will Rush Releases

From all appearances, William F. Rodgers, vice-president and general sales manager, will rush the releases of "The White Cliffs of Dover," "Dragon Seed" and "An American Romance." A number of first run bookings have already been set on "The White Cliffs of Dover" and will continue along those lines through the summer. "Dragon Seed" is next. Gus S. Eyssell, managing director of the Music Hall, is anxious to get the Katharine Hepburn starring vehicle for an early date following "The White Cliffs," M-G-M's Anniversary film now in its seventh week there. In addition, special premieres are planned for "An American Romance," slated to open at the Astor, Broadway, after "Bathing Beauty," which is due there Tuesday.

With these three Anniversary films and "Tunisian Victory," the company's release schedule will most likely wind up at 35.

Rodgers, who has been here for eight days viewing new product, left over the weekend for Kansas City, where he will spend a day or two before visiting St. Louis and Cleveland. From the Ohio city, he will entrain to New York, reaching there about July 5.

### Eight Finished

There are eight pictures finished and in the final stages of editing which Rodgers may set as the ninth block shortly after his return to the home office. These include "Gold Town" (tentative title), "Kismet," in Technicolor, "Lost in a Harem," "Maisie Goes to Reno," "Marriage Is a Private Affair," "Meet Me in St. Louis," in Technicolor; "National Velvet," in Technicolor; and "The Seventh Cross." "Mrs. Parkington," the latest Greer Garson-Walter Pidgeon co-starrer, is almost finished but no plans have yet been decided for it.

There are 10 pictures in production on fourteen different stages at the moment. These include "Cloud Busters," formerly identified as "Airship Squadron 4"; "Anchors Aweigh," in Technicolor; "The Home Front," "Music for Millions," "The Picture of Dorian Gray," "The Thin Man Goes Home," "Thirty Seconds Over Tokyo," "Son of Lassie," "The Clock" and "Ziegfeld Follies."

### 'Dragon Seed's' Cost

"Dragon Seed" is understood to have finished up with a cost of close to $3,000,000. It has been done in color, the same as "The Good Earth." And the cost of "An American Romance," which was more than two years in the making by King Vidor, approximates $2,500,000. Two other $3,000,000 negatives are "Thirty Seconds Over Tokyo" and "Kismet." "National Velvet" is pegged at better than $2,000,000, as is "Ziegfeld Follies." Also costing $2,500,000 is "Bathing Beauty."

Clark Gable's return to the lot has studio executives searching for a suitable story as his first after his retirement from the Army. The studio expects a few more of its personnel back in civvies before long.

## De Rochemont Meets Underground Chiefs

Richard de Rochemont, producer for March of Time, now in Algiers as a War correspondent covering the Mediterranean theatre for MOT, has met with several chiefs of the French Underground movement and leaders of the French provisional government, MOT headquarters reported here at the weekend.

Among the men with whom de Rochemont has conferred are resistance leader "Ferriere" and "Duroc;" Henri Bonnet, Commissioner for Information; Emanuel Dastier de la Vigerie, Commissioner for the Interior; Professor Rene Cassin, member of the Consultative Assembly, and George Gorce, attache to the cabinet of General de Gaulle.

## 12-Station Salute for 'Christmas Holiday'

Twelve radio stations will salute Universal's "Christmas Holiday" tomorrow night, the eve of the film's New York premiere at the Criterion Theatre. This is reportedly the first time a radio program, carried on 12 stations, has been used to exploit a film.

## Film Exhibit at Fair

MEXICO CITY, June 25.—The city government here is preparing publication in book form of a history of the Mexican motion picture industry for exhibition at the Third National Book Fair.

# Coast Flashes

*Hollywood, June 25*

GEORGE BAGNALL, United Artists vice-president in charge of production, will return here tomorrow from the East. Walter Gould, UA, foreign manager, has arrived here.

•

William Goetz and Leo Spitz' International Pictures has finished three of the four productions announced for the 1944-45 season. They are "The Woman in the Window," "Casanova Brown" and "The Belle of the Yukon."

•

Harold Hopper, new president of the Motion Picture Society for the Americas, has appointed Merwin Travis general manager. Travis previously was associated with Hopper in the latter's War Production Board post.

•

M-G-M announced the elevation of William H. Wright to producership and the transfer of Richard Whorf from the actor to director roster, assigning them "Autumn Fever," a comedy for first production.

•

Columbia's "Gone Are the Days," the story of the old Chautauqua circuit, has been placed on Richard Blumenthal's production schedule. Story treatment is being written by Lewis R. Foster.

•

Paramount has purchased "Prince Charming," an original by Everett Freeman, and executive producer B. G. DeSylva has assigned Fred Kohlmar to produce it.

•

Columbia announced Charles Boyer, Irene Dunne and Charles Coburn for top roles in Virginia Van Upp's next production, untitled.

•

The War Finance Committee has tabulated allied industries' war bond purchases at $261,307 to date in the Fifth War Loan.

•

Lester Cowan has signed Jim Sullivan as art director and Leon Charles as dialogue director on "Tomorrow, the World!"

•

Lester Cowan left by plane for Washington yesterday to submit the "G. I. Joe" script to the War Department.

•

Stephen Goosson has returned to Columbia as supervising art director replacing Lionel Banks, resigned.

•

RKO has announced Hedy Lamarr, Paul Lukas and George Brent for the leads in "Experiment Perilous."

•

Henry Hathaway, director, was given a long-term contract by 20th Century-Fox.

•

Lloyd Bacon has been given a term directorial contract by 20th-Fox.

•

Leon Fromkess left for New York Saturday on the Streamliner.

•

Nate Spingold entrained Saturday for New York.

## 'My Way' Draws Big $56,000 in 2nd Week in Chicago

CHICAGO, June 25.—"Going My Way," in its second week at the Chicago, continued to be the town's pacemaker with a hefty $56,000. Extra shows are staged daily.

Estimated receipts for the week ending June 22:

**"The Hour Before Dawn" (Para.)**
**"Knickerbocker Holiday" (UA)**
APOLLO—(1,200) (55c-65c-95c) 7 days. Gross: $11,000. (Average: $11,400).

**"Going My Way" (Para.)**
CHICAGO—(3,850) (55c-85c-95c) 7 days, 2nd week. Stage: Harry Richman, Dave Apollon Revue. Gross: $56,000. (Average: $51,500).

**"Address Unknown" (Col.)**
**"The Whistler" (Col.) 5 days, 2nd week**
**"Up in Mable's Room" (UA) 2 days**
GARRICK—(1,000) (55c-65c-95c) 7 days. Gross: $9,300. (Average: $9,100).

**"Show Business" (RKO)**
**"Passport to Destiny" (RKO) (1 day)**
**"The Mummy's Ghost" (Univ.)**
**"Jungle Woman" (Univ.) (6 days)**
GRAND—(1,250) (50c-60c-85c-95c) 7 days. Gross: $7,000. (Average: $9,100).

**"Stagecoach" (UA reissue)**
ORIENTAL—(3,200) (44c-55c-60c-80c-95c) 7 days. Stage: Henry Busse and orchestra. Gross: $26,500. (Average: $24,000).

**"Follow the Boys" (Univ.)**
**"Gildersleeve's Ghost" (RKO)**
PALACE—(2,500) (50c-60c-85c-95c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $19,000. (Average, $24,000).

**"Passage to Marseille" (WB)**
ROOSEVELT—(1,500) (55c-65c-95c) 7 days. 2nd week. Gross: $19,000. (Average: $20,000).

**"Pin Up Girl" (20th-Fox)**
STATE LAKE—(2,700) (55c-65c-95c) 7 days, 3rd week. Gross: $18,000. (Average: $29,000).

**"See Here, Private Hargrove" (M-G-M)**
UNITED ARTISTS—(1,700) (50c-65c-95c) 7 days, 3rd week. Gross: $20,500. (Average: $20,200).

**"Up in Arms" (RKO)**
WOODS—(1,200) (55c-65c-95c) 7 days, 8th week. Gross: $16,000. (Average: $10,000).

## *'Bed's' $30,000 Leads Strong Pittsburgh*

PITTSBURGH, June 25.—Business continued its upward swing here this week, with the Stanley topping the list with $30,000 for "Make Your Own Bed," plus a vaudeville show.

Estimated receipts for the week ending June 20-23:

**"Lady, Let's Dance" (Mono.)**
**"Bermuda Mystery" (20th-Fox)**
FULTON—(1,700) (35c-44c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $5,000. (Average: $8,500).

**"Once Upon a Time" (Col.)**
HARRIS—(2,200) (35c-44c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $13,000. (Average: $10,100).

**"Two Girls and a Sailor" (M-G-M)**
PENN—(3,400) (35c-44c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $17,500. (Average: $21,700)

**"Gaslight" (M-G-M)**
RITZ—(1,100) (35c-44c-65c) 7 days, 5th week, (moveover after one week at Penn, two at Warner). Gross: $3,000. (Average: $3,000).

**"This Is the Army" (WB) (Re-issue)**
SENATOR—(1,750) (35c-44c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $2,000. (Average: $3,400).

**"Make Your Own Bed" (WB)**
STANLEY—(3,800) (44c-68c-85c). On stage: 6 days of vaudeville including Ella Fitzgerald, Cootie Wilson's orchestra. Gross: $30,000. (Average: $22,000).

**"Three Russian Girls" (UA)**
**"Three Men in White" (M-G-M)**
WARNER—(2,000) (35c-44c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $6,000. (Average: $9,350).

## *Three French Films Due*

Herman G. Weinberg of the World Theatre has completed American adaptations and titles for three French films produced before the War. The pictures, "32 Rue de Montmarte," "A Woman Disappears," and "Extenuating Circumstances" will have their American premieres in New York this season.

# *Reviews*

## *"Minstrel Man"*
*(PRC)*

*Hollywood, June 25*

OUTSTRIPPING by seven-league strides any and all earlier efforts, PRC let out the horses on "Minstrel Man" and wins its own race. He is a musical which reflects high credit on its producer and is one which other studios, more expansively geared to larger budgets, would be happy to acknowledge as their own.

"Minstrel Man" is solid entertainment, and very good entertainment at that. Its star is Benny Fields, who has been treading the boards for so many years that his name takes on permanent residence in the annals of the theatre. He is the minstrel man, singing in leisurely and graceful style a series of melodious songs and ballads from the tune shop of Harry Revel and Paul Webster. "Remember Me to Carolina," which has thematic importance in the story, and "Cindy," for instance, are as good as any of their type from any studio in this town. And "Melancholy Baby," his signature song, is as effective now as it was "way back then." What Fields does, which is plenty, he does very well; if there is justice, audiences will be asking for more of him.

The dramatic skein is not weighty. Nevertheless, it is pleasing, pleasant and nostalgic with its tuggings at the heart in unfolding the tale of the performer whose wife dies at childbirth. This turns him from the baby, innocently established in his mind as the cause. He leaves the child to be raised by theatrical friends, goes wandering, is believed lost in the burning at sea of the *Morro Castle* and, after 15 years, returns on the opening night of a streamlined minstrel show starring his daughter. There is reconciliation for the happy ending audiences will be wanting.

Since this is a musical, with drama, producer Leon Fromkess was adroitly conscious of the need to place the musical responsibility in capable hands. He has it with Revel and Webster on the song side, with Ferde Grofe on the score and with Leo Erdody at the orchestral baton. Competent performances are furnished by Gladys George, Roscoe Karns, Alan Dinehart, Jerome Cowan and Judy Clark, as the daughter practically grown up.

Joseph H. Lewis, new to directorial enterprise, rates considerable credit for blending his ingredients with such commendable results.

"Minstrel Man" is an attraction. Fields is an attraction. And PRC has a decidedly winning number.

Running time, 69 mins. "G."* Release date, July 1. RED KANN

## *"Port of 40 Thieves"*
*(Republic)*

*Hollywood, June 25*

DIRECTOR John English gets the most out of a capable cast and manages to achieve a taut and suspenseful melodrama, despite structural defects in the story. Dane Lussier's screenplay about a scheming young woman who balks neither at blackmail nor at murder has its weak moments, notably her plan to kill two men by identical means within a time-span of 24 hours.

The action never lags, and competent performances by a well-chosen cast add much to the picture's merit. Stephanie Bachelor, as the self-centered heroine, handles a difficult assignment with skill and finesse. Richard Powers, as the lawyer who unravels the skein of her crimes, gives a sympathetic and straight-forward assignment.

Armand Schaefer was the executive producer, with Walter Goetz as his associate. Others in the cast are Lynn Roberts, Olive Blakeney, Ellen Lowe, George Meeker, Russel Hicks and Patricia Knox.

Running time, 57 mins. "G."* Release date, not set.

THALIA BELL

**"G" denotes general classification.*

## *Applications for 163 FM Stations Filed*

There are now 163 applications pending before the Federal Communications Commission for frequency modulation stations, according to a compilation made by FM Broadcasters. There are 44 FM stations now operating in the U. S.

Estimates reveal that the applicants for FM stations will spend $10,000,000 for broadcast equipment alone and set manufacturers predict that 20,000,000 receivers will be in the hands of listeners within four years after the war.

## *Cobian Names Barnett*

George Barnett, president of Modern Film Corp., has been named U. S. representative for Cobian Theatres and National Pictures of Puerto Rico, by R. Ramos Cobian, president of those companies.

## *Mrs. Rogers' Services*

SANTA MONICA, June 25.—Private funeral services for Mrs. Will Rogers, who died Wednesday night will be held at 3 P. P. tomorrow at the Wee Kirk o' the Heather in Glendale.

# *Hollywood*

By THALIA BELL

*Hollywood, June 25*

PRINTS of what is described as the first talking animated cartoon ever made has been turned over to the U. S. Film Archives and the Library of Motion Picture Art. The picture, which was made 15 years ago by Hugh Harman and Rudolf Ising, is "Bosco, the TalkINK Kid." The favorable reaction accorded it resulted in the first series of "Looney Tunes," released through Warners from 1930 to 1934.

•

*Activity at PRC has reached a new high with five pictures in work simultaneously. The company has in preparation a drama of juvenile delinquency, titled "I Accuse My Parents." Mary Beth Hughes is set for the top role. . . . Joe Glaston has joined the publicity staff of Universal, where he will handle all Abbott and Costello publicity. . . . Gwyneth Hughes has been signed by Warners to play her original stage role in the film version of "The Corn Is Green." . . . RKO-Radio has purchased "Chicago Lulu," a short story published recently in the Saturday Evening Post. . . . Barbara Belden, newcomer signed by PRC, will make her first appearance opposite Jimmie Lydon in "When the Lights Go On Again."*

•

**Bing Crosby has selected Greg McClure, newcomer, to play the title role in "The Great John L," which Frank Tuttle will direct. . . . Paramount has another of its Technicolor "Musical Parades" in work, titled "Bonnie Lassie" and featuring authentic Scotch music and songs. . . . Leslie Fenton has been assigned to direct Lester Cowan's production of "Tomorrow the World." Two members of the cast, "Skippy" Homeier and Edith Angold, will have the same roles they played in the Broadway stage version. . . . William Wright, who has returned to Columbia to fulfill his contractual obligations after receiving his discharge from the Army, will have the lead in the forthcoming musical, "Eve Knew Her Apples." . . . Elena Verdugo has been signed for a featured role in "The Frozen Ghost," new Inner Sanctum mystery now under way at Universal. At the same studio, Edward Earle has ben set for the part of President Polk in "Can't Help Singing," Deanna Durbin starrer. . . . Lowell Farrell will be assistant director on "The House of Dr. Edwards," Vanguard production, in which Ingrid Bergman and Gregory Peck are co-starred.**

•

Dr. Clifford and Mrs. Severn, have been signed by M-G-M for a part in "Son of Lassie". . . . "That's the Spirit" is the next Fessier-Pagano offering from Universal. It will star Jack Oakie and Peggy Ryan. . . . Location scenes are being shot for Sol Lesser's forthcoming "Three's a Family," based on the Broadway play. . . . Harold S. Bucquet has been assigned to direct "Without Love," M-G-M's version of the Barry play. . . . Spencer Tracy and Katharine Hepburn will star. . . . Betty Field will co-star with Fredric March in the Cowan production "Tomorrow, the World".




# TO THE HONORED 16,000

Maybe a lot of you never got your names in the papers.

The only time I did was in a casualty list.

Maybe some of your bond-selling efforts will remain unpublicized, unrewarded by citations.

There are millions of us in the ranks who will fight unsung, and many who will die unknown.

Those are the fortunes of War.

Mr. Exhibitor, we're no different, you and I.

We both do our part for one reason—love of country!

There's a big job ahead for us!

There's the 5th War Loan ahead for you.

They're both tough assignments

And there's enough glory in our hearts when we do them well.

There's only one reward that means anything anyhow.

It's Victory—and Peace!

## FIGHTING 5th WAR LOAN

JUNE 12th—JULY 8th

*Sponsored by War Activities Committee of Motion Picture Industry, 1501 Broadway, N.Y.C.*

## 'Cliffs' $25,000 Tops Cleveland Heat

CLEVELAND, June 25.—"The White Cliffs of Dover" is surviving a record heat wave, playing at Loew's State where it opened to a big $25,000 week. "Home in Indiana" at the Allen also got off to a good start with $12,000, about 40 percent above par.

Estimated receipts for the week ending June 21:

**"Home in Indiana" (20th-Fox)**
ALLEN—(3,000) (44c-55c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $12,000. (Average: $8,500).
**"Uncertain Glory" (WB)**
HIPPODROME—(3,500) (44c-55c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $15,500. (Average: $22,100).
**"Buffalo Bill" (20th-Fox)**
WARNERS' LAKE—(714) (44c-55c-65c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $3,000. (Average: $3,200).
**"Gaslight" (M-G-M)**
LOEW'S OHIO—(1,268) (43c-65c) 7 days, 5th week. Gross: $3,000. (Average: $5,000).
**"The Scarlet Claw" (Univ.)**
RKO PALACE—(3,300) (50c-60c-85c-95c) 7 days. Stage: Xavier Cugat. Gross: $26,500. (Average: $25,400).
**"White Cliffs of Dover" (M-G-M)**
LOEW'S STATE—(3,300) (43c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $25,000. (Average: $19,000).
**"Two Girls and a Sailor" (M-G-M)**
LOEW'S STILLMAN—(1,900) (43c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $9,000. (Average: $10,000).

## 'Angels Sing' Takes $14,000 in 2d Week

KANSAS CITY, June 25.—The Newman reported a second good week for "And the Angels Sing" with a gross of $14,000. The Orpheum, with "The Hour Before the Dawn" took $11,000.

Estimated receipts for the week ending June 16-19:

**"This Is the Life" (Univ.)**
ESQUIRE—(800) (45c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $7,200. (Average: $6,000).
**"Once Upon a Time" (Col.)**
MIDLAND—(3,500) (40c-60c) 7 days. Gross: $17,000. (Average: $14,000).
**"And the Angels Sing" (Para.)**
NEWMAN—(1,000) (46c-65c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $14,000. (Average: $10,000).
**"The Hour Before the Dawn" (Para.)**
**"Henry Aldrich Plays Cupid" (Para.)**
ORPHEUM—(1,900) (45c-65c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $11,000. (Average: $10,000).
**"Her Primitive Man" (Univ.)**
**"Hot Rhythm" (Mono.)**
TOWER—(1,200) (45c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $10,000. (Average: $9,400).
**"This Is the Life" (Univ.)**
UPTOWN—(2,000) (45c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $6,500. (Average: $5,600).
**"This Is the Life" (Univ.)**
FAIRWAY—(700) (45c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $2,300. (Average: $1,600).

## *Record $17,600 for 'Way' in Providence*

PROVIDENCE, June 25.—The hottest thing in town this week was "Going My Way," grossing $17,600 at the Strand Theatre in its first seven days to set a new house record.

Estimated receipts for the week ending June 22:

**"Show Business" (RKO)**
**"Action in Arabia" (RKO)**
RKO-ALBEE — (2,239) (35-44c-55c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $12,500. (Average: $12,800).
**"Going My Way" (Para.)**
STRAND—(2,200) (44c-55c) 7 days. Gross: $17,600. (Average: $10,500).
**"Two Girls and a Sailor" (M-G-M)**
**"The Black Parachute" (Col.)**
LOEW'S STATE—(3,232) (35c-44c-55c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $13,000. (Average: $17,700).
**"Roger Touhy, Gangster" (20th-Fox)**
**"Candlelight in Algeria" (20th-Fox)**
MAJESTIC—(2,250) (35c-44c-55c) 7 days. Gross: $11,000. (Average: $12,100).
**"The Eve of St. Mark" (20th-Fox)**
**"Ladies of Washington" (20th-Fox)**
CARLTON—(1,526) (35c-44c-55c) 7 days, 2nd week; moveover from Majestic. Gross: $3,000. (Average: $4,000).
**"This Is the Army" (WB)**
FAY'S—(1,800) (35c-44c-55c) 7 days. Gross: $5,000. (Average: $6,500).

# *Reviews*

## *"Youth Runs Wild"*

*(RKO-Radio)*

*Hollywood, June 25*

IN common with its predecessors in the chain of juvenile-delinquency pictures, all of which seem to make money, this Val Lewton production prowls the edges of the subject in gingerly fashion and does a lot of talking about the evil the kiddies are up to but doesn't show them at it.

Scenarist John Fante and director Mark Robson seem to have been restricted to a zone of operations well within the normal limits of everyday melodrama. Upshot of this is a confusing picture, full of conversation about pre-occupied parents and bored youngsters, which winds up with a plea for general adoption of the Moline plan advanced with considerable success by Ruth Clifford of that Illinois town.

Bonita Granville is the top name in the cast but plays a secondary role, as does Kent Smith, also in a second billing spot. Jean Brooks and Glenn Vernon are the two juveniles, both 15, principally concerned in a story about war workers and their children, these two being model youngsters at heart who get exposed to some minor thievery and nightlife but aren't changed by the contact, although the boy goes off to a reformatory for no clear reason save to give the picture a point. Others in the cast are Tessa Brind, Ben Bard, Mary Servoss, Arthur Shields, Lawrence Tierney, Dickie Moore, Johnny Walsh, Rod Rodgers and Elizabeth Russell.

Running time, 67 mins. "G."* Release date, not set.

WILLIAM R. WEAVER

## *"They Met in Moscow"*

*(Artkino)*

THE Soviet departs from weighty themes to produce, in "They Met in Moscow," a musical gem of unblushing escapism, a boy-meets-girl tale devoid of any reference to grim happenings at the front, and which comes close to approximating American screen style.

Marina Ladynina, farmerette who has won a trip to an agricultural Fair, meets Vladmir Zeldin, a shepherd from the Caucasus. They return to their homes with a romantic attachment, vowing to meet at next year's fair. One of Vladmir's letters is translated by Nikolai Kriuchkov, a local suitor, to imply that the shepherd has married. The lovers are reunited, however, but not before the eve of Miss Ladynina's impending marriage to Kriuchkov.

Ivan Piriev produced and directed from the screenplay and lyrics of Victor Gussev. Charles Clement's English titles are satisfactory.

Running time, 85 mins. "G."* Release date, June 6.

CHARLES RYWECK

## *"The Amazing Mr. Forrest"*

*(PRC)*

"THE AMAZING MR. FORREST," a British-made picture, tries laboriously to be a variation of "The Thin Man," but winds up a poor imitation. Walter N. Mycroft, the producer, evidently thought he had a marketable idea in coupling Jack Buchanan and Googie Withers in the detective-wife counterpart of the Powell-Loy combination, but the results are negative. The plot revolves around the mythical Maltonian jewels, a swank London night club operated by New York gangsters, and the eventual clarification of a minor mystery. Edward Everett Horton is lost in the part of a butler, and Otto Kreuger as the proprietor-gangster of the night club tries hard to be sinister, while Jack La Rue struggles with the role of another menace. Thornton Freeland directed from a screen play by Ralph Spence. The result is minor program fare which requires the support of either good short subjects or a second feature.

Running time, 70 mins. "G."*

JOHN D. STEPHON

*"G" denotes general classification.

## *Employes Get Back Pay*

The managements of Welgot Trailer Service, New York, and the Consolidated Film Industries, Inc., Fort Lee, N. J., have voluntarily agreed to reimburse employees for back wages and overtime pay due them under the Fair Labor Standards Act. Thirty-two employees involved will receive a total of $3,712, it was disclosed at the weekend by Arthur J. White, regional director of the Wage and Hour and Public Contracts Division of the U. S. Department of Labor.

## *Mexican Independent Producers Organize*

MEXICO CITY, June 25.—Alfonso Sanchez Tello, veteran producer, has been named by independent producers here to represent them on the new coordinating committee of cinematographic production. This is the independents' first step toward organization. The committee has authorized Arcady Boytler to make a picture here with Lupe Velez as star.

# *Short Subject Reviews*

## *"Past Performances"*

*(RKO-Pathe)*

Made up of old newsreel shots of events of interest in the sports world of the early 20th century, "Past Performances" includes pictures of the Harvard-Penn football game in 1903, the Jack Johnson-Jim Flynn championship bout in 1912, the Vanderbilt Cup Race of 1904 and the Burns-Squires heavyweight championship match of 1907, among other contests. This reel will be of interest to the old sports fans and should amuse the youngsters. Of special interest is the first girls' collegiate basketball team at Missouri Valley College. Running time, 8½ mins.

## *"Commando Duck"*

*(Walt Disney-RKO)*

Donald Duck, commando with the U. S. Paratroopers in the South Pacific, is ordered to wipe out a Jap airfield. He does—in a manner to make militarists look to their laurels and shudder. This is the type of cartoon that goes over with everybody. It's full of good laughs and boasts an exceptionally fine color job.

## 'Bed' Leads Capital With Nice $21,000

WASHINGTON, June 25.—Most theatre grosses took a terrific beating here this week. "Make Your Own Bed" stands to do an estimated $21,000 at Warner's Earle. In its fourth week at Warner's Metropolitan, "The Story of Dr. Wassell" should do approximately $7,500.

Estimated receipts for the week ending June 22:

**"Roger Touhy, Gangster" (20th-Fox)**
LOEW'S CAPITOL—(3,434) (35c-43c-55c-72c) 7 days. On stage: Gay Nineties Revue. Gross: $18,000. (Average: $22,000).
**"Buffalo Bill" (20th-Fox)**
LOEW'S COLUMBIA—(1,234) (43c-55c-65c) 7 days, 2nd downtown week. Gross: $8,000. (Average: $8,200).
**"Make Your Own Bed" (WB)**
WARNER'S EARLE—(2,210) (44c-55c-85-$1.00) 7 days. On stage: Anita Martell. Gross: $21,000. (Average: $19,700).
**"The Impostor" (Univ.)**
RKO-KEITH'S—(1,800) (35c-44c-65c-74c) 7 days. Gross: $9,500. (Average: $13,600).
**"The Story of Dr. Wassell" (Para.)**
WARNER'S METROPOLITAN—(1,600) (35c-55c) 7 days, 4th downtown week. Gross: $7,500. (Average: $7,200).
**"Pin Up Girl" (20th-Fox)**
LOEW'S PALACE—(2,242) (43c-55c-65c) 7 days, 2nd downtown week. Gross: $13,000. (Average: $19,000).

## *'Indiana's $17,000 Is Best in Indianapolis*

INDIANAPOLIS, June 25.—"Home in Indiana," which had its world premiere at the Indiana this week, will gross $17,000 best in several months.

Estimated receipts for the week ending June 20-22:

**"The Uninvited" (Para.)**
**"Lady, Let's Dance" (Mono.)**
CIRCLE—(2,800) (32c-55c) 7 days. Gross: $10,000. (Average: $11,800).
**"Home in Indiana" (20th-Fox)**
**"Pardon My Rhythm" (Univ.)**
INDIANA—(3,200) (32c-55c) 7 days. Gross: $17,000. (Average: $11,600).
**"Gaslight" (M-G-M)**
LOEW'S—(2,800) (32c-55c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $8,000. (Average: $11,500).
**"Pin Up Girl" (20th-Fox)**
**"Ladies in Washington" (20th-Fox)**
LYRIC—(2,000) (32c-55c) 7 days, moveover from Indiana. Gross: $4,700. (Average: $4,900).

## *Five Awards Go to Lt. Dannenberg*

**Outstanding achievement in air combat over Southern Europe has earned the Air Medal with three Oak Leaf Clusters and the Purple Heart for Lt. Lawrence Dannenberg, former theatre and Hollywood studio worker. After 21 missions as bombardier on a Flying Fortress, Lt. Dannenberg was injured by flak on a raid over Austria. He is in a hospital in Italy.**

**Dannenberg, 24, is the son of the late Sidney Dannenberg, for many years with Warner theatres in Cleveland. At the time of his enlistment he was in the publicity department of Warners' studios at Burbank.**

## *Former Fox, Pathe CameramanWounded*

LONDON, June 25.—Three casualties, including one unnamed fatality, were among the 16 British Army cameramen who were dropped by parachute in Normandy. Sgt. D. T. O'Neill, formerly of Fox Photos, and Sgt. William Greenhaigh, former Pathe newsreel man, were wounded.

Others in the group, which got film off for England before midday, were: J. H. Mapham, A. C. O. Laing, A. M. Midgeley, J. P. Christie, W. N. Slague, D. W. Ginger, J. N. Johnson, H. Parkinson, I. J. Grant, R. Learherborrow, G. E. J. Laws, R. V. Watkins, A. C. Cross and P. F. Carpenter.

## *Hold Vanguard Talks In Chicago Today*

(*Continued from page* 1)

sales plans for "Since You Went Away," the first print of which is scheduled to arrive in New York today.

The Chicago conferences also will set the complete program for the launching of "Since You Went Away" including final arrangements for the New York premiere at the Capitol Theatre which it now appears will be around July 14.

It was learned that the meeting also will discuss the appointment of sales representatives for Vanguard both in Chicago and on the West Coast..

## *RCA Expands Film Equipment Service*

(*Continued from page* 1)

the company's theatre equipment section, declared that in addition to a full line of RCA sound reproducing systems, Brenkert projectors, and RCA screens, the equipment to be offered under the new expanded policy includes nationally known lines of power supply equipment, chairs, carpets, and other accessories.

Distribution of the new equipment lines will be handled in the field by RCA's independent theatre supply dealers, many of whom have formerly distributed these same product lines.

## *'Atlantic City' Opening*

Republic's "Atlantic City" will have a dual opening on July 28 at Hamid's Pier and the Hollywood Theatre, Atlantic City.

# *Kennedy Hails 'Fifth Loan' Aid of Small Town Showmen*

(*Continued from page* 1)

nearby Army hospitals," Kennedy said.

"They are disproving the contention that successful rallies cannot be staged without outside celebrities and are demonstrating that American showmen have the ingenuity and enterprise to build their own shows and special events to further the war effort."

### Chicago, Atlantic City Break Bond Records

Results of Bond premieres reported to War Activities Committee here at the weekend indicate an eclipse of previous records. The first premiere in the Warner circuit in the Philadelphia area brought $6,215,250 at the Warner Theatre in Atlantic City, it was disclosed by Ted Schlanger, Warners' Philadelphia zone manager. This figure doubles the returns for that theatre's first premiere during the Fourth War Loan drive.

The Byrd Theatre, Richmond, managed by R. H. Coulter, has already topped its quota of "a bond for every seat."

### Hollywood Parade Appears At $2,325,000 Rally

WILMINGTON, Del., June 25.—A total of $2,325,000 in cash and pledges was recorded at a War Bond rally conducted here Thursday night, under the auspices of the Hollywood Parade of Stars. An estimated crowd of 35,000 persons was in attendance.

A "United Nations Court of Flags" was dedicated at Rodney Square during the day and was preceded by a parade witnessed by 20,000 persons. The local War Activities Committee obtained pledges in advance as did the Treasury Department and 200 volunteers solicited during the rally.

Among those participating in the rally were Rosemary Lane, Paul Whiteman, Eileen Woods, Mischa Auer, Lt. William Holden, Pvt. John Payne and Dennis O'Keefe.

The Hollywood Parade of Stars held rallies in the 20,000-seat William and Mary Stadium in Norfolk Friday night and in the 4,700-seat Mosque in Richmond Saturday night. Tonight the group will appear in Atlanta at Grant Field.

### Illinois Stages 140 Bond Premieres

Illinois exhibitor chairman Jules Rubens reported recently that 140 War Bond premieres, 60 children's premieres and over 500 "Free Movie" days have been staged in that state since the beginning of the Fifth War Loan campaign.

All exhibitors have pledged to tie in with the July 6 "Free Movie Day" in Illinois and showmen have pledged an "all out" compaign to break previous War Loan records.

### Technicolor and Republic's Employes Are Bond Buyers

HOLLYWOOD, June 22.—The War Finance Committee reported here yesterday that Technicolor purchased a total of $169,928 in war bonds, of which $150,000 was for the corporation and the balance was for the account of its employees. The employees of the Republic studio purchased in excess of $40,000 in bonds to date.

### Loop "Wassell" Opening Sells $3,000,000 Bonds

CHICAGO, June 25.—Chicago hailed Cecil B. DeMille's newest Technicolor film, "The Story of Dr. Wassell," Friday night with a $3,000,000 War Bond premiere at the 3,000-seat State Lake Theatre. Color was added to the premiere by the presence in the audience of leading delegates to the Republican National Convention, including Governor Bricker, of Ohio, former President Herbert Hoover, Alf Landon, and Harrison Spangler.

Keynote speaker at the premiere, Mayor Edward J. Kelly, of Chicago, introduced Cecil B. DeMille. Carol Thurston, who has the role of the Javanese nurse in the film, was also present.

### Buffalo Plans Monday Night Bond Premiere

BUFFALO, June 22.—The five downtown first-run theatres here will stage a bond premiere Monday night at which admission will be by purchase of a bond, only, it was reported yesterday by Vincent R. McFaul, chairman of the premiere committee.

Cooperating theatres, including the Buffalo, Great Lakes, Hippodrome, Lafayette and Twentieth Century, will conclude regular performances at 6:30 P. M. and premieres will commence at 8:30.

### Two Bond Drive Films Ready for Theatres

"Young America Backs the 'Fighting Fifth'" has been released with all newsreels as an aid to the current campaign, it was reported at the weekend by Herman Gluckman. The bulletin shows how children can help the drive.

Gluckman also disclosed that Bond Trailer, No. 3 "From Your Boy Over There," formerly titled "Dawn of D-Day," was ready for release at the weekend. Fifteen thousand prints of the trailer, produced by Paramount, are available.

### Cantor Cleveland Auction To Promote Fifth Drive

CLEVELAND, June 25.—Eddie Cantor will be here Tuesday to assist in the big bond auction to be held at the Carter Hotel under the joint sponsorship of the Chamber of Commerce and the Cleveland Athletic Club. George Schneider, manager of the club has rounded up a collection of war mementos for the auction.

The Cleveland area has to date set 52 bond premieres, 25 junior premieres and 72 Free Movie Days, Morrison Orr, distributor chairman, reports.

### Employes Pledge $325,000

Employes and executives of M-G-M pledged $325,000 in extra bonds at the rally held Friday morning at the home office. The money will be used to purchase a five-car interior-type hospital train with complete medical equipment and supplies. Among those present were Howard Dietz, Loew's vice-president, who acted as master of ceremonies; Milton Berle, Gene Krupa and Perry Como. Bond appeals were made by Maj. S. C. Grashio, Lt. Leon Kamern, U.S.M.C., former manager of the Astor Theatre here. Max Wolff was chairman of the affair.

## *Arbitration Is Cut 50% by Stalemate*

**The number of arbitration proceedings under the consent decree has fallen 50 per cent below normal as the Government and distributors remain at loggerheads over negotiations for a new decree.**

**With exhibitors delaying bringing their cases to the tribunals under the provisions set up in 1941, only 23 have been filed since December. Last year there were 76 actions, compared with 119 in 1942 and 158 during the first year. One case was filed this past December, three each in January and February, two in March, three in April, seven in May and four this month.**

## Clearance Complaint Dismissed in L.A.

Irvin Stalmaster, arbitrator in the Los Angeles tribunal, has dismissed the clearance complaint of G. L. Smith, operator of the York theatre, Los Angeles, against the five consenting companies, the American Arbitration Association disclosed at the weekend.

Complaint demanded that the seven days clearance of the Park and Franklin be eliminated and that the York be granted the same availability as other Los Angeles suburban theatres charging the same admission. Complainant also demanded that it be permitted to have 49 days clearance after the Los Angeles first-runs at its admission price of 30 cents and 35 days after first run closing at its proposed price of 35 cents.

Arbitrator found that all theatres involved in the proceedings were competitive and that the existing clearance was reasonable. East River Theatre Corp. and Laemmle Theatres were intervenors.

## *Passage to London Awaited by Sears*

(*Continued from page* 1)

include discussions for arrangements for United Artists quota production with J. Arthur Rank, a survey of the company's Odeon Circuit interests and of UA's British distribution.

David H. Coplan, former United Artists Canadian distribution head, has been acting managing director for the company in Britain since the resignation of Teddy Carr early this year. According to one report, Sears' mission may result in confirmation of Coplan as permanent managing director for the company in Britain.

## *USO Plans Ad Campaign*

HARTFORD, June 25.—A plan to use newspaper advertisements in 40 cities, including the entire New England area, in an appeal to professional and semi-professional performers to apply for auditions preparatory to enlisting in the USO-Camp Shows entertainment program, has been organized. Oscar A. Doob, Loew's executive, will appoint representatives in each of the cities, to place local advertisements.

# CONGRATULATIONS



TO THE

*Friendly Company*

ON ITS

*Twentieth Anniversary*

*The "Prize Baby"*

Fifth War Loan Drive!

# MOTION PICTURE DAILY

Keep Backing the Invasion!

VOL. 55. NO. 125 NEW YORK, U. S. A., TUESDAY, JUNE 27, 1944 TEN CENTS

## U.S. Tribute To Films for Manpower Aid

### *McNutt Plans to Honor Industry for Recruiting*

WASHINGTON, June 26.—Nationwide commemoration of the outstanding work of the motion picture industry in mobilizing the manpower of the country for war has been proposed by War Manpower Commission chairman Paul V. McNutt, it was disclosed here today.

**McNutt already has been in contact with the industry's War Activities Committee on the proposal and a WAC sub-committee from New York will meet with the WMC commissioner here tomorrow to discuss a program. Due here in the morning are: Ned Depinet, Leon Bamberger and A. A. Schubart of RKO; Tom Connors, 20th Century-Fox, and**

(*Continued on page 3*)

## Industry Praised By Congress

WASHINGTON, June 26.—A close-up of the war contribution of the motion picture industry was today inserted in the *Congressional Record* by Senator George L. Radcliffe of Maryland.

Submitting the report of the theatres division of the War Activities Committee for inclusion in the last number of the *Record* to be issued prior to the Congressional recess, Senator Radcliffe called attention "to the splen-

(*Continued on page 3*)

## *Lt. Schaefer Killed In Action on 'D-Day'*

Lt. James G. Schaefer, son of George J. Schaefer, chairman of the War Activities Committee, was killed in action on June 6 in France, according to a War Department telegram received by his family here. Lieut. Schaefer, 27 years old, a Reserve Officer called into active service on Jan. 1, 1942.

He was attached to the 82 Airborne Division, reactivated in March, 1942, under the command of General Bradley. Lt. Schaefer was a graduate of Princeton, and was associated with Skouras Theatres.

## Special 'Free Day' Appeal By O'Donnell

Calling for July 6 to be made an epic occasion in the industry's bond-selling history, R. J. O'Donnell, national industry chairman of the "Fighting Fifth" War Loan Drive, yesterday wired all exhibitor state chairmen to urge every theatre manager in his area to stage a "Free Movie Day" at that time.

"This is a vital and urgent call for extra effort," O'Donnell said. "We must get more exhibitors to participate. We ask cooperation over and above the call of duty."

Cooperating with the exhibitors, Ned E. Depinet, national distributor chairman, is asking the distributor chairmen in the field to further the "Free Movie Day" campaign. Ex-

(*Continued on page 6*)

## Pathe East-West Merger Approved

Merger of Pathe Laboratories, Inc., New Jersey corporation, with the California corporation of the same name, into Pathe Industries, Inc., an Ohio corporation, was approved yesterday at a stockholders' meeting in Bound Brook, N. J. At a late hour officers here still were awaiting word from a similar session in Hollywood and assumed that it would be favorable.

Also approved was the following slate of officers: Kenneth M. Young,

(*Continued on page 3*)

# NEW LEVY DOUBLES U.S. TICKET INCOME

## 'Indiana' Opens at $88,000 in Week Of Rising Grosses

A fairly cool weekend, plus intermittent showers resulted in slightly improved business at Broadway theatres, with climbing grosses indicated for the week at several spots.

The first five days of "Home in Indiana" at the Roxy, where Enric Madriguera's orchestra heads the stage bill, brought a fairly good $70,000 and an estimate of $88,000 for the opening week; the combination will hold over. "Going My Way" is building slightly to an indicated $71,000 in its eighth week at the Paramount, with Charlie Spivak's orchestra on the stage; a 10-week run will be completed there before "And the Angels Sing" opens. The Capitol's second week of "Two Girls and a Sailor," plus Sammy Kaye's orchestra, kept pace with its excellent first week, $60,000 being registered for five days through Sunday and $74,000 estimated for the full seven days; the program will continue three or four more weeks.

At Radio City Music Hall, the management decided yesterday to bring in "Once Upon a Time" on Thursday. A gross of $63,500 for the first four days of the seventh week of "The White Cliffs of Dover" and a stage

(*Continued on page 6*)

## *"An American Romance"*

[*M-G-M*]

KING VIDOR, gifted cinema craftsman, has dug deeply into the fabric of industrial America for a towering film that is as big and as great as the heart of America itself. In M-G-M's "An American Romance" he has advanced in one huge leap the scope of, and added immeasurable stature and luster to, the motion picture as an entertainment and art form. By a dramatic welding of story incident and documentary technique he has fashioned a film of epic quality that will undoubtedly prove to be a milestone in cinema history. It reflects credit on the industry generally, and M-G-M particularly, in bringing to flower the collective technique and originality of the American motion picture. For Leo it is another handsome anniversary present, and theatres, too, will profit handsomely. Showmen will take pride in exhibiting product such as this.

Brian Donlevy's magnificent performance as a raw, crude Czech immigrant endowed with a sturdy body and an inquisitive, seeking mind, is equal to Vidor's masterly production and direction. At the turn of

(*Continued on page 6*)

### *May Collections Rise to $28,617,079, Increase Of 4 Millions in Month*

WASHINGTON, June 26.—Initial collections under the one-cent-on-five Federal admission tax, effective last April 1, indicate that the new levy, plus improving business, will practically double the U. S. Treasury's collections from the motion picture and amusement industries, it was disclosed here tonight.

**A total of $28,617,079 was collected by the Government from theatres in May, the first month in which the new tax was reflected in Treasury receipts, based on the public's April box office payments, and compared with $14,907,919 in April payments to the U. S., and $14,625,615 in May, 1943, it was reported by the Internal Revenue Bureau.**

While some part of the increase in April collections are from the opening of the national baseball season, the proportionate gain from that source

(*Continued on page 3*)

## RKO's 1st Telecast On Republican Meet

National Broadcasting launched its television coverage of the Republican National Convention in Chicago over its television station WNBT here last night with the first film production of the new RKO Television Corp.

The 25-minute film, a rather interestingly assembled compilation of Pathe news clips showing Republican conventions of the past, Republican presidential aspirants and Republican

(*Continued on page 6*)

## *AFL Will Organize Canadian Industry*

TORONTO, June 26.—The American Federation of Labor, through the Toronto District Labor Council, has made the initial move for the formation of a union for office employes and other workers in the film business in Canada under the Federal Government Order-in-Council passed Feb. 17 dealing with Wartime Labor Relations

(*Continued on page 3*)

## Harper of MPAS New ODT Program Chief

WASHINGTON, June 26—Robert E. Harper, former assistant to the president of the Motion Picture Advertising Service here, who also served as chief of special events for the war finance division of the Treasury department, has taken over as chief of the programs section of the Office of Defense Transportation, of which J. Monroe Johnson is ODT director.

Harper will in a liaison capacity, urge the public, through the medium of motion pictures, to curtail unnecessary travelling and conserve gasoline, tires and other vital war materials for use in the war effort. He will work under Charles E. V. Prins, recently named information director of ODT.

The new program chief, while with the Motion Picture Advertising Service created and executed that organization's war effort film campaigns, which were produced and distributed for 12 Government war agencies, without charge, through sponsored presentation by national, sectional and local advertisers on theatre screens throughout the country.

Harper is executive director of the American Public Relations Association.

## *Columbia Pictures Registers Securities*

PHILADELPHIA, June 26.—Columbia Pictures, New York, registered today with the Securities and Exchange Commission 7,880 shares of no par value common stock and 7,880 purchase warrants for one share each of no par value common stock. The proposed public offering price for the common stock is $20, for the purchase warrants, $10.

Net proceeds, estimated at $58,830, would be used as additional working capital.

## *MP Alliance Rejects Parley With Unions*

HOLLYWOOD, June 26.—The Motion Picture Alliance will not send a representative to the mass meeting planned by the emergency committee of Hollywood guilds and unions next Wednesday evening, June 28.

In a letter explaining its attitude, the Alliance stated it is ready to meet with any "responsible" group but on equal terms and on a basis of fair play. The emergency committee had offered the Alliance one representative to answer nine questions concerning its position.

## *GI Awards Presented*

Lieut. Col. Joseph R. McMicking of General Douglas MacArthur's staff appeared Sunday on the NBC "Army Hour" and presented three 'G.I.' South Pacific native tribal emblems to the winners of the troops' recent poll for the outstanding film work of the year. One went to Greer Garson as favorite actress; another to Humphrey Bogart as favorite actor, and a third to Jack L. Warner for "Casablanca," favorite picture.

# *Personal Mention*

ROBERT M. GILLHAM, Paramount advertising and publicity director, returned to New York yesterday from the Coast.

•

GEORGE R. GIROUX, JR., former cartoonist with Walt Disney and Columbia in Hollywood, and son of GEORGE R. GIROUX, field representative for Technicolor, has been commissioned a Second Lieutenant in the Army Air Forces.

•

WILLIAM HOLLANDER, head of the publicity and advertising departments for Balaban & Katz in Chicago, has been named a member of the public relations committee of the Community and War Fund drive for the Chicago area.

•

PEGGY KINGSTON, secretary to HAL HORNE, publicity and advertising director for 20th-Fox, was married at the weekend to JOHN FARLEY of Hollis, N. Y.

•

DAVE ARLEN, with the Balaban & Katz publicity staff in Chicago, will spend a two-weeks' vacation in New York starting July 14.

•

PRUNELLA HALL, film reviewer for the *Boston Post*, spent the weekend in Chicago, en route from Hollywood to Boston.

•

TERRY TURNER, RKO publicist, left Chicago at the weekend for a two-week business trip to Canada.

•

YVONNE WOOD, costume designer for RKO, is spending a month's vacation in Chicago.

WILLIAM F. RODGERS, M-G-M vice president and sales manager, is expected back in New York on Thursday following a visit to the studio and stopovers at company exchanges between Chicago and New York.

•

NOEL MEADOW, former operator of the Stanley Theatre, Philadelphia, was married Sunday to MISS SYLVIA LEE of Poughkeepsie. MEADOW is now associated with JESSIE L. STERN, independent exhibitor.

•

JOHN STUART, JR., of the Motion *Picture Herald* editorial staff, who will join the Office of War Information overseas division July 1, was married Saturday to RUTH E. SHERMAN of Flushing.

•

AL SIMON, manager of the RKO Keith Memorial Theatre, Boston, and MRS. SIMON, are the parents of a son, ROBERT LOUIS, born June 22.

•

ALEX L. HILLMAN, publisher, left New York yesterday to attend the Republican national convention in Chicago.

•

SAMUEL GOLDWYN arrived in New York from Hollywood yesterday and plans to return to the Coast late this week.

•

CHARLIE LEVY of the RKO publicity staff left at the weekend for the Coast studios. He will be gone two weeks.

•

HARRY MICHALSON, short subjects manager for RKO, left New York yesterday for two weeks.

## *WarnerStockReaches $14.25, Year's High*

Warner Brothers common stock reached a new high for the year yesterday when it closed on the New York Stock Exchange at $14.25 per share. The stock, which passed the $15 mark at one point in 1943, has been running recently at between $11 and $14.

The current rise is thought to be traceable to recent Wall Street estimates that the company's earnings for the second quarter of this year will be the best since 1930, with the net at better than 60 cents per share for the period and $1.20 for six months. A six-month earning statement is due within the next few days.

## *International Names Johnston Ad Chief*

LOS ANGELES, June 26.—John LeRoy Johnston was named director of advertising and publicity for International Pictures today, succeeding Jack Mulcahy, resigned. The appointment becomes effective July 1. Johnston goes to International from a similar post at Republic studios.

Arthur Jeffrey was named Eastern publicity chief for International, as announced last week.

## *Cleveland First Runs Even-Off Prices*

CLEVELAND, June 26.—Local first run minimum admissions will be raised two cents at all Loew downtown houses, and two cents at Warner theatres, starting Thursday. New admissions will be 45 cents. Reason is to get away from the use of pennies. Change became possible under the new ruling allowing Federal admission tax to be computed on the basis of established, rather than total price. Confusion existed locally because of the state three percent gross tax.

## *Martel on Tour for Army Programs*

DALLAS, June 26.—Thomas H. Martel, New York representative of the U. S. Army Motion Picture Service, was guest of honor at a luncheon given at the Hotel Adolphus here recently by J. B. Underwood, Columbia Southwestern division manager. Martel was also guest a a reception, given by Leroy Bickel, M-G-M branch manager here, at the Variety Club.

On tour of film exchanges throughout the country, Martel has left for New Orleans.

## *Para. Sales Meeting In Toronto Tomorrow*

TORONTO, June 26. — Paramount Film Service, Lt., will open a two day sales conference Wednesday at the King Edward Hotel here. Among New York sales executives who will attend are Charles M. Reagan, general sales manager, and Oscar Morgan, short subjects manager.

Gordon Lighthouse, district manager here, will present Canadian sales policies for the new year. Among branch managers in attendance will be Jack L. Hunter, Toronto; Tom Dowbiggin, Montreal; P. J. Hogan St. John; D. M. Brickman, Winnipeg; W. O. Kelly, Calgary and Russel Simpson, Vancouver.


NEW YORK THEATRES

RADIO CITY MUSIC HALL
Showplace of the Nation Rockefeller Center
A Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer's Picture
"THE WHITE CLIFFS OF DOVER"
Starring IRENE DUNNE
with ALAN MARSHAL
SPECTACULAR STAGE PRESENTATION
First Mezzanine Seats Reserved. Circle 6-4600

LOEW'S STATE B'WAY & 45
ON SCREEN Charles BOYER Ingrid BERGMAN Joseph COTTEN in M-G-M's 'GASLIGHT'
IN PERSON DENNY BECKNER and ORCH. GAY NINETIES REVUE

RKO PALACE B'WAY & 47th St.
TAMARA TOUMANOVA GREGORY PECK
"DAYS OF GLORY"

PARAMOUNT'S
"GOING MY WAY"
with BING CROSBY
In Person
CHARLIE SPIVAK and His Orch.
PARAMOUNT Times Square

PARAMOUNT PRESENTS
GARY COOPER in CECIL B. DEMILLE'S
"The Story of Dr. Wassell"
★ In Technicolor ★
RIVOLI B'way & 49th St.

"ROGER TOUHY GANGSTER!"
20th CENTURY-FOX PICTURE
AIR-CONDITIONED
BRANDT'S B'way & 46 St. GLOBE


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# U.S. Tribute To Films for Manpower Aid

(Continued from page 1)

**Henderson M. Richey, M-G-M, all members of the WAC's distribution division.**

While the WAC members will concentrate on a discussion with McNutt of specific approaches to a national tribute for the industry's contributions to the country's manpower program, they are expected also to bring up the industry's own manpower problems in distribution. Distribution has been ruled not "locally-needed." Exchanges are required to rely on Regional War Labor Boards for relief from immediate manpower problems.

The idea of a celebration recognizing the film industry's efforts in behalf of general manpower recruiting for the war, as one of a series on the contribution of individual communities and industries, was outlined by McNutt early this month in a letter to the War Activities Committee, in which he suggested that WMC officials and WAC representatives meet with a view to getting the plan under way.

"We have in mind the development of a series of recognition programs which are to be known as national salutes to manpower," McNutt said.

"We have specifically in mind the recognition of outstanding work accomplished by several industries. Among these we should like to give credit nationally to the motion picture industry for its achievement in aiding the mobilization of manpower for the war effort. This includes not only the producers, stars and exhibitors, but the rank and file of the industry itself, who have made it possible to carry forward the important calls for manpower."

## Industry Praised By Congress

(Continued from page 1)

did work which is being done by the theatres of the country in connection with war activities."

The WAC report shows that 16,432 theatres are members of the theatres division and, in addition to showing war pictures and news clips which are made available, last year raised nearly $8,000,000 for infantile paralysis, the Red Cross and United Nations Relief, a figure which already has been exceeded this year with $4,000,000 collected for infantile paralysis and over $6,000,000 for the Red Cross.

In the first four bond drives the War Activities Committee itself spent $396,000 of the industry's money on the national campaigns, with additional hundreds of thousands more spent by individual exhibitors in local campaigns.

## *Rites for Mrs. Shapiro*

LOS ANGELES, June 26.—Funeral services were held this morning at Home of Peace Cemetery for Mrs. Helen Shapiro, 70, who died Saturday at Cedars of Lebanon Hospital. Surviving are her husband and two sons.

# *Coast Flashes*

*Hollywood, June 26*

HERBERT J. YATES, chairman of the board, and James R. Grainger, president and general sales manager of Republic, have announced that they have signed with Technicolor for three top-budget productions in Technicolor during the next year.

•

JOSEPH H. SEIDELMAN left for the East yesterday accompanied by Al Szekler, Universal's general manager for Brazil, the latter returning to Rio following his arrival in New York. Al Daffs, U's foreign sales supervisor, is staying over a few days before departing for the east.

•

Harold Lewis, International Pictures production manager, has assigned Dorothy Hectlinger as his assistant. Gene Anderson, Lewis' former aide, becomes unit production manager on "It's a Pleasure," Sonja Henie starrer.

•

Jennifer Jones, one of the stars of "Since You Went Away," David O. Selznick's production which will have United Artists release, will arrive in New York on July 12 for the premiere at the Capitol Theatre there.

•

Lewis Milestone, who was stricken with an appendicitis attack while directing Hunt Stromberg's forthcoming United Artists film, "Guest in the House," left Hollywood Hospital yesterday after a three-week stay.

•

Norman Moray, Warner Brothers' short subject sales manager, will leave here tomorrow for New York.

•

Ed Schreiber, WAC publicity director, is bound for New York next Friday.

## *AFL Will Organize Canadian Industry*

(Continued from page 1)

and providing a collective bargaining code. Under the government decree no action can be taken by an employer against a worker who joins a trade union.

A meeting is to be held in Toronto shortly to organize film employes. This first move to unionize Canada's film trade will include also the formation of a branch for theatre employes in Canada. The projectionists are already organized, in the International Alliance of Theatrical Stage Employes.

## *Pathe East - West Merger Approved*

(Continued from page 1)

chairman of the board; J. Stinson Young, president; Robert W. Purcell, vice-president; Karl Herzog, treasurer; M. M. Malone, secretary; and C. L. Peckham and Arthur B. Johnson, assistant secretaries and treasurers. The board of directors, likewise approved, will consist of the two Youngs, Purcell, Henry J. Guild and Raymond J. Morfa.

## Appeal Board Alters La Salle Clearance

The arbitration appeal board in a decision made public here yesterday modified the award of William Barrett, arbitrator in the Buffalo tribunal, who had reduced the 35 to 30-day clearance of the Strand, Cataract and Bellevue, first-run Niagara Falls, N. Y., theatres over the La Salle, second-run, to 17 days. The La Salle, operated by Basil Bros. Theatres, had appealed the Buffalo arbitrator's award by demanding a further cut to seven days because, it alleged, no substantial competition existed between it and the first-run houses.

The board found competition did exist and that, therefore, first-runs were entitled to "reasonable protection" of a maximum of 30 days clearance over the La Salle. The board pointed out that "La Salle's admission price is 20 cents less than that of the first-runs and it has recently installed a parking space accommodating 200 automobiles, indicating an attempt to draw patrons from a much larger area."

Cataract Theatre Corp., operator of the Strand and Cataract theatres and Buffalo Theatres, Inc., operator of the Bellevue, were interevenors.

## *Para. Will Reissue 'Union Pacific', 'Pine'*

CHICAGO, June 26.—J. H. Stevens, Paramount branch manager here, honored Cecil B. DeMille at a breakfast at the Blackstone Hotel here over the weekend. Members of the press and theatre officials attended.

DeMille revealed that Paramount will re-issue "Union Pacific" to be played on the same bill with a re-issue of "Trail of the Lonesome Pine."

DeMille is here as a delegate from California at the Republican convention. He revealed that upon his return to California next week he will begin to set up a shooting schedule for "Rurales," his next. He will spend part of the shooting time on location in Mexico.

## *100 Pre-Release Runs For 'Mark Twain'*

"The Adventures of Mark Twain," which Warner Bros. will generally release July 22, will open for pre-release engagements before that date in about 100 situations.

Popular-price premiere of the picture, which played approximately 200 special dates limited to one week early last month, takes place July 7 at the Majestic, Providence. The following week it will return to Broadway for a run at the New York Strand, and will also open at the Capitol, Springfield; Roger Sherman, New Haven, and Metropolitan, Boston.

## *RKO Television and Guild Join TBA*

Affiliate memberships in the Television Broadcasters Association have been granted RKO Television Corp., subsidiary of RKO Radio, and the Theatre Guild. Ralph B. Austrian, executive vice president of RKO Television, has been named to the TBA program committee, likewise Armina Marshall, administrative assistant of the Guild.

# Ticket Tax Is Up 14 Millions, To $28,617,079

(Continued from page 1)

this year was not as large as in previous seasons because of inclement weather during that month, causing the calling off of many ball games.

With the heavy May receipts, the Revenue Bureau announced, collections for the first eleven months of the Government's fiscal year of 1943-44 reached $179,048,830, an increase of $35,707,584 over the $143,341,246 recorded for the same period a year ago, while for the first five months of the calendar year the revenue amounted to $87,257,126, an increase of $24,428,130 over the $62,828,996 reported for 1943.

The higher tax resulted in nearly doubling the revenue from the third New York (Broadway) district, where collections increased from $2,228,332 in April to $4,360,450 last month. Revenue from the district in May, 1943, was $1,856,159.

All of the increase was in collections at the box office, which jumped from $1,964,280 to $3,755,806, and in admissions to roof gardens and cabarets, which increased from $204,084 to $575,151.

## *Overseas Film Shows Rose to Over 93,000*

HOLLYWOOD, June 26.—Overseas film performances rose to over 93,000 shows and were attended by 32,706,193 persons inclusive of last April, Maj. John W. Hubbell, chief of the Army overseas motion picture service told representatives of the industry at a luncheon yesterday at the Beverly-Wilshire Hotel. He also declared that attendance had doubled since the monthly average had fallen off in January, and discussed in detail the method of operating the overseas branch of the film service.

Lt.-Col. Joseph McMicking, aide of Gen. MacArthur in charge of entertainment in the South Pacific, eulogized the indutsry for free 16mm. prints, and said, "If men took a popular vote, I do not doubt but they would vote an 'E' pennant for the industry's contribution."

Other speakers were Mary C. Mc Call, junior chairman, executive committee of the WAC, Hollywood division, Joseph H. Seidelman, civilian consultant to the War Department on the gift films and John C. Flinn.

## *Jack Greenbaum, 51, Dies in Cleveland*

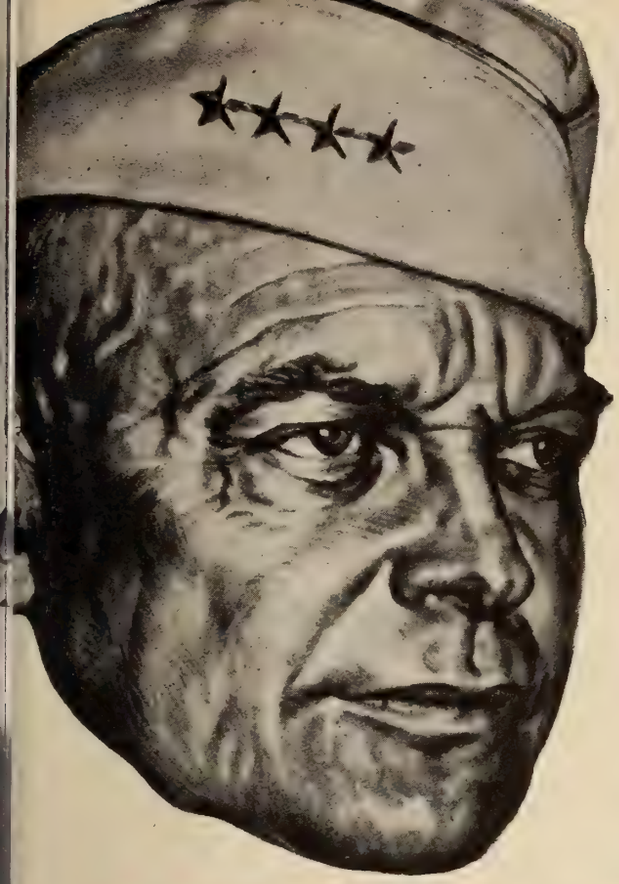
CLEVELAND, June 26.—Jack Greenbaum, 51, active in the film industry in various capacities for the past 20 years, died recently in a doctor's office here.

Son of the late Mark Greenbaum who built and operated several of the leading film houses here and later sold his interests to Loew's, Greenbaum had been affiliated with many local theatres before purchasing his own film exchange. He represented theatre premium companies in recent years. Surviving are three sisters.



5TH WAR LOAN

# EVERY BOND YOU SELL BRINGS IT CLOSER!



"That this conflict will be brought to the speediest conclusion with the least loss in lives..."

—GEN. DWIGHT D. EISENHOWER

# MORE POWER FOR EISENHOWER!

Every hour! Every day!
Are you fighting
To win that
Extra bond sale!
One more! Then
Another! Fight!
From house to house—
From street to street—
That's the way
Our heroes do it!




## THE CLINCHER!

Calling 16,000 patriots! Get set for the industry's bond-selling mop-up! FREE MOVIE DAY, July 6th, preceded the day before by a radio and newspaper blast to the nation that will insure box-office lines from Coast-to-Coast!

## NEVER STOP TILL YOU'RE OVER THE TOP!

# FIGHTING 5th WAR LOAN

COLUMBIA PICTURES CORP., METRO-GOLDWYN-MAYER PICTURES, PARAMOUNT PICTURES INC., RKO-RADIO PICTURES, INC., 20th CENTURY-FOX FILM CORP., UNITED ARTISTS CORP., UNIVERSAL PICTURES COMPANY INC., WARNER BROS. PICTURES, INC.

# 'Indiana' Opens at $88,000 in Week Of Rising Grosses

(*Continued from page* 1)

bill presaged $102,000 for the week ending tomorrow. "The Story of Dr. Wassell" at the Rivoli did $43,000 during its third week, almost as good as the satisfactory second; it will continue.

On the basis of a $27,000 opening weekend, "The Mask of Dimitrios" should bring $52,000 through Friday to the Strand, where it is coupled with a stage bill featuring Louis Prima's orchestra; this is above the seasonal average. The three-week run will be followed on Saturday by "The Adventures of Mark Twain." At the Hollywood, "Mr. Skeffington" registered $15,000 in the first four days of its fifth week, indicating a week's total of $22,000, a small climb over the modest $21,000 of the seven days preceding.

**$14,000 for 'Glory'**

A quiet $14,000 for the second week for "Days of Glory" at the Palace followed its $18,000 opening week; "The Marine Raiders" will open there on Friday, with the first night turned over to the Marine League, which will hold a patriotic rally for the benefit of the wounded. The Globe will realize a fair $9,500 in the fourth week of "Roger Touhy, Gangster," which will make way Saturday for "The Hairy Ape."

On the same day a revival of "Dead End" will open at the Gotham, following "It Happened Tomorrow," which should gross $5,000 in its fifth week. The final three days of the 13-week revival of "Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs" at the Manhattan promises $2,300; it will close Thursday and a revival of "Fantasia" will open Saturday.

At the Rialto, an average $6,000 is estimated for the third week of "The Invisible Man's Revenge," which will be followed Friday by "The Mummy's Ghost." "Teen Age" at the Victoria will be replaced Saturday by "The Kid from Spain" after grossing an indicated $12,000 in its second week.

As reported yesterday in MOTION PICTURE DAILY, "See Here, Private Hargrove" brought $13,000 in its last week at the Astor, where $300,000 was chalked up for the 14-week run. "Bathing Beauty" will open there today.

## *Amer. Dubbing Seen No Mexican Threat*

MEXICO CITY, June 26.—Salvador Elizondo, president of the Mexican Producers and Distributors Association, sees no retrogression for the domestic producing industry if American companies proceed with their plans to dub in Spanish. Players, studio workers and theatre attaches have been opposing exhibition of such films here.

Elizondo, however, believes Mexican artistes and technicians ought to be employed for the dubbing. "American pictures dubbed in Spanish never can prejudice the distribution of Mexican pictures inasmuch as the success of these pictures is due not to the language but to the atmosphere and the fact that they have already been enthusiastically accepted by the Spanish-speaking public," he states.

# *"An American Romance"*

(*Continued from page* 1)

the Century he enters the U. S. and is barely admitted because he lacks the necessary $25. He tortuously walks halfway across the continent with a pathetic little note pinned on him with a request for directions, as he can speak only his native tongue. He finds a job digging iron ore in the Mesabi range and, responding to the American Promise, resolves to better himself. With the aid of Ann Richards, a young teacher, he laboriously learns the new language and folk ways. Becoming obsessed with the process of making steel, he follows the ore cars and boats to a steel mill. There he starts at the bottom again and advances to become a foreman. He sends for Miss Richards and they start rearing a family. Emphasis of the film shifts to the automobile industry in which Donlevy, with Walter Abel, a school teacher who is mechanically inclined, become established. They become important manufacturers until Donlevy, overruled on the question of union recognition by his board of directors and his son, Horace McNally, who acts as spokesman for the auto workers, goes into retirement. When the company establishes an airplane factory to further the nation's production in the second World War he returns to aid in the war effort.

Vidor, in telling his story, has wisely refrained from selecting some of the more glamorous M-G-M stars, but has handpicked his players for types and parts, including those mentioned, and John Qualen and a host of lesser players. He has captured the terrifyingly beautiful industrial processes and it has remained for Technicolor to impart animation to the molten steel that looms so importantly in the production. One sequence whereby a ladle full of the hot steel drops, trapping Donlevy, is as grimly exciting as anything ever concocted by a scriptwriter. The screen play by Herbert Dalmas and William Ludwig, based on a story by Vidor, has expertly woven the tapestry of incident and realism; Harold Rosson's photography, accentuated in color, is magnificent, while Conrad A. Nervig's editing carries the 151 minutes playing time at a swift pace. Louis Gruenberg's score is to be commended, especially in the enhancing sequences depicting industrial processes.

Running time, 151 mins. "G."* Release date, not set.

CHARLES RYWECK

**"G" denotes general classification.*

# *Special 'Free Movie Day' Appeal by O'Donnell*

(*Continued from page* 1)

hibitor and distributor chairmen, the latter through salesmen, will ask for additional exhibitor volunteers.

The aim is to have 100 per cent cooperation in making July 6 not only the biggest day of the Fifth War Loan Drive, but to achieve a record for one day for all War Loans to date.

On the night of July 5, carry this announcement: "Tomorrow, July 6th, the motion picture industry will celebrate Free Movie Day. This means that in countless theatres throughout the country you who purchase a war bond at your favorite theatre will be admitted free. Read your newspaper or call your favorite theatre for further information."

Exhibitors who choose to do so may start running "Free Movie Day" trailers on July 4 in order to take advantage of the large holiday attendance. Local "Free Movie Day" ads are scheduled to break on July 5. Ray Beall, National Publicity Director, is issuing a special bulletin to all exhibitors concerning showmanship campaigns for the big one-day event.

**'Parade of Stars' Is Rolling Up the Sales**

A capacity audience of 28,000 attended the Hollywood "Parade of Stars" show at Grant Field in Atlanta last night as the bond-selling unit continued its nationwide tour. In addition, the stars were guests at a luncheon given by the Bell Aircraft Co., following which they put on a show lasting two and a half hours before the company's 30,000 workers, according to word received at War Activities Committee headquarters here.

In Richmond, Va., on Saturday night the stars were greeted by more than 5,000 at the Mosque Auditorium. Walter Abel and Dennis O'Keefe were masters of ceremonies. Bond sales for admissions amounted to $1,398,000.

Mome than 20,000 persons were in the audience at the show in Norfolk, Va., Friday night at William and Mary College Stadium. Pledge cards given out during the show resulted in $536,000 extra sales. Fred Waring was master of ceremonies. In the afternoon, the stars entertained at the Naval Training Station Hospital.

In Wilmington, on Thursday night, the company's appearance at the bond rally and dedication of the United Nations Court of Flags at Rodney Square resulted in $2,325,000 in pledges and cash. Pledges were secured in advance by the War Activities Committee and the Treasury Department and during the rally by 200 volunteeer retail sales people under Chamber of Commerce sponsirship. The stars paraded in jeeps from the station through the downtown section, led by military bands. Twenty thousand spectators witnessed the parade. An estimated 35,000 persons jammed every available inch of space at the show.

# RKO's 1st Telecast On Republican Meet

(*Continued from page* 1)

presidents since the turn of the century, as well as intimate newsreel poses of present aspirants to the Republican nomination, was televised over WNBT and picked up by Philco's Philadelphia television station WPTZ and General Electric's Schenectady station WRGB just before the telecasting of the first clips of the present Republican convention scenes. The commentary accompanying the RKO special television film was written by Paul Alley of NBC and was delivered by NBC commentators.

Pathe News cameramen are photographing the convention proceedings for RKO Television with Clarence L. Menser, NBC vice-president in charge of programs supervising for the network. RKO and NBC hope to telecast daily convention scenes here within 12 hours after they are photographed in Chicago. WCBW and WABD, Columbia Broadcasting and Allen B. DuMont television outlets in New York are handling the convention individuallly with special studio telecasts, while W6XYZ, Television Productions Corp. station in Los Angeles, subsidiary of Paramount, will present special illustrated reports on the progress of the convention.

NBC's television station WNBT, New York, will stay on the air through Saturday, to bring televiewers spot motion pictures of the Republican convention. The films will be flown to New York and put on the air immediately upon arrival. To day through Friday, convention films will be telecast from 8:30 to 9:00 p.m., EWT, and on Saturday, beginning at 9:52 p.m., EWT.

## *20th-Fox Seeks Jero Suit Dismissal*

A dismissal on the grounds of failure to provide a complaint upon which damages can be assessed, was asked yesterday in Federal Court by 20th-Century Fox in an answer to the complaint filed by Maude Nugent Jerome, author of the song, "Sweet Rosie O'Grady." Miss Jerome asks an accounting of profits and an injunction to prevent further use of the film title, "Sweet Rosie O'Grady," on the grounds that song and title were unlawfully appropriated.

## *PRC Gets Canada Rights*

TORONTO, June 26.—PRC has acquired from Film Classics the Canadian rights to five Samuel Goldwyn reissues, it was disclosed here by general manager H. J. Allen who completed negotiations in New York. The deal includes "Wuthering Heights," "Kid from Spain," "The Cowboy and the Lady," "Bulldog Drummond," "Barbary Coast" and "Dead End."

## *WB Blood Donor Drive*

A drive for blood donors to contribute to the American Red Cross blood bank was launched yesterday at the Warner Bros. home office by a committee headed by Martin F. Bennett, president of the Warner Club, assisted by Samuel R. Kahn and George Imber. Motion Picture Office Employees Union is cooperating with the Warner Club and the company in signing up volunteers.

# "THANKS!"

The Twenty Year Birthday of the Friendly Lion is being observed with fitting ceremonies throughout the nation. An unprecedented tribute is being paid to M-G-M during its Anniversary Week. 16,446 showmen representing 99.98% of the nation's motion picture theatres—*all but three!*—are playing an M-G-M subject on their screens. Likewise throughout the world this famed trade-mark is being flashed on thousands of screens in recognition of M-G-M's Twenty Happy Years of sincere effort toward the welfare of our industry.

To the exhibitors who made it possible, thanks from the grateful heart of Leo the Lion and his associates. To the trade press and to the newspaper and magazine editors who helped him celebrate, thanks for all the kind words.

Your generosity and your faith inspires The Friendly Company to the even greater future which we share together.



## ANNIVERSARY PRODUCTIONS

"WHITE CLIFFS OF DOVER" (*Irene Dunne, Alan Marshal*) • "AN AMERICAN ROMANCE"—Technicolor—(*Brian Donlevy*) "DRAGON SEED" • (*Katharine Hepburn*) "TWO GIRLS AND A SAILOR" (*Van Johnson, June Allyson, Gloria DeHaven, Jose Iturbi, Jimmy Durante, Harry James, Xavier Cugat*) • "BATHING BEAUTY"—Technicolor—(*Red Skelton, Esther Williams, Harry James, Xavier Cugat*) "KISMET"—Technicolor—(*Ronald Colman, Marlene Dietrich*) • "MEET ME IN ST. LOUIS"—Technicolor—(*Judy Garland, Margaret O'Brien*) • "MARRIAGE IS A PRIVATE AFFAIR" (*Lana Turner*) • "THE SEVENTH CROSS" (*Spencer Tracy*) • "NATIONAL VELVET"—Technicolor—(*Mickey Rooney*) "THE CANTERVILLE GHOST" (*Margaret O'Brien, Charles Laughton, Robert Young*) "ZIEGFELD FOLLIES"—Technicolor—(*All Star Cast*) • "THIRTY SECONDS OVER TOKYO" (*Van Johnson, Robert Walker, and Spencer Tracy as Lieutenant General James H. Doolittle*) "MRS. PARKINGTON" (*Greer Garson—Walter Pidgeon*) • "WITHOUT LOVE" (*Spencer Tracy—Katharine Hepburn*) • "THE THIN MAN GOES HOME" (*William Powell—Myrna Loy*) "LOST IN A HAREM" (*Bud Abbott—Lou Costello*) • "THE PICTURE OF DORIAN GRAY" (*George Sanders, Donna Reed*) • "THE HONEST THIEF" (*Wallace Beery*)

## THE YOUNG BLOOD TEST!



***"He's even better than he was twenty years ago!"***

# ANOTHER "WHAM"

MONOGRAM PICTURES
presents

# "JOHNNY Doesn't Live ANY

"Light-hearted comedy hit. Scatters hilarity along its zany way and tops it with a surprise finish."
—HOLLYWOOD REPORTER

"Hilarious comedy . . . different, fast-paced and has a hand-picked cast."
—THE EXHIBITOR

starring

## Simone SIMON
## James ELLISON
## William TERRY

with

**Minna GOMBELL • Alan DINEHART**
**Chick CHANDLER**

Produced by MAURICE KING
Associate Producer, FRANKLIN KING
Directed by JOE MAY
Screen Play by PHILIP YORDAN and JOHN KAFKA
From the Liberty Magazine Story by
ALICE MEANS REEVE

MONOGRAM PICTURES



# FROM MONOGRAM!

★ That's what MOTION PICTURE HERALD said!
*"Whimsy with a wham . . . a comedy slick as a ribbon and full of laughs for all comers."*

# Here MORE"



"Another impressive milestone along the route Monogram has been travelling. Definitely big-league . . . will gain topside bookings." —BOXOFFIC

## WHAT A STORY!

The riotous experiences of a delicious damsel who didn't know that half the Navy, Army and Marines had pass-keys to the apartment she rented!

MILLIONS READ IT IN LIBERTY MAGAZINE!

## Test Royalties on Copyright Renewals

The first three of a series of test suits to determine whether renewals of copyrights on music originally copyrighted prior to 1909 cover mechanical performance rights has been filed in U. S. District court here by Louis D. Frohlich of the Schwartz & Frohlich law firm, on behalf of copyright owners, it was learned yesterday.

The plaintiffs in the three actions are Ella Herbert Bartlett, her brother, Clifford Herbert, and Allan McDonough, owners of the copyrights on Victor Herbert's "Toyland." Defendants are Decca Records, Radio Corporation of America and Columbia Broadcasting System, who, it is alleged, have been employing the music, originally copyrighted prior to 1909 and since renewed, without payment for mechanical rights.

Music copyrights prior to 1909 did not include mechanical rights. The suits contend, however, that renewals of the copyrights after 1909 automatically embraced such rights, including rights of making adaptations and arrangements. The suits claim that large sums are due to plaintiffs as a result, and ask accountings of defendants' profits.

## Provincial License Supersedes Toronto's

TORONTO, June 26.—An important principle with respect to licensing jurisdiction in Ontario has been established in the outcome of an issue over the granting of a permit to the Casino Theatre, Toronto, operated by the Allens as a combination film-burlesque house. Toronto police commissioners have ruled that an operating license could not be withheld by the city because the Ontario Government had already granted a Provincial license.

Provincial authorities said all films playing the theatre were approved by Ontario censors and all regulations for required safety measures had been met by the theatre, therefore a provincial license could not be refused although there was some question regarding the propriety of the stage shows over which the Ontario Government had no authority. The city then found it had no power to refuse a municipal license. Religious organizations had demanded closing on moral grounds.

## Holloway in Hospital

UTICA, N. Y., June 26.—Sgt. Sterling Holloway, film star who has been entertaining troops here and overseas since his induction in June, 1942, is a patient in Rhoads General Hospital here, recovering from illness.

## Todd Gets 'Pick-Up'

Michael Todd Productions, has purchased film rights to "Pick-Up Girl," Broadway stage play, written by Elsa Shelley and produced by Todd's organization. The show is now playing at the 48th St. Theatre here.

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# 12 New Films Give Studios 58 in Work

HOLLYWOOD, June 26.—Production increased last week as 12 new features went before the cameras, and only six were finished. The total number of pictures in work was 58. The production scene follows:

**Columbia**

*Started*: "Texas Rifles," with Charles Starrett, Tex Harding, Pat Parrish.

*Shooting*: "Stalk the Hunter," "Tonight and Every Night."

**M-G-M**

*Shooting*: "The Home Front," "Anchords Aweigh," "Airship Squadron 4," "Music for Millions," "Son of Lassie," "The Thin Man Goes Home," "Ziegfeld Follies," "The Picture of Dorian Gray," "Thirty Seconds Over Tokyo," "National Velvet.

**Monogram**

*Finished*: "Muggs Meets a Deadline."

*Started*: "Trigger Law," with Hoot Gibson, Bob Steele, Evelyn Eaton, Beatrice Gray, Mauritz Hugo, Ralph Lewis, Mike Latz, Paul Matthews; "Baby Shoe," with Marjorie Weaver, Peter Cookson, Tim Ryan and Pierre Watkin.

**PRC**

*Finished*: "Swing Hostess."

*Started*: "When the Lights Go On Again," with James Lydon, Grant Mitchell, Regis Toomey, Warren Mills, George Cleveland, Harry Shannon and Dorothy Peterson.

*Shooting*: "Bluebeard."

**Paramount**

*Started*: "Kitty," with Paulette Goddard, Ray Milland, Cecil Kellaway, Constance Collier, Reginald Owen, Mikhail Rasumny, Patric Knowles, Sara Allgood, Percy Kilbride, Anita Bolster, Heather Wilde, Patricia Cameron, Mary Maclaren; "Out of This World," with Eddie Bracken, Diana Lynn, Veronica Lake, Cass Daley, Robert Benchley, Mimi Chandler, Mabel Paige, Phyllis Brooks, Miriam Franklin, Olga San Juan, Gloria Saunders, Nancy Porter, Mary Elliott; "Double Exposure" (Pine-Thomas), with Chester Morris, Nancy Kelly, Phillip Terry, Jane Farrar, Richard Gaines, Charles Arnt.

*Shooting*: "A Medal for Benny," "Her Heart in Her Throat" (formerly "Fear"), "Here Come the Waves," "Murder, He Says," "Two Years Before the Mast."

**RKO Radio**

*Finished*: "Tall in the Saddle."

*Shooting*: "The Girl Rush," "The Master Race," "My Pal, Wolf" (formerly "The Pumpkin Shell"), "Farewell, My Lovely," "Having Wonderful Crime," "The Princess and the Pirate" (Goldwyn).

**Republic**

*Finished*: "Code of the Prairie"; "San Fernando Valley."

*Started*: "Man of Mystery," with June Storey, Edward Norris, John Abbott, Eddie Fields.

*Shooting*: "My Buddy," "Brazil," "Atlantic City."

**20th Century-Fox**

*Shooting*: "Thunderhead," "A Tree Grows in Brooklyn," "Laura," "Something for the Boys," "Winged Victory."

**United Artists**

*Started*: "Tomorrow the World" (Cowan," with Fredric March, Betty Field, "Skippy" Homeier, Agnes Moorhead, Edit Angold.

*Shooting*: "Dark Waters" (Bogeaus), "Story of G. I. Joe" (Cowan); "Three's a Family" (Lesser), "Guest in the House" (Stromberg).

**Universal**

*Started*: "The Frozen Ghost," with Lon Chaney, Evelyn Ankers, Martin Kosleck; "The Old Texas Trail," with Rod Cameron, "Fuzzy" Knight.

*Finished*: "Be It Ever So Humble."

*Shooting*: "Can't Help Singing," "My Baby Loves Music," "Queen of the Nile," "In Society," "Bowery to Broadway."

**Warners**

*Started*: "The Corn Is Green," with Bette Davis, John Dall, Joan Loring, Nigel Bruce, Rhys Williams, and Mildred Dunnock.

*Shooting*: "Christmas in Connecticut," "Strangers in Our Midst," "Objective Burma," "Roughly Speaking," "Hollywood Canteen."

## Shut Loop Balconies To Curb Vandals

CHICAGO, June 26.—A lack of supervisory personnel has forced many Loop theatres to close their balconies in order to curb outbreaks of vandalism and juvenile delinquency. Ropedoff signs to that effect have been set up in lobbies.

Most independent and B. & K. houses in the Loop are understood to be operating in this fashion. Theatre managers are attempting to operate without the use of their balconies, but open them when attendance necessitates.

## 'Arms' Record Claimed

CHICAGO, June 26.—RKO's "Up In Arms" goes into its 10th week at the Woods here Wednesday, breaking the long-run record for popular-priced films at that house. Previous record was held by U. A. "Scarface," revival which played nine weeks.

## Meet Called to Plan Cartoon Rental Jump

HOLLYWOOD, June 26.—The Cartoon Producers Association has set June 29 for a meeting at which Walter Lantz will present a detailed survey of his plant's operation cost as a foundation for association action designed to effect an increase in exhibition rental prices for cartoon shorts. Lantz is basing his suggestion on the assertion that costs have risen 40 uercent since 1942, although prices have remained static.

## Francis Is Promoted

DALLAS, June 26.—Sol Francis, formerly Midwestern special representative for Monogram, has been promoted to the uost of Midwest district manager and will supervise the local exchange as well as Monogram offices in Kansas City, Omaha, Oklahoma City and Des Moines. He will maintain headquarters here.

# Hollywood

By THALIA BELL

*Hollywood, June 26*

THERE is little evidence of a summer slack at studios this year. At M-G-M, four new pictures are scheduled to start in July to add to 10 already shooting. They are: "The Clock," starring Judy Garland and Robert Walker; "Without Love," Spencer Tracy-Katharine Hepburn starrer; "Thrill of a Lifetime," with Esther Williams and Van Johnson, and an untitled story of the Wacs to star Lana Turner. Monogram will send five films before the cameras in July, as follows: "Little Devils," story of Chinese patriots; "John Dillinger, Killer," picturization of the life of the outlaw; "They Shall Have Faith," story of infantile paralysis, and two Westerns, "Montana Roundup" and "West of Rainbow Bridge."

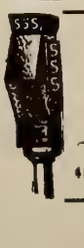
Seven features are shooting at Paramount, as well as a color musical short. This is almost peak production for that studio.

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*After an unsuccessful search for an actor to portray Al Jolson in the screenplay which Columbia is preparing, the studio has turned to the public for aid. Anyone who believes he resembles Jolson sufficiently to play the part is asked to send his photograph to the studio. . . . Twentieth Century-Fox has borrowed John Hodiak from M-G-M to play opposite Anne Baxter in "Sunday Dinner for a Soldier." William Eythe, who was originally slated for the part, will have the lead in "Czarina," opposite Tallulah Bankhead. . . . Barney Bernard, the Broadway producer, is dickering with J. Carroll Naish to star in a stage version of the life of Nick the Greek. . . . Richard Crane, who recently completed a role in "A Wing and a Prayer," has been given a new long-term contract by 20th Century-Fox.*

•

**Gregory Ratoff has been given a new two-year contract as producer, director and writer by 20th Century-Fox . . . Oscar Boetticher has been assigned to direct "Tomorrow You Die" for Columbia . . . Sol Lesser plans a picture dedicated to the Air Service Command. It will be made with Army cooperation, and a topflight war writer will be sent over the combat zone to gather material for the film. . . . Each of PRC's two series of Westerns will have a high-budget "special," says the studio. Buster Crabbe and Al St. John will be starred in one, and Dave O'Brien and Tex Ritter in the other. . . . Edna Mae Wonacott has been added to the cast of Universal's "Be It Ever So Humble." . . . George Pal has two of his Puppetoons in laboratory stages, another cutting, a fourth shooting and a fifth in preparation. "Two-Gun Rusty," in the cutting room, satirizes the standard Western melodrama.**


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# Short Subject Reviews

## "Zero Hour"

(*United Artists*)

Presenting the history of the theory and practice of "Combined Operations" in modernized warfare as a tool of invasion, "Zero Hous" is a graphic portrayal of an ingenious plan, born of German militarists and perfected by the Allies, for three-dimensional warfare—simultaneous attack from air, sea and land. But with "D-Day" still fresh in mind, "Zero Hour" is a bit anti-climactic. Editors of the World in Action series apparently realized this and, when the film had reached a logical pre-D-Day conclusion, they inserted for timeliness some battle sequences, supposedly of the new invasion of the French coast. Exhibitors will readily see exploitation possibilities.

Ernest Borneman's narrative, spoken by Lorne Greene, is good, and so is much of the photography. However, "Zero Hour" falls short of standards set previously by the World in Action series. Produced by the National Film Board of Canada, the film is distributed here by United Artists. Stuart Legg edited. Running time, 22 mins.

## "And to Think That I Saw It on Mulberry Street"

(*Paramount*)

George Pal has combined for the first time live action with his puppets in this story by a boy who returns home after school describing the imaginary wonders he has seen on Mulberry Street. The puppets are artistically on a high level and encompass at the climax a huge parade complete with a bandwagon, brass band, motorcycle escort and paraders. This is one of the more ambitious of the Pal Puppetoons. Running time, 7½ mins.

## "Popular Science"

(*Paramount*)

Rice-sowing from a low-flying plane in the Sacramento Valley, Cal., which permits in a single operation work previously performed by 300 men in an entire day; the use of new kitchen gadgets and methods are shown from French-fried potatoes to the home dehydration of vegetables, and the processes involved in a synthetic rubber plant, are the subjects of this interesting short subject. Running time, 10 mins.

## "Suddenly It's Spring"

(*Paramount*)

Latest release in the Noveltoon series of color cartoons, this proves to be an engrosing subject for old and young. The color is breathtakingly beautiful, employing soft pastel shades and the song, "The World Is Longing for the Sunshine," by Mack David and Sammy Timberg, fits snugly into the subject. Raggedy Ann is beseeching the elements to permit some sunshine to touch the earth in order to aid her little mistress' recovery from an illness. She succeeds by appealing with melody to the gruff Mr. Zero. Running time, 10 mins.


Paramount NEWS

AND NOTHING BUT THE NEWS



MIDWEST'S $3,000,000 "WAR BOND PREMIERE" OF "THE STORY OF DR. WASSELL" AT CHICAGO'S STATE-LAKE THEATRE LAST FRIDAY NIGHT SENT PICTURE ZOOMING TO OPENING GROSS 22% OVER "STAR SPANGLED RHYTHM" AT SAME HOUSE...PREMIERE WAS HAILED EDITORIALLY BY CHICAGO HERALD-AMERICAN AND ATTENDED BY G.O.P. CONVENTION GREATS INCLUDING PRODUCER AND DELEGATE CECIL B. DE MILLE AND LOVELY CAROL THURSTON, "TREMARTINI" OF FILM.


# Short Subject Reviews

## 'The Dream Kids'

(*Columbia*)

The Fox and the Crow are at it again—they invade each other's dreams and the result is a dizzy race to see who gets the lovely dream lady. Eddie Kilfeather's music score adds much. Dave Fleischer produced. Running time, 7½ mins.

## "Film Vodvil No. 5"

(*Columbia*)

Featuring Frank Novak's comedy band, this entertaining short subject also includes the radio quartet of The Escorts and Betty in a clever rendition of "Don't Sweetheart Me"; Lanny and Ginger singing "He Holds the Lantern While His Mother Chops the Wood" and the "Mexican Hayride" dancers, Lane and Claire. Good balance and comedy routines make this one of the best in the series to date. Running time, 10 mins.

## 'Mexican Sportland'

(*Warners*)

Another treatment of the beauties of Mexico City is the subject of this film. There is nothing to make it outstanding; in the light of past treatments, "Mexican Sportland" is a routine short very well done. Commentary by Knox Manning is good. Produced in color for the Sports Parade series. Running time, 10 mins.

## 'The Swooner Crooner'

(*Warners*)

Clever take-offs on Sinatra and Crosby, by two roosters, make this cartoon a most entertaining subject. Porky Pig's egg factory is behind in its production schedule because the hens are spending all their time drooling over Sinatra Rooster. Porky hires Crosby Rooster to get the hens to work again. It works. Running time, 7 mins. Produced by Leon Schlesinger for the Looney-Tune color series.

## "Fun Time"

(*Paramount*)

The latest "Musical Parade" stars Eddie Foy, Jr., and and Noell Neill, a promising newcomer with a pleasing singing voice and real acting ability. The story shows Foy as a down-and-out dancer, living at a boarding house with a group of other vaudevillians. With the help of Miss Neill, the boarding house maid, Foy gets his break and she becomes his partner. Done in Technicolor, "Fun Time" is full of laughs and music and the story stands up well. Walter MacEwen produced with Louis Harris assisting. Robert S. Brode wrote the screenplay. Running time, 20 mins.

## "Lulu Gets the Birdie"

(*Paramount*)

Little Lulu is reprimanded by Mammy for putting the kitchen in a state of mild disorder. Lulu, upon asking how Mammy knew she was the culprit, is told that "a little bird informed." Lulu sets out to find the bird and becomes involved in all sorts of trouble, and she doesn't find the bird. The latest in Lulu's cartoon series is mildly amusing. Running time, 8 mins.

# TODAY, AS YESTERDAY

# Brilliant

STILL A BRILLIANT FILM, audiences and critics agree, is Columbia's "Lost Horizon." Still brilliant, too, is the screen lighting from "National" Projector Carbons, whether the picture be the most recent release or a second or third run. Audiences enjoy virtually the same screen light today as when "Lost Horizon" was first shown.

This has been accomplished because National Carbon Company's background of research and manufacturing experience enabled it to redesign pre-war carbons promptly to war-time needs . . . and also because of the close technical cooperation of exhibitor, projectionist and lamp manufacturer.

***Most important of all, however, is that enormous quantities of copper have been saved for the war effort,* through recovery of copper drippings and stripping of copper from carbon stubs.**

The best evidence that these efforts are successful is that motion picture patrons in ever increasing numbers are overflowing theatres everywhere for needed relaxation and worthwhile entertainment.

★ *BUY UNITED STATES WAR BONDS* ★



1937



1944

The trade-mark "National" distinguishes products of National Carbon Company, Inc.

## NATIONAL CARBON COMPANY, INC.

*Unit of Union Carbide and Carbon Corporation*

CARBON PRODUCTS DIVISION, Cleveland 1, Ohio UCC New York, Pittsburgh, Chicago, San Francisco

Fifth War Loan Drive!

# MOTION PICTURE DAILY

'Free Movie Day' July 6

VOL. 55. NO. 126 NEW YORK, U. S. A., WEDNESDAY, JUNE 28, 1944 TEN CENTS

FILE COPY DO NOT REMOVE

## Special Fifth Loan Events Total 10,415

### *O'Donnell Gives 'Free Day,' Premiere Score*

A total of 10,415 special events have already been definitely set for the "Fighting Fifth" War Loan, R. J. O'Donnell, national industry chairman, disclosed here yesterday. These are events which are booked and confirmed under the distributors' agreement with the Fifth War Loan committee and do not include the many special bond shows which are staged otherwise, O'Donnell pointed out.



R. J. O'Donnell

Of the total, 4,715 are war bond

(Continued on page 6)

## McCarthy Opens PRC Sales Meet Today

Annual sales convention and meeting of franchise holders of PRC Pictures will get under way here this morning at the Essex House, running through Friday, with Leo J. McCarthy, general sales manager, presiding. Leon Fromkess, vice-president in charge of production, is due here to-

(Continued on page 7)

## Would Ban Jumping Mexican Contracts

HOLLYWOOD, June 27.—A reciprocal agreement between the Screen Actors Guild and the Mexican Actors Guild whereby SAG would prevent Mexican players from violating their commitments to Mexican producers in order to accept Hollywood employment will be sought by Jorge Negrete, MAG president, in a meeting with James Cagney, SAG president, on Thursday.

Here for the stated purpose of quashing reports that his organization opposes bringing Mexican players to

(Continued on page 7)

### *Two-Million Bond Buy for Columbia*

**A corporate purchase of $2,000,000 in war bonds was announced by Columbia here yesterday for the Fifth War Loan Drive. This is apart from purchases made by employees of the company during the drive. Columbia's quota is $3,250,000.**

**Columbia employees have set a goal of $232,000.**

## *Canada Tax On Way Out*

TORONTO, June 27.—A reduction in cost of films and accessories brought from outside the Dominion would result from repeal of the 10 percent war tax on such imported items, elimination of which is provided by the new Federal budget, now tabled in the House of Commons by Hon. J. L. Ilsley. The ban on luxury imports would likewise be removed.

The budget also contains provisions to modify the film company and other corporation taxes in a move to ease the financial position of business firms working out postwar programs. Another change would permit business losses in one year to be spread over three years for compilation of the corporation tax, and double depreciation would be allowed on new investments, as well as rapid depreciation on other assets. Expenditures for maintenance and repairs could be charged against the corporation income of the previous year.

In addition, the budget looks to re-

(Continued on page 6)

## Scully Lists 'U's' 1st Quarter Films; All But One Ready

Universal's 1944-45 first-quarter releases were disclosed here yesterday by William A. Scully, vice-president and general sales manager. Twelve of the 13 productions scheduled are already completed and "in the can." Releases for the quarter reported yesterday by Scully follow:



Wm. A. Scully

Sept. 1: Color production, "Gypsy Wildcat," starring Maria Montez, Jon Hall, Peter Coe, produced by George Waggner, directed by Roy William Neill; Sept. 9: "Moonlight and Cactus," with the Andrews Sisters, Leo Carrillo, Elyse Knox and Mitch Ayres and his orchestra, directed by Eddie Cline; Sept. 15: "The Merry Monahans," starring Donald O'Connor, Jack Oakie, Peggy Ryan, directed by Charles Lamont

(Continued on page 7)

### *Projectionists to Cite Moss and Fr. Boland*

License Commissioner Paul Moss and Rev. Fr. John P. Boland, former chairman of the New York State Labor Relations Board, will become honorary life members of IATSE Projectionists' Union Local 306, New

(Continued on page 7)

## *Distributors Confer with McNutt on Manpower*

WASHINGTON, June 27.—Representatives of the War Activities Committee, whose delegations last week failed to secure from the Essential Activities Committee of the War Manpower Commission definite assurance of assistance in securing exchange labor which they sought, today conferred with Chairman Paul V. McNutt in a final effort to convince the commission of the necessity for providing priorities assistance to insure the uninterrupted distribution of motion pictures.

The group was headed by Ned Depinet, chairman of the WAC distributors' division, and included Tom Connors, 20th Century-Fox, vice-chairman

(Continued on page 6)

### *Four-Day Holiday For Some Offices*

**RKO, Reupblic, U. A., Loew and M-G-M are the first to call a four-day holiday for their home offices this weekend, starting Friday night and running over Fourth of July to Wednesday morning.**

**Other managements are considering similar closings and it is expected that a large part of the industry here will be shutdown for the four days.**

## OCR To 'Soft Pedal' New Theatre Plans

### *Reorganization Looms; McMurphey to Quit*

By BERTRAM F. LINZ

WASHINGTON, June 27.—A major reorganization of the Amusements and Recreation Section of the Office of Civilian Requirements, involving the resignation of George W. McMurphey as chief and a marked relaxation of emphasis on the theatre construction program, is expected to be made in the very near future, it was learned tonight.

Although the difficulties in which the section found itself last month as a result of criticisms of its programs from the outside and opposition to their prosecution from within the War Production Board, which were

(Continued on page 6)

## Two More Vanguard Representatives

CHICAGO, June 27.—Neil Agnew, Vanguard Pictures' vice-president in charge of distribution, disclosed here today that two additional sales executives will be appointed for Vanguard but that no formal appointments have as yet been made. Candidates for the positions have been discussed for the past two days at meetings at the Drake Hotel with Hugh Owen, Vanguard sales manager, who came in with Agnew from New York for this

(Continued on page 6)

## Rodgers Cites M-G-M Open Door Policy

CLEVELAND, June 27.—William F. Rodgers, M-G-M vice president and general sales manager stopped off here enroute from the Coast to host a goodwill M-G-M luncheon today at the Statler Hotel attended by 60 exhibitors and M-G-Mers.

In a short talk Rodgers reiterated his open door policy and thanked the exhibitors for their support through the years and in particular during the anniversary week, but asked that in registering industry group grievances M-G-M should not be included inasmuch as his company has sincerely

(Continued on page 7)

## Nat'l Screen Wage Scale Talks Begin

Setting up of job classifications and minimum wage scales for some 200 New York exchange and home office workers of National Screen Service was started here yesterday at a meeting between NSS officials and representatives of the Screen Office and Professional Employes Guild, Local 109, CIO. Sydney Young, SOPEG president, headed the union group, while executive vice-president William Brenner was chief spokesman for the company. Another session is scheduled for next week.

Wage increases that develop from the new classifications will be retroactive to Jan. 3, 1944, as reported Monday in MOTION PICTURE DAILY.

## Joyce Joins 20th on Midwest Publicity

CHICAGO, June 27.—Fred Joyce, publicity director of the Stevens Hotel here, will join 20th-Fox as a special publicity representative on July 1. His first assignment will be in connection with the national exploitation campaign for "Wilson."

Joyce was formerly in the publicity department of United Artists and prior to that handled publicity for David O. Selznick. Jules Fields, assistant publicity director for 20th-Fox will arrive from New York Friday to assist in mapping out the "Wilson" campaign. Joyce will make his headquarters here.

## PIC Committee Elects Harry Brand

LOS ANGELES, June 27.—Public Information Committee, western division, today elected Harry Brand, chairman, succeeding Alex Evelove whose term expired. John Joseph, 20th Century-Fox studio publicity director, was re-elected chairman of the Executive Committee. Maj. John W. Hubbell, John C. Flinn, Ed Schreiber, O. M. Baily, guests of the meeting, petitioned the PIC to cooperate in obtaining more premieres for troops overseas.

## Theatre Damage from Floods Very Slight

Damage to theatres from fresh floods in the Midwest has been almost negligible so far, according to reports reaching home offices here.

Harry M. Kalmine of Warner Bros. Theatres returned here yesterday from a tour of the Western Pennsylvania area struck last week by a tornado and reported that he had found no appreciable theatre damage.

## J. Lasker, 78, Dead, Pioneer Exhibitor

CHICAGO, June 27.—Jacob Lasker, 78, pioneer exhibitor died here last Monday. Burial will be in Memorial Park Cemetery on Wednesday. Lasker was the operator of the Jacob Lasker and Sons Theatre circut. He is survived by his widow, Ida, and two sons, Ben and Harry who will operate the circuit.

# Insider's Outlook

By RED KANN

*Hollywood, June 27*

IN a forthright "put up or shut up" approach, the Motion Picture Alliance for the Preservation of American Ideals has been invited to support its public utterances about the political and ideological constituency of Hollywood. The time is set apart as Wednesday night when 17 member bodies currently identified with the Emergency Committee of Hollywood Guilds and Unions are slated to hold a mass meeting.

This is to be the several times deferred rally out of which a better public relations front for Hollywood is to be discussed as a form of armor, answering and resisting unwarranted and unproven attacks. The focalising will be concentrated on the MPA.

■

ECHGU, which are initials not designed to confound the printer, has put in the open nine questions which it asks (challenges) an accredited MPA spokesman to answer. Particularly pertinent in that they bear directly on the commercial aspects of the industry and can wield visible and invisible influences on the box-office, are these:

"In view of your statement that the Motion Picture Alliance believes itself to 'represent the vast majority of the people who serve this great medium of expression,' how many of Hollywood's 30,000 workers are enrolled members of your organization?

"What organization or individuals outside the Motion Picture Alliance share your contention that there is a 'widespread impression that this industry is made up of and dominated by Communists, radicals and crackpots'?

"In view of your assertion that you find yourselves 'in sharp revolt against a rising tide of Communism, Fascism and kindred beliefs,' which motion pictures in the opinion of the Motion Picture Alliance have contained such propaganda?

"Which producers or producing companies these having sole control of the content of motion pictures—does the Motion Picture Alliance hold responsible for the propaganda it professes to have discovered?"

■

The last three wrap up the guts of the situation. They are fair questions. Too, they are questions which many here want answered if generalizations are to be converted into something far more substantial.

Men like Sam Wood and Walt Disney are far too prominent in this industry to lend weight to innuendoes of the grave, potential damage which marks the unsupported charges of the MPA. It is not sufficient to level an attack and thereafter walk away from proof. This is the position of the MPA up to this time.

■

If the Alliance has the evidence to support such a sweeping viewpoint, its sponsorship must recognize a duty to the whole industry and produce it on call and in the open where it may be appraised and a determination made. Moreover, the Alliance's charges having been unburdened publicly, there is every right on insistence that its proof be unburdened in the identical manner.

■

However, we assume it as our own unalterable opinion that no group within the industry and no group outside it can back any claim that, by widespread impression, this business is made up of and dominated by Communists, radicals and crackpots.

The principal men in it are widely known by name and by rank. To suggest a single one fits any of the three categories named by the Alliance would be a libel if it were not funny and overtoned with harm. To suggest that they, as the producing heads or the presidents of the established companies, are being taken in by mysterious and unidentified individuals or forces is as fantastic as it is ridiculous.

They have eyes and they have ears. They also have advisers. No one need ever voice concern about their awareness or their gullibility, for that matter.

■ ■

"Whether a producer makes a picture for pleasure or for profit, for pure entertainment or for pure education—or just for art's sake—he is up against the incontrovertible fact that his picture will produce some effect, for good or for bad, on its audiences."—Harry M. Warner.

In forty-five words, he limns a responsibility and an obligation from which no recession is possible.

■ ■

*Time Passeth Note*: Six years ago Universal didn't "have bread in the house." Nate Blumberg said so, openly and often. Next season, the company will have seven in Technicolor.

To appreciate this it is required to report Hollywood never undertakes pictures in color unless there is beef in the house.

## U. S. Will Protect Seized Copyrights

WASHINGTON, June 27.—Alien property custodian James E. Markham today served notice that he would protect the Government's interests in former enemy-owned copyrights which have been seized since the outbreak of war. His action was prompted by the status of the German marching song "Lili Marlene," which was highly popular with Allied troops in the African campaign. This song is the property of the Government, and anyone wishing to exploit it in this country must first obtain a license from him, Markham said, adding that such licenses are non-exclusive, and that several have been issued for publication of "Lili."

APC officials stated that they had no information that any of their copyrights were being pirated but thought it timely to issue the warning.

## Atlantic City Houses Raise Admissions 8c

ATLANTIC CITY, June 27.—Boardwalk theatres here have increased admission prices for the Summer.

First-run houses raise their 66-cent top price to 74 cents, attributing the raise to increased operational costs. The first runs are operated by Warners in a pooling arrangement with the Weilland-Lewis houses.

## Mrs. Rogers Rites Held

LOS ANGELES, June 27.—Private Christian Science services were conducted yesterday at the Wee Kirk o'Heather in Forest Lawn Memorial Park for Mrs. Betty Blake Rogers, widow of Will Rogers. Temporary interment was in the crypt where Rogers' remains reposed until removed to Claremore, Okla.

## Hopkins Resumes Post With Columbia

LOS ANGELES, June 27.—William K. Hopkins who resigned the regional directorship of the War Manpower Commission returns to his Columbia post as labor relations executive next month. B. P. Guild who substituted during Hopkins' absence continues in the department.

## McKune, Silverstein Assigned to PWB

Robert McKune, formerly in the film business in South Africa for many years, and Maurice Silverstein, formerly with Universal, have been assigned by the Office of War Information overseas film bureau to work with the Army Psychological Warfare Board overseas on film matters.

McKune returned from Africa to volunteer his services with the OWI.

## 25 Years with 20th

CHICAGO, June 27.—Jack Lorentz of the 20th-Fox exchange will complete 25 years with the company next month. July 16 through August 19 has been designated as local "Silver Jubilee" month for Lorentz, it was reported by Herman Heiersdorf, district manager.

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## *16% of N. Y. Bond Sales in Theatres*

**Metropolitan New York area motion picture theatre sales of "E" bonds in the Fifth War Loan Drive amount to 16% of the total sold throughout New York State, according to Lewis E. Pierson, deputy state chairman of the campaign. The War Finance Committee has volunteered to assist theatre managers in any neighborhood or community where the sales are lagging.**

## *$1,000,000 Premiere In Youngstown*

YOUNGSTOWN, Ohio, June 27.—All local theatres, in cooperation with the Mahoning County Furniture Association, held a record bond premiere at the Warner Theatre, in which the $1,000,000 goal was exceeded by $8,000. Some 2,144 people filled the house. Admission was by bond only and the audience participated in a bond auction conducted by Sam Vining, national promotion manager of the War Finance Committee. Gifts included wool blankets for $1,000 bonds; silver pitchers or garbage cans for $500 bonds; carving sets for $100 bonds; glass water sets for $50 bonds and candy jars for $25 bonds. Everyone who entered the house received a door prize.

Max Greenwald, general manager of the five theatres in Elyria, reports that his bond premiere, held last Wednesday night at the Capitol, resulted in the sale of $1,975,000 worth of bonds.

### Henry Reeve on Tour At His Own Expense

DALLAS, June 27.—Henry Reeve of the Mission Theatre, Menard, Tex., has just completed a series of war bond meetings in San Antonio, Austin and Brownwood, attended by independent owners and circuit personnel.

Reeve, as president of Texas Theatre Owners, Inc., made the tour at his own expense. Tonight he put on an outdoor rally in Menard, featuring Guinn (Big Boy) Williams, Peggy O'Neill, Cindy Garner and three war heroes.

### Ohio Claims Lead on Percent Quota Basis

CINCINNATI, June 27.—The local Variety Club is conducting a war bond booth in the lobby of Keith's Theatre, serving 24 hours a day.

With all theatres maintaining huge sales volume and gaining steadily, Hamilton County reports total bond sales of $92,137,755, or approximately 75 per cent of the $124,000,000 quota.

Percy Brown, state executive vice-chairman, reports from Cleveland a total of $256,430,654, or 32.1 per cent of the state's $797,000,000. "Ohio probably is leading the larger states on the basis of percentages of bond quotas," Brown declared in his report.

### Wyoming First 100% For Bond Premieres

Wyoming is the first state in the history of the War Activities Committee to report 100 per cent exhibitor participation in war bond premieres. E. J. Schulte, exhibitor chairman for that state, reported to the national "Fighting Fifth" War Loan committee that 93 per cent of the state's theatres will also hold "Free Movie Days," and 75 per cent are already scheduled to run Children's Premieres.

National chairman R. J. O'Donnell extended congratulations to Schulte and Tom Berta, exhibitor co-chairman, and all distributor chairmen and salesmen who cooperated on behalf of the national committee.

### Loewites Sell $6,200,300

Loew's Theatres sold $6,200,300 in Fifth War Loan bonds June 1-23, compared with $2,854,000 during the same period of the Fourth Loan. Leading New York theatres were the Pitkin, $283,250; Boro Park, $281,920; and American, $266,300. The out of town pace was set by the Capitol, Washington, $237,475; State, Cleveland, $214,250, and Loew's State, Norfolk, $159,400.

# *Reviews*

## *"Gildersleeve's Ghost"*

*(RKO Radio)*

"GILDERSLEEVE'S GHOST" will chiefly tickle the funnybones of adolescents but will have little appeal for those who like their humor served up on an adult level. The cream of the jest, which curdles rapidly, is the confusion which results when Harold Peary in a gorilla costume stalks a real gorilla who has escaped from experiments with a drug that makes objects invisible. Some amusing sequences develop when the gorilla, mistaken for Peary, is persuaded to deport himself as a gentleman, but the film's 64 minutes are punctuated with dreary stretches.

The portly Peary who has won a radio following also briefly plays the roles of two ghostly ancestors who set the motivation for the plot when they release the gorilla and direct it to Peary's house to provide him with an opportunity to make himself a hero so he can win an election for police commissioner. Marion Martin, as another subject of the experiments; Richard LeGrand, Amelita Ward; Freddie Mercer and Margie Stewart are in the supporting cast. Dordon Douglas directed from the stage and screen play by Robert H. Kent in a manner reminiscent of the departed days of stage farce. Hermon Schlom produced.

Running time, 64 minutes. "G."* Release in Block 6.

CHARLES RYWECK

## *"Follow the Leader"*

*(Monogram)*

*Hollywood, June 27*

LEO GORCEY and Huntz Hall are in the Army at the beginning of this item in the Sam Katzman-Jack Dietz series of East Side Kids presentations, but they are spelled out of service for as long as it takes them to find out who's been filching alcohol from a warehouse and apprehend the culprits, a feat achieved by deductions and doings in pattern with those utilized in films that have preceded this one. The use of the uniform gives the undertaking a foundation in patriotism and a measure of timeliness, but performances and story nullify the gains.

William Crowley and Beryl Sachs wrote the script, from a story by Andre Lamb, which contains loop-holes through which suspense and interest seep out at expense of entertainment. The things that happen lack, therefore, plausibility and point. A few of Gorcey's wisecracks, and some of Hall's retorts, got ripples from the audience to which the film was previewed.

Barney A. Sarecky was associate producer and William Beaudine directed, neither of them bettering his record.

Running time, 64 mins "G." Release date, June 3.

WILLIAM R. WEAVER

## *"The Last Horseman"*

*(Columbia)*

*Hollywood, June 27*

RUSSELL HAYDEN romps through this Leon Barsha production with ease and agility, supported by Dub Taylor, Bob Wills and the Texas Playboys. En route to the Bar-W ranch, the boys are robbed of a check which was to have been used to pay off the mortgage. There's plenty of gunplay before the boys get the money back from the black-hearted banker who plans to foreclose. In a fast-action finish, the cowboys chase the bank's hirelings over the rooftops of Silver City.

Glimpses of Ann Savage as the cashier of the bank decorate the doings. There are a number of songs by Wills and the Playboys, and, all in all, the picture adds up to an hour of above-average entertainment in its class. William Berke directs with skill, and George Meehan is credited with unusually good photography.

Running time, 56 mins. "G."* Release date, June 22. THALIA BELL

**"G" denotes general classification.*

# *Personal Mention*

MAURICE BERGMAN, Eastern advertising and publicity director for Universal, left yesterday for Atlanta to attend a Southern district sales meeting.

•

BEATRICE PEEZICK, secretary and sister-in-law to LEWEN PIZOR, independent circuit head and president of United M.P.T.O., Philadelphia, was married to SGT. DAVID BERSCHLER last week.

•

PAUL S. KRUMENACKER, assistant to F. D. MOORE, Warner Pittsburgh branch manager, and his wife, ANNE, will celebrate their silver wedding anniversary July 2.

•

IRA H. COHN, 20th-Fox branch manager at Buffalo, and MRS. COHN have returned from Indiana where they visited their son, an Army captain.

•

JAMES FLOOD, manager of the Senate, Philadelphia, became the father of a daughter, MARY ELIZABETH, born to MRS. FLOOD recently.

•

MORRIS GOODMAN, Republic vice-president in charge of foreign sales, will leave tomorrow for a two-week visit in Mexico.

•

MARGARET MCCORKLE, chief of the service staff at Warners' Stanley, Philadelphia, has left to join the WAVES.

•

MAX FELLERMAN, Eastern representative of Banner Productions, has returned to New York from the Coast.

•

BOB BROWER, booker for Universal in Philadelphia for the past 24 years, resigned to join a Florida circuit.

•

ARY LIMA, general manager for Warners in Brazil, returned to New York yesterday from the Coast.

•

I. J. SCHMERTZ, 20th Century-Fox Cleveland branch manager, became a grandfather last week.

•

R. F. HAGEN, manager of Warner film checking service, is visiting Cincinnati and Cleveland.

•

JERRY SPANDAU of Universal's Buffalo exchange has returned from Boston.

## *Phillipson to Paramount*

Joe Phillipson, who has resigned as general manager of Cooper Theatres in Denver will join the Paramount distribution department when his resignation becomes effective some time in early July, the home office announced here yesterday.

## *Tax Returns on Upgrade*

PHILADELPHIA, June 27.—The city treasurer reports collections of city amusement taxes for the first five months of this year were $591,072. Last year's figures for the same period was $566,887.


There's no PACE like Hom
IN TEC
20th
CENTURY-FOX
HOLDS THE LEAD! with THE E

# THE MONEY POSITION EVERYWHERE!

e press and tremendous opening at the **ROXY, NEW YORK!** Moves over **CINCINNATI** to another first-run house after year's biggest promotion over the mighty mikes of Station **WCKY!** Moves over in **INDIANAPOLIS!** Moves over in **DAYTON!** Holds over in **CLEVELAND!** Beats everything in **MARION!** Tops "Coney Island" in **LOS ANGELES** — in **LOUISVILLE!** Big in **EVANSTON** — in **YOUNGSTOWN** — in **MUNCIE!** Ditto everywhere!

# e in Indiana

COLOR

## GROOMED FOR THE BOXOFFICE!

with a country-blanketing magazine campaign typical of the out-front pre-selling from 20th Century-Fox!

"NEVER STOP TILL YOU'RE OVER THE TOP! FIGHTING FIFTH WAR LOAN!"

ARK • PIN UP GIRL • BUFFALO BILL • FOUR JILLS IN A JEEP • THE SONG OF BERNADETTE

# OCR To 'Soft Pedal' New Theatre Plans

(Continued from page 1)

largely responsible for the resigna- of John Eberson as theatres consultant, were declared several weeks ago to have been satisfactorily settled, it has been apparent since that higher officials of the OCR were less enthusiastic over the project to provide film theatre facilities for congested war production areas and that there has been a general slowing down of the effort, although the manpower situation has been responsible for that, in part.

Neither Donald R. Longman, chief of the Service Trades Division, of which the Amusements and Recreation Section is a part, nor McMurphey were willing to discuss the situation today, but it has been known for some time that the attempt to secure a successor to Eberson has not been prosecuted very vigorously and that only tentative moves have been made to locate a man who might take the position.

**No Need for Service**

McMurphey is understood to believe that, under present conditions, his opportunity to serve has been reduced to a point where to remain longer would serve no useful purpose.

The development of adequate theatre facilities for the war production areas has been one of the major aims of the section under McMurphey, and some 68 new theatre and remodeling jobs have been approved out of a program which proposed eventually to provide about 200 houses. The recreation section's difficulties climaxed last month when the pressure of non-theatrical amusement interests for new facilities aroused a reluctance in WPB bureaus to authorize the use of highly critical war materials for amusement projects. The matter became so serious that higher officials of OCR and WPB are understood to have taken a hand. Later, it was announced that the situation had been ironed out and that no changes would be made in the section's personnel or policy, but it was generally believed at the time that definite action was merely being withheld until the matter had cooled off a bit.

**Applications in Abeyance**

Since then, however, applications for new theatres have been held in abeyance, with the explanation that the manpower situation, particularly on the West Coast where Fox West Coast Theatres planned to build several houses, was so serious that it was impossible to divert labor from necessary war plant and war housing construction. Officials of WPB bureaus having to do with the materials required for theatre construction are also understood to be opposed to such use of materials which also are urgently needed for war purposes, particularly in view of the fact that when the European campaign is closed major shifts in war production will occur which may materially reduce the importance and population of some of the communities which now are most congested and most in need of additional amusement facilities.

# *Special Fifth War Loan Events Total 10,415*

(Continued from page 1)

premieres, as compared with 3,182 in the Fourth War Loan; 4,809 are "Free Movie Days," contrasted with 3,403 in the fourth, and 891 are children's premieres. Children's premieres were not included in the distributor agreement in previous war loans and few were held.

Leading is the Minneapolis exchange territory with 417 bond premieres, 366 "Free Movie Days" and 95 children's premieres. The St. Louis territory tops the country for "Free Movie Days," with 511 set. In the children's premiere classification, Pittsburgh is ahead with 108.

The national committee stresses that the figures are incomplete, and that many more events are still being set. The totals do not, for instance, reflect "Free Movie Day" in the New York Metropolitan area, where virtually every theatre is expected to participate in the July 6 event. Texas is expected to have about 500 war bond premieres. Charlotte has listed 34 special events which are not included. Service shows and similar presentations in other territories are also excluded from the tabulation in some instances.

The two-year comparison of war bond premieres by exchange areas, as reported by Ned E. Depinet, national distributor chairman, with the Fifth War Loan figure given first and the Fourth War Loan grand total second, is as follows: Albany, 48-18; Atlanta, 167-136; Boston, 172-86; Buffalo, 30-28; Charlotte, 150-156; Chicago, 112-72; Cincinnati, 143-53; Cleveland, 58-83; Dallas, 382-208; Denver, 171-201; Des Moines, 170-40; Detroit, 101-93; Indianapolis, 58-58; Kansas City, 357-170; Los Angeles, 251-121; Memphis, 101-70; Milwaukee, 221-236; Minneapolis, 417-281; New Haven, 32-38; New Orleans, 154-12; New York, 86-67; New Jersey, 19-0; Oklahoma City, 116-91; Omaha, 73-61; Philadelphia, 317-145; Pittsburgh, 157-102; Portland, 54-81; St. Louis, 79-63; Salt Lake City, 146-114; San Francisco, 222-185; Seattle, 56-50; Washington, 95-63.

**Radio Barrage on Eve Of 'Free Movie Day'**

A total of 660 film commentators on network affiliated radio stations will receive special material publicizing the motion picture industry's national "Free Movie Day," Thursday, July 6.

These announcements, prepared by Martin Starr, radio director of the "Fighting Fifth" War Loan committee, will be scheduled for inclusion in local radio programs on the afternoon and evening of July 5, on the eve of the big event which will come two days before the end of the drive. Tying in with local theatres, the radio publicity will explain that anyone buying a bond or making an application for a bond on July 6 will be admitted free to participating theatres on "Free Movie Day." This will be in addition to special announcements which will be made on several major network shows coast-to-coast on the night of July 5. The radio announcements will constitute the greatest radio barrage ever given to a motion picture industry war loan drive.

The "Free Movie Day" campaign will also include national newspaper publicity scheduled to break over the wire service on July 5, in addition to local publicity mentioning theatres participating in the event.

**Boston's Suburbs Have Novel Bond Campaigns**

BOSTON, June 27.—Novel methods for boosting the Fifth War Loan campaign in and around Boston have resulted in widespread recognition by the metropolitan press in this area.

Manager William E. Hartnett of the Waltham Embassy held a special bond premiere recently in which groups of students were organized to aid the sale of bonds in homes and factories in that defense town. "Great Invasion" cards were forwarded to all patrons of John Buckley's Roxbury theatre while Paul St. Louis, manager of the East Milton State placaded the entire resort town with "Join the Fighting Fifth" signs. At Haverhill Manager F. Colburn, Jr., of the Colonial Theatre, made photographs, which were picked up by newspapers, of the long lines of war veterans purchasing bonds.

## *Two More Vanguard Representatives*

(Continued from page 1)

meeting, and David Selznick, head of Vanguard, in town as a delegate to the Republican National Convention.

The appointments, Agnew said, will in no way interfere with sales and distribution plans mapped out for Vanguard by United Artists, the appointees serving primarily in advisory capacities. They will be national representatives and probably will have headquarters in New York, Agnew revealed. One will oversee the Central territory and the other, the Far West. MOTION PICTURE DAILY yesterday reported that the meeting here between Agnew, Owen and Selznick would embrace a discussion on the addition of two sales executives.

Agnew and Owen are scheduled to return to New York tomorrow.

## *Selznick Feted By Advertising Agency*

CHICAGO, June 27.—Max Cone of the Foote, Cone and Belding Advertising Agency engaged to do special promotion for "Since You Went Away," today honored David O. Selznick, producer of the picture at a press gathering at the Drake Hotel.

## *Canada Film Import Tax Is on Way Out*

(Continued from page 1)

moval of the compulsory savings portion of the personal income tax in favor of voluntary investments in government war bonds and stamps.

In some quarters it had been feared that the Federal amusement tax of 20 percent would be raised in view of boom figures in theatre business last year, but no change has developed. Industry leaders are disappointed, however, by the lack of downward revision in the 100 percent excess profits tax. This had been proposed to enable companies to build up cash reserves for postwar reconstruction.

# Confer With McNutt On Manpower

(Continued from page 1)

of the division; Leon Bamberger, assistant to Depinet; H. M. Richey, M-G-M; A. A. Schubart, RKO, and Claude Collins, Washington representative of the WAC newsreel division.

At their meeting with McNutt, the delegation explained the situation in detail and the steps which previously have been taken in the effort to secure relief, but do not appear to have been given any assurance that a national essential classification would be granted.

**"Pleasing Talk"**

Following the conference a spokesman for the group said they had a "very pleasing" talk with McNutt, as a result of which "the matter at present is in abeyance," and that they were returning to New York to confer with the WAC distributors' committee to determine what further action may be taken.

**Stability of Labor**

Should the group fail to obtain a reversal of the "locally needed" decision, they will, nevertheless, seek to impress upon the WMC the importance of maintaining the stability of exchange labor as an aid to the war effort, so that future requests for priorities, when granted by regional WMC offices, will be certain of Washington approval. Bamberger, following his appearance at a hearing before the WMC essential activities committee last week, was assured then that the regional office would deal "sympathetically" with such requests.

**Industry's Position**

"The motion picture industry should be considered somewhat a Government agency in war time," Bamberger stated here yesterday, pointing to the free supply of films to troops in training camps, overseas and in hospitals, also to the WAC shorts which are run in more than 16,000 theatres to carry the messages of numerous Government agencies. "Under no circumstances would the Army and Navy want us in a position where we could not supply adequate service," Bamberger said, adding that the industry delegation will make clear to McNutt that film bookers, for example, who must be highly trained, cannot be easily replaced and that the fire hazards in exchanges make the employment of skilled labor mandatory.

**"Locally Needed" Areas**

Prior to WMC's recent order requiring virtually all labor turnovers to clear through the U. S. Employment Service after July 1, the Pittsburgh and Philadelphia exchange zones had been approved as "locally needed" areas. Whether this approval will be withdrawn has not been made clear by Washington as yet. Meanwhile, "locally needed" requests for numerous other film exchange areas have been pending.

# Scully Lists 'U's' 1st Quarter Films

(Continued from page 1)

from the original by Michael Fessier and Ernest Pagano who also produced it; Sept. 22: "Pearl of Death," first of the Sherlock Holmes for the new year, starring Basil Rathbone as Sherlock Holmes, produced and directed by Roy William Neill; Sept. 29: "San Diego, I Love You," produced by Michael Fessier and Ernest Pagano, co-starring Louise Allbritton and Jon Hall, directed by Reginald Le Borg.

Oct. 6: "The Singing Sheriff," starring Bob Crosby, Leslie Goodwins directed; Oct. 13: "See My Lawyer," starring Olsen and Johnson, directed by Edward F. Cline, producer, Edmund L. Hartmann; Oct. 20: "The Climax," color production starring Susanna Foster, Boris Karloff and Turhan Bey, produced and directed by George Waggner; Oct. 27: "Babes in Swing Street," starring Peggy Ryan, Ann Blyth and Leon Errol. Edward Lilley directed for producer Bernard Burton.

**'Bowery to Broadway'**

Nov. 3: "Bowery to Broadway," starring Maria Montez, Jack Oakie, Susanna Foster, Turhan Bey, Louise Allbritton, Leo Carillo, Ann Blyth, Andy Devine and Evelyn Ankers, produced by John Grant, directed by Charles Lamont; Nov. 10: "Dead Man's Eyes," starring Lon Chaney. Reginald Le Borg directed; Nov. 17: "Reckless Age," starring Gloria Jean, produced and directed by Felix Feist; Nov. 24: "The Suspect," starring Charles Laughton and Ella Raines, produced by Islin Auster and directed by Robert Siodmak.

Each of these releases is completed with the exception of "The Suspect."

## *McCarthy Opens PRC Sales Meet Today*

(Continued from page 1)

day for the convention, having been delayed by Midwestern floods.

PRC's franchise owners will attend from this country and Canada, accompanied by their branch managers. Also on hand will be the following home office executives, in addition to McCarthy: Fred Rohrs, assistant to McCarthy; Roberto Socas, foreign export manager; Jerry Edwards, legal department; Harry Blair, Eastern publicity manager; S. S. Kestenbaum, field exploitation; John Cosentino, in charge of exchange operations; D. P. Wiener, accounting department; and Janet Rosenthal, in charge of prints.

**Company's Guests**

The trade press and convention delegates will be guests of the company at luncheon today in the Colonnades Room of the Essex House.

Fromkess will be the first speaker today, outlining the company's production plans. Also scheduled to address the delegates are Rohre, McCarthy, and Roberto D. Socas, Foreign Sales Manager.

Tex Ritter will co-star with Dave O'Brien in a series of eight Westerns with O'Brien also up for straight dramatic roles. Al 'Fuzzy' St. John, is being featured in a series of eight PRC Westerns starring Buster Crabbe.

## *3 Instead of 4 Columbia Serials*

**Columbia's home office yesterday reported that requests from branch managers have prompted the company to increase the number of serials for 1944-45 from three to four.**

**The three announced at the recent Chicago sales meeting: "The Black Arrow"; "Brenda Starr, Reporter" and "The Monster and the Ape," will be augmented by one as yet unselected. Columbia will release the four consecutively and with no lapse.**

# 'Cliffs' Passes Par By $4,000 in Cincy

CINCINNATI, June 27. — "White Cliffs of Dover" should give the RKO Capitol an estimated $14,000, while "Once Upon a Time" is heading for an approximate $15,000 in the initial week of straight film fare at the RKO Albee.

Estimated receipts for the week ending June 28-July 1:

**"Once Upon a Time" (Col.)**
RKO ALBEE—(3,300) (44c-50c-60c-70c) 7 days, plus Saturday midnight show. Gross: $15,000. (Average: $15,000).
**"White Cliffs of Dover" (M-G-M)**
RKO CAPITOL—(2,000) (44c-50c-60c-70c) 7 days, plus Saturday midnight show. Gross: $14,000. (Average: $10,000).
**"Port of Missing Men" (Mono.)**
**"Boys of the Streets" (Mono.)**
RKO FAMILY—(1,000) (30c-40c) 4 days. Gross: $1,600. (Average: $1,600).
**"Slightly Terrific" (Univ.)**
**"Range Law" (Mono.)**
RKO FAMILY—(1,000) (30c-40c) 3 days. Gross: $700. (Average: $800).
**"Home in Indiana" (20th-Fox)**
RKO GRAND—(1,500) (44c-50c-60c-70c) 7 days, plus Saturday midnight show, 2nd week, moveover from the Palace. Gross: $8,000. (Average: $6,500).
**"Three Men in White" (M-G-M)**
**"A Night of Adventure" (RKO)**
KEITH'S—(1,500) (44c-50c-60c-70c) 7 days. Gross: $5,000. (Average: $5,000).
**"The Uninvited" (Para.)**
RKO LYRIC—(1,400) (44c-50c-60c-70c) 7 days, 3rd week, moveover from the Grand. after initial week at the Palace. Gross: $4,000. (Average: $5,000).
**"The Cobra Woman" (Univ.)**
RKO PALACE—(2,700) (44c-50c-60c-70c) 7 days, plus Saturday midnight show. Gross: $13,000. (Average: $15,000).

## *'My Way's' $17,800 Beats First Week*

PROVIDENCE, June 27.—With rain and cool weather, grosses here soared back to mid-winter levels. "Going My Way" set some sort of a new record at the Strand by grossing $17,800 in the second week, more than it did in the first, when it broke the house record.

Estimated receipts for the week ending June 29:

**"Are These Our Parents" (Mono.)**
**"Lady, Let's Dance" (Mono.)**
RKO-ALBEE—(2,239) (35c-44c-55c) 7 days. Gross: $12,000. (Average: $12,800).
**"Going My Way" (Para.)**
STRAND—(2,200) (44c-55c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $17,800. (Average: $10,500).
**"The White Cliffs of Dover" (M-G-M)**
LOEW'S STATE—(3,232) (35c-44c-55c) 7 days. Gross: $22,000. (Average: $17,700).
**"Home in Indiana" (20th-Fox)**
**"Casanova in Burlesque" (Rep.)**
MAJESTIC—(2,250) (35c-44c-55c) 7 days. Gross: $16,000. (Average: $12,100).
**"Between Two Worlds" (WB)**
**"Weird Woman" (Univ.)**
FAY'S—(1,800) (35c-44c-55c) 7 days. Gross: $7,600. (Average: $6,500).
**"Roger Touhy, Gangster" (20th-Fox)**
**"Candlelight in Algeria" (20th-Fox)**
CARLTON—(1,526) (35c-44c-55c) 7 days, 2nd week, moveover from Majestic. Gross: $4,500. (Average: $4,000).

## *Projectionists to Cite Moss and Fr. Boland*

(Continued from page 1)

York, in a ceremony tomorrow noon at the Adelphi Theatre here. They will receive gold memberships cards from Herbert Gelbert, president of the local for their part in the negotiations merging "306" and the Empire State Projectionists Union.

At the same time, Local 306 will present an ambulance to the Army and unveil an honor roll of more than 120 members in the armed forces. Lucy Monroe will sing the national anthem. Local exhibitors have been invited to attend.

## *'Marseille' Legion Rating Acceptable*

Warners' "Passage to Marseille" has been changed by the Legion of Decency from a Class B, objectionable in part rating to Class A-2, unobjectionable for adults, because "from the negative and all existing positive prints has been removed the sequence upon which the Legion's objection, 'the unethical killing of helpless enemies is sympathetically presented,' had been based." Six other films were held to be acceptable by the Legion this week.

They are: Paramount's "The Great Moment," RKO's "Marine Raiders," Columbia's "She's a Soldier, Too," and Universal's "Twilight on the Prairie," all Class A-1, for general patronage. In Class A-2 are Republic's "The Girl Who Dared" and Paramount's "Take It Big."

# Rodgers Cites M-G-M Open Door Policy

(Continued from page 1)

tried to cultivate the good will of theatre owners.

"The future of the industry looks good," Rodgers said, backing his belief with the statement M-G-M has more invested in negatives than ever before. "Television will find its own place," he added, but expressed his personal opinion that it will have no evil effect on the motion picture industry. Other Loew officials present were central sales manager J. J. Maloney, district manager J. P. Byrne and local branch manager Jack Sogg.

## *Would Ban Jumping Mexican Contracts*

(Continued from page 1)

Hollywood for dubbing American films in Spanish, Negrete said MAG's sole concern is with cases in which talent so engaged has failed to return to comply with contractual commitments in Mexico. Under the plan proposed, SAG would inspect Mexican players' contractual obligations with Mexican producers and limit permits for Hollywood employment to periods not covered by Mexican commitments.

## *'Marines' N. Y. Premiere*

"Marine Raiders," RKO, starring Pat O'Brien, will have its Broadway premiere Friday night at the RKO Palace here. Proceeds of the openinng performance will go to the Marine Corps League.


M-G-M TRADE SHOWING

(New York and New Jersey Territories Only)

"DRAGON SEED"

THURSDAY JUNE 29th

At 10:30 A. M. and 2:30 P. M.

M-G-M SCREENING ROOM

630-9th Ave., New York City




# "What a Summer Show Better than a cooling plant!"

BIG SPLASH AT
THE ASTOR, N. Y.
World Premiere
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M-G-M's
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MUSICAL SPECTACLE

# BATHING BEAUTY



"BATHING BEAUTY" starring Red Skelton with Esther Williams, Basil Rathbone, Bill Goodwin, Ethel Smith, Jean Porter, Carlos Ramirez, Harry James and his Music Makers with Helen Forrest, Xavier Cugat and his Orchestra with Lina Romay. Photographed in Technicolor. Screen Play by Dorothy Kingsley, Allen Boretz and Frank Waldman. Adaptation by Joseph Schrank. Directed by George Sidney. Produced by Jack Cummings. An M-G-M Picture

EVERY THEATRE: FREE MOVIE DAY. JULY 6TH!
"THE FIGHTING FIFTH" VICTORY CLIMAX!

## 'Three Men', Show Take Record $42,300 in Phila.

PHILADELPHIA, June 27. — The Earle, with an all-colored stage show headed by the Ink Spots, with "Three Men in White" on the screen, points to its biggest week in a year or more with $42,300 in sight for a six-day week. "White Cliffs of Dover" got off to a big start at the Boyd, with $32,000 expected.

Estimated receipts for the week ending June 28-30:

**"Up in Mabel's Room" (UA)**
ALDINE — (900) (40c-45c-50c-65c-75c-85c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $9,500. (Average: $14,600).
**"Andy Hardy's Blonde Trouble" (M-G-M)**
ARCADIA—(600) (40c-45c-50c-65c-75c) 7 days, 2nd run. Gross: $5,200. (Average: $4,000).
**"Gaslight" (M-G-M)**
BOYD—(3,000) (40c-45c-50c-65c-75c-85c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $22,500. (Average: $18,000).
**"Three Men in White" (M-G-M) (6 days)**
**"The White Cliffs of Dover" (M-G-M) (1 day)**
EARLE—(3,000) (50c-65c-85c-95c) 6 days of vaudeville, including Cootie Williams' orchestra, The Four Ink Spots, Ella Fitzgerald, Poke & Moke, Eddie Vinson and Ralph Brown. Gross: $46,200. (Average: $27,600).
**"The Mask of Dimitrios" (WB)**
FOX—(3,000) (40c-45c-50c-65c-75c-85c) 7 days. Gross: $18,800. (Average: $20,500).
**"Pin Up Girl" (20th-Fox)**
KARLTON—(1,000) (40c-45c-50c-65c-75c-85c) 7 days, 2nd run. Gross: $6,500. (Average: $6,600).
**"Ladies Courageous" (Univ.)**
KEITH'S — (2,200) (40c-45c-50c-65c-75c-85c) 4 days, 2nd run. Gross: $2,200. (Average: $5,800).
**"Up in Arms" (UA)**
MASTBAUM—(4,700) (40c45c-50c-65c-75c-85c) 7 days, 3rd week. Gross: $17,800. (Average: $22,500).
**"The White Cliffs of Dover" (M-G-M)**
STANLEY—(3,000) (40c-45c-50c-65c-75c-85c) 7 days. Gross: $32,000. (Average: $20,000).
**"The Hitler Gang" (Para.)**
STANTON—(1,700) (40c-45c-50c-65c-75c-85c) 7 days. Gross: $10,800. (Average: $9,400).

## 'Gaslight' Glows in Torontowith$16,300

TORONTO, June 27.—"Gaslight" was a standout at Loew's Theatre here for a promised $16,200, while "Buffalo Bill" will get $12,300 at Shea's. "King Arthur Was a Gentleman" (British) was moving toward $4,000 at the Eglinton, which is equal to average.

Estimated receipts for the week ending June 29:

**"King Arthur Was a Gentleman" (British)**
**"Action in Arabia" (RKO)**
EKLINTON — (1,086) (18c-30c-48c60c) 6 days. Gross: $4,000. (Average: $4,000).
**"Uncertain Glory" (WB)**
IMPERIAL—(3,373) (18c-30c-42c-60c-90c) 6 days. Gross: $11,800. (Average: $12,800).
**"Gaslight" (M-G-M)**
LOEW'S — (2,074) (18c-30c-42c-60c-78c) 6 days. Gross: $16,200. (Average: $11,200).
**"Buffalo Bill" (20th-Fox)**
SHEA'S — (2,480) (18c-30c-42c-60c-90c) 6 days. Gross: $12,300. (Average: $12,800).
**"Jane Eyre" (20th-Fox) (moveover)**
**"Sailor's Holiday" (Col.)**
TIVOLI — (1,434) (18c-30c-48c) 6 days. Gross: $3,900. (Average: $4,400).
**"Meet the People" (M-G-M)**
**"The Imposter" (Univ.)**
UPTOWN—(2,761) (18c-30c-42c-60c-90c) 6 days. Gross: $9,300. (Average: $9,800).

### *Gallup to* 'Showmen's'

Bruce Gallup, formerly associated with major film companies and recently with the Vega Airplane plant in Burbank, Cal., has joined *Showmen's Trade Review* to direct and head that publication's expanded trade relations department.

# *Coast Flashes . . . .*

*Hollywood, June 27*

THE Emergency Committee of Guilds and Unions has announced the following speakers for tomorrow night's mass meeting here: Walter Wanger, Sidney Buchman, Herbert Aller, Albert Dekker, Mary C. McCall, Jr., Al Speede, Herbert Sorrell, Betty Field and James Hilton.

•

The War Finance Committee today reported that 20th Century-Fox studio employes have purchased $269,058 of Fifth War Loan bonds during the first two weeks of the campaign. A purchase of $200,000 by David O. Selznick personally was added today to the $193,130 total reached yesterday by 12 independent production companies.

•

Harry M. and Jack L. Warner will leave here for San Francisco by train on Friday to attend the launching of the *S. S. Benjamin Warner* on Saturday.

•

John Garfield, Warner player, is in Cedars of Lebanon Hospital following an attack of influenza. The "Hollywood Canteen" company will shoot around him for the next week.

•

Ben Kalmenson, Warners' general sales manager, has left here for New York.

•

Susan Hayward, who co-stars in Jules Levy's United Artists' picturization of "The Hairy Ape" has left on a bond-selling tour.

•

Robert Stirling, executive assistant to Hunt Stromberg, celebrates his eighth year with the producer this week.

MARVIN SCHENCK, M-G-M home office executive, has arrived here from the East.

•

Pete Smith intends producing more sports subjects as part of his series for M-G-M.

•

Ayn Rand, has been signed by Hal B. Wallis to a long-term writing contract. Her first assignment will be the Chris Massie novel, "The Love Letters."

•

Joe Sistrom's first production assignment at Paramount on his return from working with the OWI's overseas division will be "Duffy's Tavern." Paul Jones, originally announced to produce, has asked to be relieved because of illness.

•

D. A. Doran Columbia studio executive, accompanied Nate B. Spingold, home office executive, to New York.

•

Columbia will unite Irene Dunne and Charles Boyer, who co-starred in "Love Affair," in an untitled romantic drama. Charles Coburn will be the third lead. Virginia Van Upp will produce.

•

Hollywood Victory Committee set Alan Marshall, Susan Hayward, for special War Bond campaign, appearances Youngstown, July 3; Cleveland July 4; Newark, Ohio, July 6, and St. Louis July 7.

•

RKO-Radio purchased "Gallant Weekend," an original for production by Robert Fellows.

•

Jack Skirball signed Bruce Manning, former Universal writer-producer. His first assignment is as yet undetermined.

## 'Cliffs' Hits $26,000 In Big K.C. Week

KANSAS CITY, June 27.—With "The White Cliffs of Dover" at the Midland doing more than $26,000, and "Snow White" at the Orpheum taking aroundt $19,000, the past week was the year's best, although weather was hot and humid.

Estimated receipts for the week ending June 27-30:

**"Eve of St. Mark" (20th-Fox)**
ESQUIRE—(800) (45c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $6,700. (Average: $6,000).
**"The White Cliffs of Dover" (M-G-M)**
MIDLAND—(3,500) (40c-60c) 7 days. Gross: $26,000. (Average: $14,000).
**"Between Two Worlds" (WB)**
NEWMAN—(1,900) (45c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $14,500. (Average: $10,000).
**"Snow White" (RKO-Disney)**
ORPHEUM—(1,900) (45c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $19,000. (Average: $10,000).
**"Bermuda Mystery" (20th-Fox)**
**"The Scarlet Claw" (Univ.)**
TOWER—(2,200) (45c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $10,500. (Average: $9,400).
**"Eve of St. Mark" (20th-Fox)**
UPTOWN—(2,000) (45c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $5,800. (Average: $6,600).
**"Eve of St. Mark" (20th-Fox)**
FAIRWAY—(700) (45c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $1,750. (Average: $1,600).

### *WB Sets Screenings*

Warners' "Mr. Skeffington," which ends that company's current season's schedule, will be tradeshown July 17. "Janie," the first release of the new season, and "Crime by Night" will be screened July 24.

### *Billings Named to Time and MOT Post*

John Shaw Billings, managing editor of *Life Magazine*, will become editorial director of *Time-Life-Fortune* publications, including The March of Time on the screen and on the Air, editor-in-chief Henry R. Luce announced here. Appointment becomes effective July 10.

Daniel Longwell, executive editor of *Life* since its first issue in 1936, will succeed Billings as managing editor on the same date.

### *Extra 'Purple Heart' Press Book Issued*

A supplementary press book on Darryl F. Zanuck's "The Purple Heart" has been prepared by Charles Schlaifer, 20th-Fox advertising manager, following the film's nationwide initial runs. The book is a compilation in color of quotations from reviews and comments from recognized sources all over the country. It should contribute to the prestige of the picture in places where it has not already run.

### *Industry Gives $34,706*

The motion picture industry and its employe groups have contributed $34,076 to the Greater New York Fund. The film division is headed by B. S. Moss, chairman, with J. Robert Rubin of Loew's honorary chairman.

## 'Falcon', Show Net A Good $27,500

CLEVELAND, June 27.—"The Falcon Out West" at the RKO Palace and the Coast Guard Revue, "Tars and Spars," raised the take to estimated $27,500. "White Cliffs of Dover" toook $22,000 in its second week at Loew's State, and "Home in Indiana" netted a big $12,300 in its second at the Allen.

Estimated receipts for week ending June 28:

**"Home in Indiana" (20th-Fox)**
ALLEN—(3,000) (44c-55c-65c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $12,300. (Average: $8,500).
**"Snow White" (RKO)**
WARNER'S HIPPODROME — (3,500) (44c-55c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $20,000. (Average: $22,100).
**"Uncertain Glory" (WB)**
WARNERS' LAKE—(714) (44c-55c-65c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $2,650. (Average: $3,200).
**"Three Men in White" (M-G-M)**
LOEW'S OHIO—(1,268) (43c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $4,000. (Average: $5,000).
**"Falcon Out West" (RKO)**
RKO PALACE—(3,300) (50c-60c-85c-95c) 7 days. Stage: "Tars and Spars" Coast Guard Revue. Gross: $27,500. (Average: $25,400).
**"White Cliffs of Dover" (M-G-M)**
LOEW'S STATE—(3,300) (43c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $22,000. (Average: $19,000).
**"Meet the People" (M-G-M)**
LOEW'S STILLMAN—(1,900) (43c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $7,500. (Average: $10,000).

## 'Two Girls' Tops D.C. Week with $28,000

WASHINGTON, June 27.—"Two Girls and a Sailor" accounted for peak business this week at Loew's Capitol, hitting $28,000. "The Mask of Dimitrios," at Warner's Earle, should do an above-average $22,500, while "The White Cliffs of Dover" should account for $23,000 at Loew's Palace, which is also above average.

Estimated receipts for the week ending June 29:

**"Two Girls and a Sailor"**
LOEW'S CAPITOL—(3,434) (35c-43c-55c-72c) 7 days. On Stage: Jane Pickens. Gross: $28,000. (Average: $22,000).
**"Three Men in White" (M-G-M)**
LOEW'S COLUMBIA — (1,234) (43c-55c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $9,500. (Average: $8,200).
**"The Mask of Dimitrios" (WB)**
WARNER'S EARLE — (2,210) (30c-44c-85c-$1.00) 7 days. On stage: Radio Aces, Walter Nilsson. Gross: $22,500. (Average: $19,700).
**"Days of Glory" (RKO-Radio)**
RKO-KEITH'S—(1,800) (35c-44c-65c-74c) 7 days. Gross: $9,500. (Average: $13,600).
**"Uncertain Glory" (WB)**
WARNER'S HIPPODROME — (1,800) (35c-55c) 7 days, 3rd downtown week. Gross: $7,500. (Average: $7,200).
**"The White Cliffs of Dover" (M-G-M)**
LOEW'S PALACE—(2,242) (43c-55c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $23,000. (Average: $19,000).

### *Indianapolis Gives 'Two Girls' $15,000*

INDIANAPOLIS, June 27. — "Two Girls and a Sailor" will do $15,000 at Loew's this week to top here. The Indiana will gross $11,000 with "Follow the Boys."

Estimated receipts for the week ending June 27-29:

**"Days of Glory" (RKO)**
**"Seven Days Ashore" (RKO)**
CIRCLE—(2,800) (32c-55c) 7 days. Gross: $9,000. (Average: $11,800).
**"Follow the Boys" (Univ.)**
INDIANA—(3,200) (32c-55c) 7 days. Gross: $11,000. (Average: $11,600).
**"Two Girls and a Sailor" (M-G-M)**
LOEW'S—(2,800) (32c-55c) 7 days. Gross: $15,000. (Average: $11,500).
**"Home in Indiana" (20th-Fox)**
**"Pardon My Rhythm" (Univ.)**
LYRIC—(2,000) (32c-55c) 7 days, moveover from Indiana. Gross: $6,000. (Average: $4,900).

# True Confessions is the 4th Largest Selling Magazine on the Newsstands of America

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Join Judy... ridin' high...with a wagonful of tuneful fun!





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ROSS HUNTER
RICHARD LANE
LLOYD BRIDGES
HOBART CAVANAUGH

Screen-play by Paul Yawitz
Directed by CHARLES BARTON

COLUMBIA PICTURES

A melody-crammed, joy-jammed musical!

Fifth War Loan Drive!

# MOTION PICTURE DAILY

'Free Movie Day' July 6

VOL. 55. NO. 127 NEW YORK, U. S. A., THURSDAY, JUNE 29, 1944 TEN CENTS

COPY DO NOT REMOVE

## RKO Reelects Rathvon and All Others

### *Preferred Dividend of $1.50 Is Declared*

N. Peter Rathvon was reelected president of Radio-Keith-Orpheum Corp., along with Floyd B. Odlum as chairman of the board and all other officers, by the company's board of directors here yesterday in their first session since the annual stockholder's meeting at Dover, Del., on June 7.



N. Peter Rathvon

At the same time, the board declared a dividend of $1.50 per share on RKO's six per cent stock, payable Aug. 1 to

(*Continued on page 6*)

## Para. Canada Meet Lightstone Heads

TORONTO, June 28.—The Paramount Canadian annual sales convention, in session today at the King Edward Hotel, here, was opened by Canadian general manager Gordon Lightstone who complimented the sales personnel for their activities in the past year.

Lightstone pointed out that 25 years ago Paramount opened its own branches across Canada and September will be their 25th anniversary month.

Company business filled the morning

(*Continued on page 6*)

## *Chicago Papers Slash Ad Lineage Again*

CHICAGO, June 28.—*The Chicago Times*, tabloid daily, has set a new advertising lineage maximum for motion picture theatres, limiting Loop theatres to 50 lines per day, and outlying theatres to five lines daily and 10 lines Sunday. When newsprint rationing was first announced, the *Times* imposed a maximum of 120 lines per theatre daily.

*The Tribune* at the same time, has announced a new reduced maximum of eight lines per day for outlying houses.

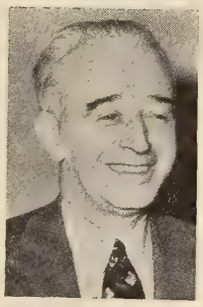
### *Four More Call a Four-day Holiday*

**Columbia, Universal, Warners and 20th Century-Fox yesterday declared a four-day holiday for their offices here, starting Friday night and running to Wednesday morning, over July 4th.**

**Loew-M-G-M, RKO, Republic and United Artists managements had previously declared the long weekend holiday. Undecided yesterday were Monogram, Paramount and PRC.**

## Every Theatre Took Part in M-G-M's Anniversary Week

Before M-G-M's 20th anniversary week observance came to a close last night, the final three theatres in regular operation in the country joined the other 16,456 in showing an M-G-M picture on their screens during the anniversary period.



W. F. Rodgers

This was the word sent by the home office yesterday to W. F. Rodgers, vice-president and general sales manager, in Cleveland, where he was making a business visit at the company's branch office there.

The final three theatres to show a

(*Continued on page 6*)

## PRC to Have $7,385,000 Film Budget

PRC will have a budget of $7,385,000 for its 1944-45 production program and expansion, Leon Fromkess, vice-president in charge of production, told the company's annual sales convention, in session here yesterday at the Essex House.



Leon Fromkess

The budget is the company's largest to date, and will be obtained through Pathe Industries, Inc., under which a coalition of four PRC companies and three Pathe companies was effected early this week.

At the same time, Fromkess announced there will be no ceiling on the budgets of the individual pictures, the cost to be increased as circumstances warrant.

Fromkess disclosed that he has con-

(*Continued on page 7*)

## *Warners to Attend Coast ShipLaunching*

HOLLYWOOD, June 28.—Harry M. and Jack L. Warner will leave here Friday for San Francisco to attend the launching on Saturday of the *S. S. Benjamin Warner*, named in honor of the father of the Warner brothers, at

(*Continued on page 6*)

## *1,517 Uncontracted Dates Booked in Bond Drive*

Indicating a huge increase in "Fighting Fifth" War Loan participation by theatres in small towns as compared with previous war loan drives, exhibitors in towns of 75,000 population or less have booked 1,517 uncontracted picture dates for special events.

These confirmed bookings, made with major distributors, include 1,250 for bond premieres and 267 for children's premieres, according to figures received by the distributors' division of the War Activities Committee from distributor chairmen in the field. This represents more than 25 percent of the total of scheduled bond premieres and 30 per cent of the children's premieres.

For the first time, major distributors are furnishing pictures gratis for premieres in small towns, even though the exhibitor may not have the picture under contract and regardless of whether he is a regular customer. The distributors' division, with Ned E. Depinet as chairman and Leon J. Bamberger as assistant chairman, made this concession as an inducement to greater smalltown participation in the present drive.

(*Continued on page 8*)

## Ansco Ready To Compete With Color

### *Says Its NewProcessWill Simplify Developing*

A group of patents covering a new system of color photography is owned by the Ansco division of the General Aniline and Film Corp. and will enable it, after the war, "to offer a product competitive with that of the sole present (color-film) producer and to strengthen its position in the motion picture field," according to a report made by George W. Burpee, president of the company, to James E. Markham, U. S. Alien Property Custodian, who had seized the alien property.

**"The advantage of the Ansco color process over that of competing product is that it does not require return to the manufacturer for development," Burpee explained. "The company is cooperating with motion picture producers for the**

(*Continued on page 7*)

## Recommends Suit Be Thrown Out

Special Master Francis W. H. Adams, in a report filed in Federal Court here yesterday, in effect recommended that Paramount Pictures' injunction suit against Joseph H. Cooper, Rialto, Inc., Interstate Theatres, Inc., and J. H. Cooper Enterprises, Inc., be thrown out of court on a matter of jurisdiction.

The special master's report, based on a defense motion for an order vacating the alleged service of the summons and complaint, indicates that while Cooper transacts considerable business in New York City, Paramount has

(*Continued on page 6*)

## *$4,750,000 Budget for Cowan's Four*

HOLLYWOOD, June 28 — Producer Lester Cowan today announced a budget of $4,750,000 for his four pictures for United Artists.

The films are "Tomorrow the World," now in production, "G. I. Joe," and two untitled productions, one to star Greta Garbo and the other a postwar musical based upon a story-idea of Frederick C. Othman, Jr., United Press correspondent.

## *Autry Sues to End Republic Contract*

**Los Angeles, June 28.—Air Corps Sergeant Gene Autry, Western star, has filed suit in Superior Court here against Republic Productions, Inc., seeking declaratory relief from his starring agreement with that company on the ground his entry into the Armed Forces frustrates performance of the contract, and, therefore, the pact should be terminated. Second basis for his action is the allegation that Republic failed to exercise an option within the time contractually stipulated. There was no comment from Republic.**

# *Review*

## *"Law Men"*

*(Monogram)*

"LAW MEN" has the names of Johnny Mack Brown and Raymond Hatton to recommend it to Western fans, although both are handicapped by script in which the customary hard-hitting action is practically non-existent.

The story is the familiar one of the outlaw band led by the town's leading citizen, in this instance Robert Frazer, bank proprietor. Brown and Hatton, U. S. marshals, set out to break the gang, Brown joining the outlaws, and Hattan initiating a shoe-rebuilding enterprise. Romantic interest is provided by Jan Wiley and Kirby Grant. When Frazer is finally cornered, he tries to pin the guilt on Grant, his assistant, but Brown presents the evidence which convicts Frazer, his lieutenant, Edmund Cobb, and the rest of the gang. Lambert Hillyer directed from Glenn Tryon's screenplay. Charles J. Bigelow supervised production.

HELEN MCNAMARA

**"G" denotes general classification.*

## *MPRF Has$1,609,741; Officers Reelected*

LOS ANGELES, July 28. — George Bagnall, treasurer of the Motion Picture Relief Fund reported assets of $1,609,741 at the organization's annual meeting here last night.

All officers were reelected, including: Jean Hersholt, president; Ralph Morgan, Lucille Gleason, Walter F. Wanger and Irving Pichel, vice-presidents; Bagnall, secretary-treasurer; Wilma Bashor, executive secretary; and Ewell D. Moore, counsel. Arthur Ripley, William Pereira, William Scully, Lucille Browne and E. J. Mannix were added to the Board of Trustees. An award of merit was voted for Sol Lesser for his production of "Stage Door Canteen," which has netted the Relief Fund $152,318 to date.

## *Charles Goetz Now UA Sales Rep.*

Charles Goetz, formerly of 20th-Fox's sales department, has been named a special sales representative of United Artists.

Goetz, brother of William and Harry Goetz, will operate in the Eastern territory, under the supervision of Sam Lefkowitz, with headquarters in the New York exchange.

## *12 Goldwyn Reissues Starting July 15*

Twelve of the 31 Samuel Goldwyn films to be reissued by Film Classics will be released starting July 15, it was reported here yesterday by George A. Hirliman, president.

The first release will be "Dead End," first issued in 1937, starring Sylvia Sidney, Joel McCrea and Humphrey Bogart.

## *W.M.T. Votes Insurance*

SPRINGFIELD, Mass., July 28.—The board of directors of Western Massachusetts Theatres, with headquarters here, has voted to pay the entire cost of group insurance, for all employes, covering death, accident, hospitalization and loss of salaries, it was announced here yesterday by Nathan E. Goldstein, president.

## *Citations Next Week For 60 WAC Chairme*

Some 60 exchange managers who have completed terms as War Activities Committee distribution field chairmen will receive citation plaques next week from the WAC distributors division in recognition of their services. The full list of names will be disclosed today by Ned E. Depinet, division chairman.

As reported in MOTION PICTURE DAILY on June 16, the distributors' division voted recently to give citations to all chairmen who served under William F. Rodgers in 1943 and William A. Scully in 1942 provided they had spent at least six months in office.

## *Earl Wingart Heads Special 20th Division*

Earl Wingart has rejoined 20th Century-Fox to head a special service division of the exploitation department under Rodney Bush, exploitation manager, it was announced here yesterday by Hal Horne, director of advertising-publicity.

For the past two years Wingart has been with the Eastern division of the Public Information Committee. Prior to that he was publicity manager of 20th Century-Fox at the home office.

## *Woodin Appointed by Republic Pictures*

LOS ANGELES, June 28. — Larry Woodin was named director of studio publicity for Republic today, effective July 3.

Woodin succeeds John Le Roy Johnston who resigned this week to become advertising chief for International Pictures.

## *New Chicago Theatre*

CHICAGO, June 28.—A 900-seat theatre will be part of the new $250,000 commercial center to be started in the Altgeld Gardens section here next month, under the auspices of the Thaddeus Stevens Land Trust. The house will be leased.

## *Cartoon Producers Adopt Lantz Plan*

HOLLYWOOD, June 28.—The Cartoon Producers Association today adopted Walter Lantz's plans for obtaining higher rentals from exhibitors, and decided on an educational campaign as a first step. The plan will be developed further at a meeting called next week when a permanent chairman of the association will be elected.

From a survey made of his operating costs as a foundation for the association's action designed to increase exhibition rental prices for cartoon shorts, Lantz has already stated that costs have risen 40 per cent since 1942 while prices have remained static.

## *F. M. Lack an RMA Dir.*

Frederick R. Lack, vice-president and manager of the radio division of Western Electric, has been elected a director of the Radio Manufacturers Association. Lack was recently a director of the Army-Navy electronics production agency in Washington.

## *Bob Davis Joins NBC*

Bob Davis, formerly of the Warner studio press department in Burbank, Cal., has joined the NBC press staff here. Davis was more recently trade press editor of WOR here.

## *Only One Play in Boston*

BOSTON, July 28.—Only one legitimate theatre is open in this city, but several others may open within a month. "Three Is a Family" is at the Colonial.

## *Buy $1,500,000 in Bonds*

HOLLYWOOD, June 28.—The War Finance Committee today reported that the Warner Bros. studio's corporate purchase of war bonds is $1,500,000.

# *Personal Mention*

BEN KALMENSON, general sales manager for Warners, will return to New York today from a Western trip.

•

WALTER GOULD, United Artists foreign manager, is expected to return from Mexico on July 5. LEN DALL special home office foreign publicity representative, will return from Mexico tomorrow.

•

CELESTE FOX, secretary to SAM COHEN of the United Artists foreign publicity department, will leave tomorrow on a two-month leave of absence to visit her husband at a naval station on the West Coast.

•

HUGH HUBER, vice-president and general manager of Hal Roach Studios, has arrived in New York from the Coast. FRED WILKINS, secretary, accompanies him.

•

A. J. O'KEEFE, Universal Western division sales manager, returned to New York yesterday from midwest sales meetings.

•

ALBERT WEISMAN, former MOTION PICTURE DAILY correspondent in St. Louis, is now in Alaska with the Special Services Division of the Army.

•

W. STEWART MCDONALD, Warner Theatres executive, will return to New York today from Pittsburgh.

•

MRS. HERMAN ROBBINS will return to Hollywood on Monday after spending some time at Schroon Lake, N. Y.

•

H. M. BESSEY, vice-president of Altec Service Corp., has returned to New York from Detroit.

•

HERBERT S. BERG of United Artists' home office promotional department left for Baltimore yesterday.

•

FLIGHT OFFICER JACKIE COOGAN left LaGuardia Field this week for an undisclosed destination.

•

JAMES R. GRAINGER will be in Boston today and tomorrow.

•

HENRY KING, 20th Century-Fox director, has arrived in New York.

## *Sales Policy Set for Selznick Feature*

CHICAGO, June 28.—Status of the policy on the future release of the Selznick feature, "Since You Went Away," was decided upon at the meeting here between David O. Selznick, Neil Agnew, and Hugh Owen, but it was stated that only Gradwell Sears or Carl Lesserman of United Artists can release the information.

The picture's opening at the Capitol, New York is set for Thursday, July 13. It has not yet been offered to any Chicago circuit, it was said. Selznick and Mrs. Selznick will leave Chicago for Hollywood tomorrow.

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# Who is Dimitrios?

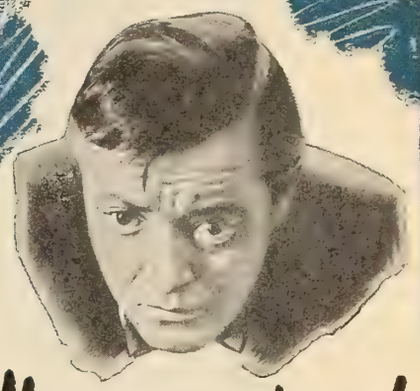
so young... so charming... so cruelly treacherous!



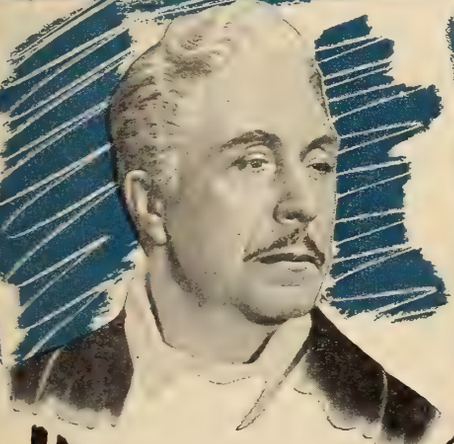
**HE WANTS TO KNOW!**
(He's betting a cool million against a dose of hot lead)



**SHE WANTS TO KNOW!**
(She loved him—until she saw beneath the mask!)



**HE WANTS TO KNOW!**
(So do the police of five capitals!)



**HE WANTS TO KNOW!**
(Even a master of international intrigue can be fooled—by Dimitrios!)



**HE KNOWS!**



For every crime, a different face—but always the same youthful charm, the same ruthless cunning, the same *Dimitrios!*

**WARNER BROS.** once again give your audience the "feel" of "The Maltese Falcon" with Eric Ambler's internationally-famed mystery sensation — thrice-thrilling on the screen!

# THE MASK OF DIMITRIOS

SYDNEY GREENSTREET · ZACHARY SCOTT · FAYE EMERSON · PETER LORRE · VICTOR FRANCEN

JACK L. WARNER, Executive Producer

Produced by HENRY BLANKE

Directed by JEAN NEGULESCO • Screen Play by Frank Gruber • From a Novel by Eric Ambler

ALL AMERICA WAITS FOR "FREE MOVIE DAY" JULY 4th!

# MILLIONS ARE WAITING



*Now in release*

★ TUCSON RAIDERS ★
MARSHAL OF RENO

★

*Now in preparation*

VIGILANTES OF DODGE CITY
GREAT STAGECOACH ROBBERY
SHERIFF OF LAS VEGAS
LONE TEXAS RANGER
SAN ANTONIO KID
CHEYENNE WILDCAT

★

**PRESOLD TO MILLIONS** *through:*

**Red Ryder Cartoon Strip in over 700 newspapers with a combined circulation of 15,000,000!**

**The power-packed series of Red Ryder books . . . 5,000,000 currently in circulation!**

**Red Ryder comic magazines with a fan following of 3,000,000!**

**This tremendous audience is waiting to see Red Ryde on the screen!**

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**JOIN THE FIGHTING FIFTH WAR LOAN**

**ANOTHER SCOOP FOR**

# REPUBLIC

**SHOWMANSHIP**

# FOR *Red Ryder* . . . . .

## IN A SERIES OF 8 WESTERN DRAMAS
## *FROM REPUBLIC*

*Wild Bill Elliott*
as **RED RYDER**
*Bobby Blake*
as **LITTLE BEAVER**
*Alice Fleming*
as **THE DUCHESS**




© STEPHEN SLESINGER, N. Y.

Based on Fred Harman's Famous NEA Comic
By special arrangement with Stephen Slesinger

# Every Theatre Took Part in M-G-M's Anniversary Week

(*Continued from page* 1)

Metro picture during the anniversary week gave the company a perfect record in accordance with its advance calculation that there are 16,459 theatres in the country in regular operation. Every one of them, M-G-M announced, played at least one Metro picture during the anniversary week, a record which the company claims has never before been achieved and, presumably being a perfect one, never can be excelled.

In expressing the company's "appreciation and humble thanks" for the unique demonstration of goodwill by the nation's exhibitors, Rodgers said:

**Purpose of "Leo"**

"When the idea of having Leo appear on the screens of the theatres of the United States was suggested by one of our enthusiastic customers, none of us believed it was possible, even mechanically, to achieve a hundred per cent representation.

"It affords us an opportunity to renew our pledge of friendship, not only to our regular customers but to our other industry friends," he said. "M-G-M will endeavor to continue to merit the title bestowed upon it, 'The Friendly Company'.

"To our customers, many of whom have been associated with us during our entire business life, we pledge our continued best' efforts to utilize the facilities of production, distribution, executive and sales personnel, to be of greater service to the exhibitor and the public he serves.

"To our non-customers, who have been so gracious, we hope to make an industry contribution that, through the continuance of our inter-industry activities, we can lead the way to better understanding within our great industry," Rodgers said.

## *Warners to Attend Coast Ship Launching*

(*Continued from page* 1)

the Henry Kaiser-Permanente Metals Richmond, Cal., shipyard.

Also in the party will be Lita B. Warner, the late Sam Warner's daughter, who will sponsor this last Liberty Ship to slide down the ways at Richmond; Mrs. Ann Robbins, eldest daughter of Benjamin Warner, as matron of honor; Lou Halper, zone manager for Warner Theatres on the West Coast, and Mrs. Halper.

Henry Kaiser, Sr., will be among the other guests, including Clay Bedford, general manager of the Richmond yard, who will preside; Rear Admiral and Mrs. Emory S. Land, Rear Admiral Howard L. Vickery, Tom Beck of Crowell-Collier Publishing Co., and others.

Invocation will be pronounced by Rev. Dr. Rudolph I. Coffee, who years ago performed the wedding ceremonies for both Harry M. and Major Albert Warner.

## *New Memphis House*

MEMPHIS, June 28.—A new theatre to seat 750, is planned here by James T. Coleman, local druggist. Construction will begin as soon as materials are available. Architect for the $75,000 house is George Mahan, Jr.

## *Coming Events*

**Today and Tomorrow**—PRC sales convention, Essex House, New York City.

**July 6**—'Free Movie Day' for theatres in Fifth War Loan drive.

**July 6**—Election of Paramount officers, New York.

**July 11-13**—Columbia regional sales meeting, San Francisco.

**July 24-25**—RKO annual sales meeting, Waldorf-Astoria Hotel, New York City.

# Para. Canada Meet Lightstone Heads

(*Continued from page* 1)

session and at the afternoon session Lightstone introduced Stan Atkinson, president of General Films, pioneers in the 16mm field. Atkinson addressed the convention in connection with the general distribution of 16mm Paramount product which he has just taken over. "Sixteen millimeter, properly handled, is an ambassador for theatres in creating the screen habit," he said.

The convention was attended by branch managers Russell Simpson, Vancouver; Bill Kelly, Calgary; Dave Brickman, Winnipeg; Jack Hunter, Toronto; Tom Dowbiggin, Montreal; Pat Hogan, St. John. Canadian home office personnel who attended included W. J. O'Neill, secretary-treasurer; H. Q. Burns, director of ad sales, and Win Barron, director of sales promotion.

Paramount's New York home office was represented by Charles M. Reagan, vice-president in charge of distribution; Oscar A. Morgan, general sales manager of short subjects, and Robert M. Gillham, advertising-publicity director.

**Outlines Product**

Paramount product for the coming season was outlined by Reagan, while Morgan discussed the position Paramount holds in short subjects sphere.

The closing session Thursday will have president J. J. Fitzgibbons; vice-president R. W. Bolstad; chief booker Ben Geldsaler; advertising manager James Nairn and district managers Jack Arthur and Dan Krendel from Famous Players-Canadian Corp. as guests to outline exhibition program for 1944-45.

## *Rathvon, All Others Reelected by RKO*

(*Continued from page* 1)

stockholders of record on July 20. This is the regular dividend for the current quarter, ending July 31.

Re-elected along with Rathvon and Odlum were: Richard C. Patterson, Jr., vice-chairman of the board; Ned E. Depinet, vice-president; Gordon E. Youngman, vice-president and general counsel; Malcolm Kingsberg, vice-president and treasurer; J. Miller Walker, secretary; Garrett Van Wagner, comptroller; Kenneth B. Umbreit and William F. Whitman, assistant secretaries, and W. H. Clark, O. R. McMahon, Harold Newcomb, A. W. Dawson and T. F. O'Connor, assistant treasurers.

# Postwar Blueprint For Radio-Tele.

An initial specific "blueprint" for postwar radio-television industry reconversion is being prepared for industry consideration, to be ready about Aug. 1, by officials of the War Production Board's radio and radar division and a special committee of the Radio Manufacturers Association. Included will be plans for limited production of television transmitters.

No reconversion action will be effective before 1945, however, and no authorizations for production, except of replacement tubes, is in prospect for this year, the RMA group has been told. War contracts will be redistributed, however, to keep all companies in utmost production through 1944.

**RMA Poll**

A RMA membership poll has developed a preponderant opinion for using dollar volume of individual manufacturer's sales in 1941 as a base for future allocation of set production, also that there should be no restriction on types of sets and no general "Victory" set, with manufacturers left free to determine their own models. Quotas should not be allocated during the restricted period to companies not previously engaged in civilian production, it was held.

The RMA committee has also talked with Office of Price Administration officials regarding the prices of future civilian sets, and the OPA in a few weeks will appoint an industry advisory committee. A standard formula, applicable to each company's costs, is planned.

Immediate problems of disposal of surplus materials are also under discussion by the RMA committee and officials of the Defense Supplies Corp. and the War Production Board. A tentative administration bill now pending in Congress aims: to give former factory owners a chance to reacquire property taken over by the Government, to encourage beneficial trade relations with foreign nations, to dispose of surplus property as promptly as possible without fostering monopoly, to realize the highest obtainable rate for the Government, to afford smaller business concerns an opportunity to acquire the property on equal terms with larger competitors, and to discourage sales to speculators.

## *'Cliffs' $22,500 Is Baltimore Winner*

BALTIMORE, June 28.—"The White Cliffs of Dover" is far out front with $22,500 at the Century here this week. Business elsewhere is spotty.

Estimated receipts for the week ending June 29:

**"The White Cliffs of Dover" (M-G-M)**
CENTURY—(3,000) (35c-45c-55c and 60c weekends) 7 days. Gross: $25,500. (Average: $17,500).

**"Cobra Woman" (Univ.)**
KEITH'S—(2,405) (35c-40c-50c-60c) 7 days. Gross: $15,000. (Aevage: $15,000).

**"The Eve of St. Mark" (20th-Fox)**
NEW—(1,581) (30c-40c-60c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $13,000. (Average: $13,000).

**"And the Angels Sing" (Para.)**
STANLEY — (3,280) (35c-44c-55c-65c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $14,500. (Average: $18,000).

**"Days of Glory" (RKO)**
HIPPODROME—(2,205) (35c-44c-55c-65c) 7 days. Stage Show: Walter O'Keefe, The Kidoodlers, Three Caits, Jim Wong & Co., Donna Dae. Gross: $17,500. (Average, $18,000).

**"Jam Session" (Col.)**
MAYFAIR — (1,000) (35c-54c) 7 days. Gross: $6,000. (Average, $7,000).

# Recommends End of Paramount Suit Against J. H. Cooper

(*Continued from page* 1)

been unable to show sufficient facts to warrant the holding that the defendants were jurisdictional residents of New York State.

The suit involves alleged breach of contract, Paramount seeking to enjoin Cooper from transferring ownership of the Class "B" stock of J. H. Cooper Enterprises, the Class "B" stock of Rialto, Inc., and the Class "A" stock of Interstate Theatres, now in Cooper's name, and from voting the stock for the purpose of transferring any properties or other assets of the three corporations, or in any way acting contrary to the interests of Paramount.

**Action to Judge Hulbert**

The action, which will be referred to Federal Judge Murray Hulbert here for approval or rejection of the special master's report, dates back to 1933 when Public Theatres, owned by Paramount, operated in Colorado and Cooper, when Publix met with financial difficulties, was called in as a "trouble-shooter" to reorganize and acquire a circuit of theatres on a 50-50 basis with Paramount. It is Paramount's contention that Cooper acquired several groups of theatre properties but that they are now owned by the three defendant corporations with the stock in Cooper's name, and that Cooper has decided to hold on to that stock.

**Paramount's Requests**

Paramount, in addition to asking that Cooper be enjoined from disposing of the securities, also seeks to have the court adjudicate its claim of ownership of one-half of the securities.

The special master, after extended hearings, found that Interstate and Cooper Enterprises usually send their Colorado manager to New York to negotiate for the purchase of films; that Cooper participated in the transactions; that tax, insurance and legal matters of the three corporations were handled by Paramount in New York, and that Cooper, while in New York, conducted his business affairs here, but that Coper does not purchase large equipment here, keeps no books or records here, has no New York bank accounts, no telephone, pays no rent and maintains no general organization here.

All of those things, the master concluded, lacked the legal proof necessary to establish that "an important part of the defendant's business was systematically and continuously carried on in New York State," a necessary element in obtaining Federal Court jurisdiction in the case.

## *$550,000 Premiere*

MIDDLETOWN, O., June 28. — The Bond premiere held here at the Paramount this evening in conjunction with the Fifth Air Service Command from Patterson Field, Dayton, with an all-soldier stage show and showing of "See Here Private Hargrove," netted $550,000 in War Bond sales.

# Ansco Ready To Compete With Color

(Continued from page 1)

**utilization of this process for the production of 35mm colored films to compete with present three-color separation processes and also for the production of colored prints for use in motion picture exhibition," he added.**

General Aniline, seized from its German parent company, I. G. Farben, at the outbreak of the war, is now operated by a board of directors appointed by the Alien Property Custodian but will be put up for public sale early in the postwar period, according to Burpee's statement. "No individual will be able to get control of the stock," he said, "and plans have been made to enable the company to be an important organization free of foreign reliance and domination in the development of competitive American industry."

### Three 'E' Awards

The company, now in full production for the Allied war effort, has won three Army-Navy "E" awards. Approximately 42 percent of the Ansco division's 1943 sales went to the Government, "requiring the sacrifice of a large amout of more profitable civilian business," Burpee explained. The camera plant, adapted to war manufacture beginning in March, 1942, is now devoted entirely to making precision instruments for the Armed Forces. The laboratory is used for training officers and men in photographic technique, and the engineering department has designed an improved ground camera now in use by the Army.

Another wartime accomplishment of General Aniline is the production of polectron resins and carbonyl iron powder, both important in the manufacture of radio and other electronic equipment, said Burpee.

Since becoming American property, the company has spent over $4,000,000 for expansion and improvements, all of which has come from General Aniline funds without recourse to borrowing from the Government, Burpee pointed out.

## *'Gaslight's' $17,800 Is Buffalo's Best*

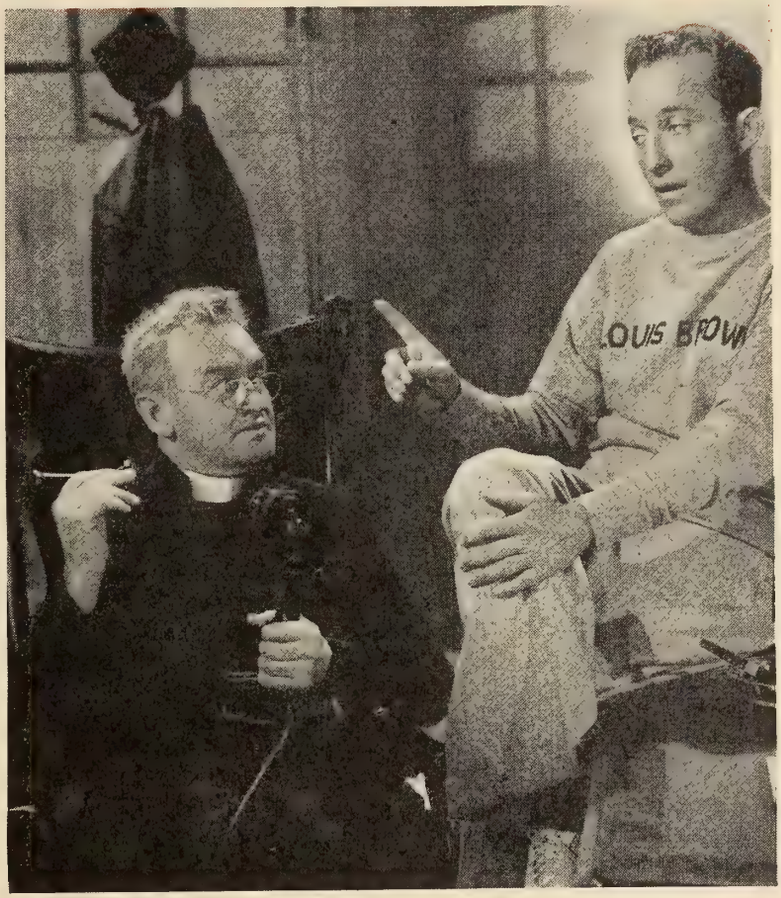
BUFFALO, June 28.—"Gaslight" at the Buffalo was bidding for $17,800 to lead here. "The White Cliffs of Dover" probably will get $17,000 in a second week at the Great Lakes.

Estimated receipts for the week ending July 1:

**"Gaslight" (M-G-M)**
BUFFALO—(3,489) (40c-50c-60c-70c ) 7 days. Gross: $17,800. (Average: $17,400).
**"The White Cliffs of Dover" (M-G-M)**
GREAT LAKES—(3,000) (40c-50c-60c-70c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $17,000. (Average: $16,200).
**"Meet the People" (M-G-M)**
**"The Spider Woman" (Univ.)**
HIPPODROME—(2,100) (40c-50c-60c-70c) 7 days. Gross: $6,800. (Average: $9,700).
**"Days of Glory" (RKO)**
**"Rosie the Riveter" (Rep.)**
TWENTIETH CENTURY—(3,000) 40c-50c-60c-70c) 7 days. Gross: $11,000. (Average: $12,200).
**"One Upon a Time" (Col.) (2nd week)**
**"There's Something About a Soldier" (Col.)**
LAFAYETTE—(3,000) (40c-50c-60c-70c) 7 days. Gross: $10,000. (Average: $12,400).


Paramount NEWS

AND NOTHING BUT THE NEWS



HIGHEST HONOR TO PARAMOUNT!

"GOING MY WAY" WILL BE HAILED AS NO.1 MOVIE CHOICE OF OUR FIGHTING MEN ON ALL FRONTS, ACCORDING TO OFFICIAL U.S. ARMY TABULATIONS, ON UNPRECEDENTED CBS BROADCAST OF "WE, THE PEOPLE" SUNDAY NIGHT AT 10:30 EWT... BING CROSBY AND BARRY FITZGERALD WILL RE-ENACT SCENE FROM PICTURE, AND COMMANDO KELLY, "SOCKER" COE AND GROUP OF G.I. JOE'S WILL PAY TRIBUTE TO THIS LEO MC CAREY HIT OF HITS!


# Fromkess Says PRC 1944-'45 Budget To Be $7,385,000

(Continued from page 1)

cluded an arrangement with NBC on the Coast to televise a feature, which will be based on the life of Dr. Jose Rozzal, a Philippine hero, after the film's release. In addition the story of the picture will be broadcast in three weekly one-half hour episodes on NBC's "Pacific Coast" program, which is also shortwaved besides making a standard broadcast. This is to be the first of a series, Fromkess said, with PRC drawing on the story resources of NBC's research department.

### Franchise Holders Approval

Fromkess revealed that franchise holders have unanimously approved the modified distributor contracts. "The new franchise agreement is more in keeping with the bigger budget pictures that we're now producing," he said. The agreement runs to 1950.

PRC itself will deliver not less than half of its 1944-45 production, with the rest to come from its production units. Fromkess will return to the Coast on July 20. The convention, which is being attended by franchise holders and home office officials will continue through tomorrow.

Although 24 features and 16 westerns have been announced as constituting the 1944-45 program for the company, Fromkess informed the delegates, the schedule is being kept open to permit the making of additional features which may prove of value to the company's slate.

### 1944-45 Features

Among the features on the 1944-45 program are: "Dixie Jamboree," starring Frances Langford and Guy Kibbee, with Eddie Quillan, Charles Butterworth, Fifi D'Orsay, Lyle Talbot and Frank Jenks; "Bluebeard," starring John Carradine and Jean Parker with Nils Asther, and Ludwig Stoessel; "Swing Hostess," musical; "At the Post," with Stuart Erwin in the leading role; "I'm from Arkansas"; "I Accuse My Parents," "Fog Island," "Hollywood and Vine," "His Adopted Daughter," "They Eloped One Night," "The Wife of Monte Cristo," "Drums of Death," "Queen of Burlesque."

### "East Side, West Side"

Also: "East Side, West Side," "Bombshell from Brazil," "Crime, Inc.," "Swamp Man," starring Buster Crabbe; "Hannah from Savannah," "G.I. Guy," "War Marriages," "First Illusion," "Enchanted Forest," "Quebec," "Here We Go Again," and an untitled second, with Jimmie Lydon-Freddie Bartholomew.

Buster Crabbe will be starred, and Al "Fuzzy" St. John will be featured in a series of eight westerns to be produced by Sigmund Neufeld and directed by Sam Newfield. Tex Ritter will be co-starred with Dave O'Brien in a series of musical westerns to be produced by the Alexander-Stern unit.

# MGM Over Par By $52,000 In 7 L.A. Runs

LOS ANGELES, June 28.—M-G-M roared from seven Fox West Coast first-runs to the tune of $146,300 against a $94,500 average. Inaugurating a vigorously exploited M-G-M-only policy for the Egyptian, Los Angeles and Ritz, "White Cliffs of Dover" grossed $72,300, which compares to the three houses' combined average of $33,200. Running simultaneously in the circuit's Chinese, Loew's State, Uptown and Carthay Circle, "Two Girls and a Sailor" grossed $74,500 against a $61,300 average.

"Snow White" did a notable $44,000 in a revival at the Pantages and Hillstreet, which average $37,400.

Estimated receipts for the week ending June 28:

**"Two Girls and a Sailor" (M-G-M)**
**"Bermuda Mystery" (20th-Fox)**
CARTHAY CIRCLE—(1,516) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 7 days. Gross: $12,000. (Average: $11,200).

**"Two Girls and a Sailor" (M-G-M)**
**"Bermuda Mystery" (20th-Fox)**
CHINESE—(2,500) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 7 days. Gross: $17,500. (Average: $15,500).

**"The White Cliffs of Dover" (M-G-M)**
EGYPTIAN — (1,500) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) Gross: $20,000. (Average: $9,500).

**"Voice in the Wind" (UA)**
**"That Nazty Nuisance" (UA)**
HAWAII—(1,000) (50c-60c-75c-85c) 7 days, 4th week. Gross: $4,000. (Average: $6,200).

**"Snow White" (RKO-Disney)**
HILLSTREET—(2,700) (50c-60c-80c) 7 days. Gross: $24,000. (Average: $19,700).

**"Two Girls and a Sailor" (M-G-M)**
**"Bermuda Mystery" (20th-Fox)**
LOEW'S STATE—(2,500) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 7 days. Gross: $32,500. (Average: $24,100).

**"The White Cliffs of Dover" (M-G-M)**
LOS ANGELES—(2,096) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 7 days. Gross: $36,500. (Average: $14,900).

**"Snow White" (RKO-Disney)**
PANTAGES—(2,096) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 7 days. Gross: $20,000. (Average: $17,700).

**"The Story of Dr. Wassell" (Para.)**
PARAMOUNT HOLLYWOOD—(50c-60c-80c-$1.00), 3rd week. Gross $10,500. (Average: $11,000).

**"The Story of Dr. Wassell" (Para.)**
PARAMOUNT DOWNTOWN—(50c-60c-85c-$1.00), 3rd week. Gross: $20,500. (Average: $20,300).

**"The White Cliffs of Dover" (M-G-M)**
RITZ—(1,376) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 7 days Gross: $15,800. (Average: $8,700).

**"Two Girls and a Sailor" (M-G-M)**
**"Bermuda Mystery" (20th-Fox)**
UPTOWN—(1,716) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 7 days. Gross: $12,500. (Average: $10,500).

**"Make Your Own Bed" (WB)**
WARNER BROS.' HOLLYWOOD—(3,000) (50c-60c-80c-$1.00), 2nd week. Gross: $10,456. (Average: $17,000).

**"Make Your Own Bed" (WB)**
WARNER BROS.' DOWNTOWN—(3,400) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00), 2nd week. Gross: $12,407. (Average: $18,700).

**"Make Your Own Bed" (WB)**
WARNER BROS.' WILTERN—(2,200) (50c-60c-80c-$1.00), 2nd week. Gross: $9,596. (Average: $15,200).

# *1,517 Uncontracted Dates Booked in Bond Drive*

(*Continued from page* 1)

**'Fighting Fifth Flashes' In Eastern Missouri**

ST. LOUIS, June 28.—*Fighting Fifth Flashes* is the name of the newspaper published by the War Activities Committee of Eastern Missouri to help promote the current bond drive. It is edited by Les Kaufman, public relations director for the committee. Here are some highlights from the first two issues:

In Mt. Vernon, Ill., Fred Souter of Fox Midwest planted a white cross in the courthouse square for each $1,000 worth of bonds purchased.

Fanchon & Marco and the St. Louis Amusement Company circuit announced a contest among their managers with prizes based on showmanship, enthusiasm, ingenuity and effort. The contest is handled by Albert Stetson, F. & M. war activities director.

With the aid of L. A. Mercier of the Mercier Theatre, and also mayor of the town, Fredericktown, Mo., went over the top on its bond quota at a rally at which Peppy Cheshire, radio and Republic film star, was the featured guest. An all time bond sale record of $200,000 an hour was established. Pappy and his hillbillies (KMOX, CBS) are slated for similar appearances at Hannibal, Mo., under the sponsorship of Showman Harry Shiedker, and at the Victory Theatre in Wellston, Mo., of which Joe Goldstein is manager.

A special sidewalk bond bar has been opened at the Fox Theatre by manager Tony Peluso. Tudor Cameron, an oldtime actor, is in charge.

**B'klyn Leads Sale In Dollars Value**

Theatres of New York, Long Island and downstate New York counties had sold War Bonds to the amount of $10,039,729 as of the beginning of the current week, it was disclosed by general chairman Charles C. Moskowitz at a luncheon held Wednesday. Brooklyn leads in maturity value of bonds sold, but the Bronx is ahead, in percentage with 16.9 figured on a seating capacity basis.

John Madden, accounting chairman, has released the following individual figures: Manhattan, 21,216 E bonds sold with a total value of $2,315,350; Brooklyn, 30,642 units, $3,459,400; Bronx, 19,181 units, $1,456,190; Queens, 14,066 units, $1,446.751; Richmond, 2,237 units, $266,450; Westchester, 2,847 units, $399,745; Nassau, 2,678 units, $368,275; Downstate, excepting Rockland County, 494 units, $44,625; Suffolk, unit number not reported, $282,943.

Percentage standings in the "Battle of the Boroughs" are Bronx, 16.9; Richmond, 13.6; Queens, 13.1; Brooklyn, 11.6, and Manhattan, 9.3 .

**Queens Takes Lead in 'Battle of Boroughs'**

Professor John Madden, accounting chairman for the Fifth War Loan Drive in the New York exchange area, reported yesterday to general chairman Chas. C. Moskowitz that 163,359 E-bonds with a total maturity value of $17,646,761 had been sold by theatres between June 1st and June 25th, inclusive.

Queens steps into first place in "The Battle of the Boroughs" with sales of 31,714 units representing 29.6 percent of the borough's total seating capacity. The Bronx, which was ahead during the first week, moves into second place with 30,976 units, or 27.4 percent of capacity. Richmond is in third place with 3,657 units or 22 percent.

**Omaha Sells Bonds For the "Omaha"**

OMAHA, June 28.—Less than a week after the film industry here began its drive, with the Associated Retailers, the baby flat-top aircraft carrier, the "Omaha," was paid for through bond purchases provoked by the work of theatremen here.

The goal was reached through theatre bond sales and the staging of a bond auction which netted $13,800,000. Each bond buyer pounded a spike in a miniature model of the "Omaha" at ceremonies here last week. Bond purchasers also received tickets to the War Bond show scheduled here for tonight and featuring Ozzie Nelson, Harriet Hilliard, Dr. I. Q., and other film and radio stars.

Co-chairmen of the campaign William Miskell, Tri-States district manager and Harold Johnson with Ed Pettis, Retailers' chairman, have disclosed that they will now strive to promote the sale of $6,000,000 in bonds to replace four B-29 airplanes recently lost in the Pacific.

**RKO Theatres Approach $2.000.000 Mark**

In the first two weeks of the Fifth War Loan Drive, which started June 12, the sale of bonds in RKO Theatres was $1,982,475. This was without the benefit of bond premieres which the theatres will start presenting this week.

# *Clearance Complaint By Astoria Theatre*

Stilson Realty Corp., operator of the Cameo Theatre, Astoria, L. I., has entered a clearance complaint against the five consenting companies in the New York tribunal, the American Arbitration Association reported here yesterday.

Complaint alleges that the seven days clearance granted the Crescent, Astoria, L. I., is unreasonable as to time and area and should be eliminated. If it is found that there is sufficient cause to warrant continuation of clearance to the Crescent over the Cameo, complainant asks that it be reduced to one day.

# *RKO Host to Owners At 'Lively' Show*

RKO held an exhibitor screening of "Step Lively" last night prior to the launching of a contest among managers for advertising suggestions to be used in connection with the playing of the film in RKO houses here.

Home office executives who attended last night's screening included: Ned E. Depinet, Robert Mochrie, S. Barrett McCormick, Nat Levy, Walter Branson, James Brennan, Charles B. McDonald, H. R. Emde, Harold Mirisch, W. B. England, Harry Mandel, Joseph di Lorenzo, Michael Edelstein, Rutgers Neilson, John Cassidy and Arthur M. Brilant.

# *Miss Skouras Married*

Miss Diana Athanasia Skouras, daughter of Spyros P. Skouras, president of 20th-Fox, and Mrs. Skouras, was married yesterday to Dr. George Anderson Fowler, son of Mrs. Gladys Fowler, in the Holy Trinity Church, Mamaroneck, N. Y., with the Revs. Joseph Finegan, Thomas Kelly and Bartholomew Singleton officiating.

# *Miss Weidman to Cagney*

Jean Weidman, Eastern editor of Producers' Reading Co., will join William Cagney Productions Monday as assistant to Peggy Bleakley, story editor here.

# *Hollywood*

By THALIA BELL

*Hollywood, June 28*

Twenty years ago there were only six stars on the M-G-M lot. Ever since it was founded, however, the company has pursued a policy of discovering and developing talent, with the result that there are now 162 stellar players on its contract list. Included among them are 33 stars, ranging in age and experience from Margaret O'Brien, seven, to Lionel Barrymore, 66. The majority of M-G-M's players have come up from the ranks.

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*Vanguard Films has purchased half of Edward Small's contract with Tony Devlin, who is a leading contender for the title role in "The Life of Rudolph Valentino." . . . Charles Russell, who scored in "The Purple Heart," is slated for one of the principal roles in "A Bell for Adano," which 20th Century-Fox will make some time in the Fall. . . . Lee Sullivan, well-known in radio and musical comedy, will make his screen debut in Bing Crosby's forthcoming production of "The Great John L.," which Frank Tuttle will direct. Paramount has signed Jean Heather for another year. She appears opposite Fred MacMurray in "Murder, He Says." . . . Monta Bell will direct "Little Devils" for Monogram. It's a story of youthful Chinese patriots, and one of the company's high-budget pictures. . . . Hobart Cavanaugh is set for the part of the bucolic cab-driver in Hunt Stromberg's version of the Broadway hit, "Guest in the House."*

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**Recent improvements in camera technique and in the Technicolor process itself are declared to have made it possible to reproduce on the screen oil paintings and pastels in all their original beauty. The first to take advantage of these possibilities will be Harry Joe Brown's production of "The Old West." The story, based on the life of Frederic Remington, calls for exact duplication of many of his paintings. . . Monogram is still searching for a satisfactory title for the Goebbels picture produced by W. R. Frank. Two proposed titles have been banned by censorship authorities. . . . Rosalind Ivan is the fourth member of the New York stage cast to join Warner's version of "The Corn Is Green." At the same studio, Ida Lupino has been added to the cast of "Hollywood Canteen." which resumed shooting recently. . . . 20th Century-Fox has signed eight-year-old Connie Marshall, whose cherubic features have appeared on many magazine covers. . . .**

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Paramount has purchased "Prince Charming," original by Everett Freeman; Fred Kohlmar will produce. It's a romantic comedy, laid in a suburb of New York City. . . . 20th Century-Fox is looking for 100 dancers, and Samuel Goldwyn wants 12, preferably with ballet training. Looks like more musicals coming up. . . . Tessa Brind, 15-year-old brunette, has been signed at Warners. . . . Robert Barrat has been signed for Bing Crosby's production of "The Great John L." . . .

Fifth War Loan Drive!

# MOTION PICTURE DAILY

'Free Movie Day' July 6

VOL. 55. NO. 128 NEW YORK, U.S.A., FRIDAY, JUNE 30, 1944 TEN CENTS

## Warners' Six Months' Net, $3,492,125

### *Half Year Gross Hits Nearly $70,000,000*

Warner Brothers Pictures, Inc., and subsidiaries had a net operating profit of $3,492,125 for the six months ended Feb. 26, 1944, compared with a net of $4,141,199 for the corresponding period last year, according to a statement by the company here yesterday. This year's net is after a provision of $625,000 for unrealized losses on sales contracted after Feb. 26, but not liquidated, less estimated tax benefits resulting therefrom.

This year's profit is equivalent to 94 cents per share on the 3,701,000 shares of common stock outstanding, compared with $1.06 per share for the corresponding period last year, after pro-

(Continued on page 6)

## Skouras-Academy Deal Finished

Papers on file in Federal court here Thursday disclosed officially that the settlement between Skouras Theatres Corp., Kitma Corp., a Skouras subsidiary, and the receivers of Fox Theatres Corp., under which Fox Theatres creditors will gain approximately $2,500,000, has been consummated.

The settlement was authorized recently by Federal Judge John C. Knox, who vacated a 1937 order of former Judge Martin T. Manton which had authorized the sale by Fox to Skouras interests of the Academy of Music theatre property in East 14th St., together with other Fox assets, at a nominal price.

Under the settlement, Kitma Corp. transferred to Fox receivers, for the

(Continued on page 6)

## *Canadian Release Set For 'Bell Tolls'*

TORONTO, June 29.—It was announced today at the second session of the Paramount-Canadian sales convention at the King Edward Hotel here that "For Whom the Bell Tolls," will be released for the first time in Canada next fall in conjunction with the 1944-45 product.

This feature has been held out of the Dominion because of the regulations of wartime prices and the Trade

(Continued on page 6)

## British Films Are Ready for Full Competition Abroad

By PETER BURNUP

LONDON, June 29.—The British Ministry of Information's film division is fully equipped and ready to rush its pictures into every liberated country, presumably in full competition with American films being shown under the sponsorship of the Office of War Information and the Army Psychological Service, it was disclosed during a House of Commons debate today by Brenden Bracken, MOI director.

Already shown in Italy and France, the MOI's prepared product, which contains releases also in 15 other languages, consists primarily of films designed to depict Britain's part in the

(Continued on page 6)

## Coast Unions Call MPA 'Subversive'

HOLLYWOOD, June 29.—The Motion Picture Alliance was condemned as a "subversive and dangerous organization" and a new group known as the Council of Hollywood Guilds and Unions was authorized to function for two years in resolutions unanimously adopted by over 900 representatives of 17 Hollywood guilds and unions at a meeting here last night. The Council is an outgrowth of the emergency committee of Hollywood guilds and unions which sponsored the meeting, but a permanent council first must be ratified by the organizations involved, which is regarded as certain.

It was charged that the Alliance "masquerading as a non-partisan,

(Continued on page 6)

### *Dallas 1st Key to Go Over the Top*

**Dallas is the first key city to go over the top in the industry's 'Fighting Fifth' War Loan drive, according to a telegram received here yesterday by R. J. O'Donnell, national committtee chairman, from James O. Cherry, Dallas drive exhibitor chairman, who disclosed that Dallas has gone $2,000,000 over its quota of $74,000,000 with 10 days still to go.**

## Rivoli Signs Up First Doorwoman

Faced with a shortage of doormen, having one who works part time in a war plant and another who "just comes when he wants to," manager Montague Salmon of the Rivoli yesterday opened his house with a doorwoman on duty out front.

She is Mario Monez, 18-year-old, auburn-haired beauty who came here from Philadelphia three months ago and last week sold Salmon on the idea of hiring her. So far as he knows, he has the first doorwoman in the business, but he feels other exhibitors will follow. "I find she's good at moving the people over to keep them from blocking the sidewalk," the manager said.

### Women Take Over House

WILWOOD, N. J., June 29.—Every post at William C. Hunt's Blaker Theatre here will be filled by a woman. Being renovated now for a July 4 opening, the house is believed to have the first all-female staff in the country.

## *Special Bond Events Set To 'Back 5th on the 4th'*

July 4th will be banner bond-selling day at most of the nation's theatres, with special events scheduled "to rivet the public's attention to the fact that the height of patriotism on Independence Day is to back up our fighters by buying extra war bonds," the industry's national bond committee declared here yesterday.

**"Buy more Bonds on the Fourth to put over the Fifth," has been adopted as the slogan by hundreds of theatres.**

War bond premieres, children's bond matinees and on-stage presentation rallies will be featured in thousands of theatres. Many will stress in their advertising that theatres are the only places where the public can buy bonds on the holiday. Where exhibitors have not scheduled events in their theatres, they will participate with other groups in community rallies, parades and other celebrations. In many situations, exhibitors will take advantage of the large theatre attendance to promote final "clean-up" events.

In New York on Saturday night a

(Continued on page 6)

## Biddle to Get Decree Draft Within Week

### *Clark's Recommendations Await Hazen's Return*

By FRANCIS L. BURT

WASHINGTON, June 29.—Proposals for the new consent decree will be laid before Attorney General Francis Biddle next week for final decision as to their acceptability, it was learned today.

**The 10-15-20 per cent cancellation clause, a new provision for dealing with specific run arbitration and other proposals submitted by the distributors last week, together with the original proposals presented in January, are expected to go to the Attorney General with a**

(Continued on page 6)

## RKO Closes Deal For Singer Houses

The deal for full control by RKO of the theatres formerly managed by the late Mort H. Singer was consummated here yesterday. Sol A. Schwartz, general manager of RKO's out-of-town houses, announced at the same time that John Redmond has been appointed division manager to supervise the Singer theatres.

As stated by MOTION PICTURE DAILY on June 26, in an advance report on the signing of the deal, the Singer circuit contains 16 houses, in which RKO previously owned a 50 per cent interest. They are located in Minneapolis, Omaha, New Orleans, and in Waterloo, Marshalltown, Davenport,

(Continued on page 6)

## *Chi. WMC Withholds On 'Locally Needed'*

CHICAGO, June 29.—The local area office of the War Manpower Commission revealed today that it has placed the film exchanges' request for a 'locally needed' designation into a 'state of temporary suspension.' The request was made recently on behalf of the local exchanges by W. E. Banford, M-G-M branch manager.

So far, no amusement branches here have been given any special ratings which would entitle them to extra consideration when the U. S. Employment Service begins to clear all labor turnovers on July 1.

# Personal Mention

WILLIAM F. RODGERS, M-G-M vice - president in charge of distribution, returned to New York yesterday from Hollywood and stopovers en route.

•

MAX STEIN of 20th-Fox's advertising department, will be married to IDA RABINOWITZ of Forest Hills, L. I., tomorrow at MISS RABINOWITZ's home. FRANK SIMITZ of 20th-Fox will be best man. A reception at the Waldorf-Astoria will follow the ceremony.

•

LESTER STEPENER, manager of the La Salle Theatre, Chicago, and publicity director for World Wide Pictures, is the father of a son, CHARLES VARRY, born to MRS. STEPENER in Chicago on June 25.

•

JACK SANSON, manager of Warner's State, Manchester, Conn., has been named chairman of a committee working to raise funds for a monument to Manchester men and women in service.

•

MRS. HERMAN ROBBINS, incorrectly reported yesterday as returning to Hollywood next week, is, instead, due here Monday and will spend the rest of the summer at Schroon Lake, N. Y.

•

PETER COLLI, Warner supervisor in the Caribbean area, will leave for Havana at the weekend.

•

ARY LIMA, Warner manager in Brazil, will return to that country on Wednesday.

•

LESTER COWAN, producer, has returned to Hollywood after two days in Washington.

•

SYD GROSS, New York Rivoli Theatre publicity manager, will leave for Montreal today for the weekend.

•

W. A. SCULLY and MRS. SCULLY observed their 25th wedding anniversary this week.

## Chicago Operators, Theatres, Talk Scale

CHICAGO, June 29.—Discussions on long-pending raises for projectionists of Local 110, have been resumed in meetings between Eugene Atkinson, secretary of the local, and Jack Kirsch, head of Allied Theatres; Morris Leonard, Balaban and Katz executive, and Edwin Silverman, president of Essaness Circuit.

## Schoenstadt Trust Hearing July 6

CHICAGO, June 29.—July 6 has been set as the date for the next hearing in the anti-trust action filed by H. Schoenstadt and Sons Circuit against Balaban and Katz and the distributors, before master - in - chancery Charles A. McDonald.

## British Extras' Strike Postponed

LONDON, June 29.—The Ministry of Labor has intervened in the threatened strike of film extras previously set for July 3 in an effort to obtain a closed shop.

The Ministry is holding a conference between producers and representatives of the extras, with the later postponing their threatened strike until July 17.

## Graham Heads 'U' Atlanta Meeting

ATLANTA, June 29.—The Southern division of Universal's sales department opened a three-day convention here last night at the Biltmore Hotel. Fifty-three representatives of the Southern district attended the dinner and opening session. H. D. Graham, district manager, is presiding.

The agenda includes discussion of campaigns for new product, including extensive advertising budgets for several new films.

## Selznick Films Set For L.A. Premiere

CHICAGO, June 29.—David O. Selznick, Vanguard chief, said here today that "Since You Went Away," will open in Los Angeles about a week following its New York premiere at the Capitol July 13, with other key city openings to follow.

Selznick, who has been in Chicago this week as a delegate to the Republican national convention, will leave for Hollywood today to be on hand for the starting of Alfred Hitchcock's "The House of Dr. Edwards."

## Rubin Held in Hub Manslaughter Case

BOSTON, June 29.—Joe Rubin, prominent in local film circles for years, and brother of Benny Rubin, comedian, was freed in bail of $5,000, charged with manslaughter in connection with the slaying of Guy Forimica of Plymouth in Rubin's Showtime Cafe here.

Rubin drew attention in the past two years by his War Loan activities and holds the individual record here for the largest bond sale on historic Boston Common. According to charges, Forimica and Rubin quarrel over the former's attention to an entertainer in the cafe.

## No Johnston Successor

Republic Pictures Corp. yesterday stated that no successor has as yet been appointed to John LeRoy Johnston, former director of public relations for the company at the studio, who recently resigned that post.

## Fromkes Buys Playhouse

A syndicate headed by Harry Fromkes, president of City Title Insurance Co., has bought the Playhouse at 137 W. 48 St. here from William A. Brady at a reported cost of over $300,000.

# Coast Flashes

*Hollywood, June 29*

WAR Finance Committee estimated War Bond purchases by individuals in the production branch of the industry averaged $1,000,000 weekly.

•

Grantland Rice Sportlights this year will observe its 25th anniversary. More than 400 subjects have been produced. First five subjects for 1944-45, which Paramount will release, are "Riding the Rollers," "Game Fish Thrills," "Chess Decisions," "Champion Basketeers," and "Good Hunting Is Good Eating," producer Jack Eaton announced.

•

Larry Golob, Eastern publicity manager for Warners, will leave here today for New York after conferring with Charles Einfeld and Alex Evelove at the WB studios. He will be accompanied East by Joyce Reynolds, star of "Janie."

•

Hollywood Victory Committee furnished Jerry Colonna, Cass Daly, Frances Langford, Georgia Gibbs and Marilyn Maxwell for War Bond broadcast, NBC nationally, Sunday evening, July 8.

•

Adolfo Felix Chust, Brazilian producer-director attached to the Office of Co-Ordinator of Inter-American Affairs, arrives Monday, Pan American Airways Clipper.

•

Hal Wallis signed John Mock as story editor, Wallis Productions. Mock was formerly Paramount story editor in England, later with Columbia here.

•

Norman Morax entrained; stops Chicago, Buffalo, Harrisburg, enroute to New York.

•

Paramount extended E. D. Leshin, producer, contract for one year.

•

Lester Cowan announced $200,000 advertising budget for "GI Joe."

## Boucher to Meiselman

WASHINGTON, June 29.—Frank Boucher, manager of K-B Theatres here, will leave that post July 15 to become general manager of the Meiselman Theatres in the Carolinas. Boucher was formerly New York zone manager for Schine.

## May Re-open St. L. Suit

ST. LOUIS, June 29.—A hearing on the motion of 20th-Fox to reopen the plagiarism suit won in March by Mrs. Marie Cooper Oehler Dieckhaus, who contended that her unpublished novel, "Love Girl," was the basis of the company's film, "Alexander's Ragtime Band," will be held here today.

## Milder in London

LONDON, June 29.—Max Milder, managing director for Warner interests in Great Britain, has returned to his office here following a two-month trip to the U. S.

## 20th to Broadcast News

A five-minute midnight news broadcast over station WEAF, New York, will be sponsored by 20th-Fox on Thursday nights for one year, beginning July 6. The Kayton Spiero Co. agency is handling the program.


# NEW YORK THEATRES

RADIO CITY MUSIC HALL
Showplace of the Nation Rockefeller Center
CARY GRANT in
"ONCE UPON A TIME"
with JANET BLAIR
Dir. by Alexander Hall—A Columbia Picture
SPECTACULAR STAGE PRESENTATION
First Mezzanine Seats Reserved Circle 6-4600

RADIO CITY MUSIC HALL
See Stilwell in the War's Most Incredible Venture
BACK DOOR TO TOKYO
THE LATEST MARCH OF TIME
Released by 20th Century-Fox

LOEW'S STATE B'WAY & 45
ON SCREEN
M-G-M's Comedy Hit
'SEE HERE, PRIVATE HARGROVE'
with ROBERT WALKER as Private Hargrove
IN PERSON
BENNY FIELDS
WILLIE HOWARD

RKO PALACE B'WAY & 47th St.
STARTS TONIGHT AT 8:30 P. M.
"MARINE RAIDERS"
PAT O'BRIEN ROBERT RYAN RUTH HUSSEY

PARAMOUNT'S
"GOING MY WAY"
with BING CROSBY
In Person
CHARLIE SPIVAK and His Orch.
PARAMOUNT Times Square

PARAMOUNT PRESENTS
GARY COOPER in
CECIL B. DEMILLE'S
"The Story of Dr. Wassell"
★ In Technicolor ★
RIVOLI B'way & 49th St.

20th Century-Fox Presents
'HOME IN INDIANA'
IN TECHNICOLOR
PLUS ON STAGE — ENRIC MADRIGUERA and ORCHESTRA • HAZEL SCOTT
JOE BESSER • CARMEN AMAYA & CO.
BUY MORE BONDS ROXY 7th Ave. & 50th St.


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**Sympathy won't help him! Bonds will help destroy his murderers!**

# LET'S GO FOR THE KNOCK-OUT BLOW!

Let's pull no punches now! Let's spare no feelings! Are you satisfied with results? Time is measured in lives! Only a few more days to do a superhuman job. But we can do it! Wake up the public! They've got money to spend! Hit hard with Bond Premieres, Children's Bond Shows, Rallies, Free Movie Days! You who sell bonds for America, victory is in your hands!

## FREE MOVIE DAY, JULY 6th

Let our industry unite on July 6th with a mighty push that will electrify the nation. On the day before, the radio and press will blast FREE MOVIE DAY to all America. Be in the fighting ranks! Over the top, patriotic showmen!

*Sponsored by War Activities Committee of Motion Picture Industry, 1501 Broadway, N. Y. C.*

# Isn't this what you've been waiting for... this!

One of the most ta
the American thea

this! Bill Ben
your the

this




Jules Leve

THI

John Loder • Dorothy Comingore

Roman Bohnen • Alan Napier • Tom Fadden

Screen play by Robert D. Andrews and Decla Dunning • Associate Producer Joseph H. Nadel

Directed by Alfred Santell • Produced by Jules Levey

Released Thru United Artists

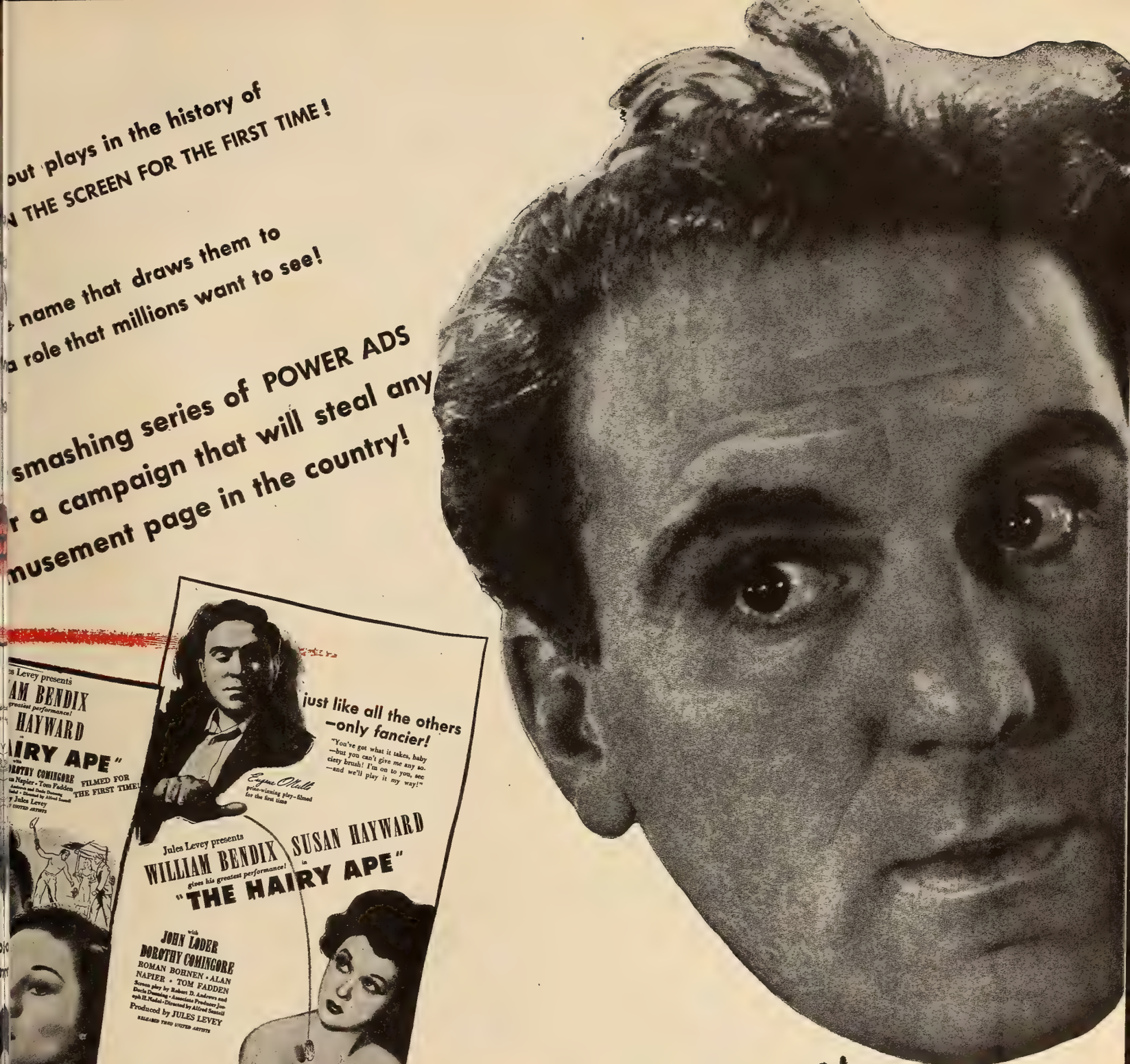
Willia

Never stop 'till you're over the top!
Fighting Fifth War Loan

out plays in the history of
N THE SCREEN FOR THE FIRST TIME!

name that draws them to
a role that millions want to see!

smashing series of POWER ADS
r a campaign that will steal any
nusement page in the country!






esents *Eugene O'Neill's* prize-winning play

# HAIRY APE

co-starring

BENDIX and Susan HAYWARD

All THIS is ready NOW at U.A.!

Never stop 'till you're over the top
Fighting Fifth War Loan

# British Films Are Ready for Full Competition Abroad

(Continued from page 1)

war and secondarily of selected entertainment features, it was disclosed during the debate.

Emphasizing that the MOI's activities are in no way competitive with the British motion picture industry, Bracken emphasized that MOI instigated commercial production of four full-length films and extended help in the production of 38 others during the past year.

Members of the House, while uring the summary cessation of the ministry's home film activities when peace comes, agreed that some form of postwar national interpretation abroad is necessary. They praised MOT's documentaries and expressed the hope that they would continue.

### MOI's 160 Pictures

Last year the MOI's film division produced 160 pictures for English-speaking audiences, Bracken reported, adding that the public response to them "belies the dreary designation of documentaries." During the year, 96 films were reproduced in 348 foreign language versions, aggregating 50,000,000 feet. The small Colonial Film Unit produced 28 one-reelers and 20 news films, "forming the genesis of an invaluable postwar Empire service," Bracken added. He claimed that the Crown Film Unit has played an essential part throughout the war in the development of a recognized national British film style.

# Coast Unions Call MPA 'Subversive'

(Continued from page 1)

patriotic organization opposed to both fascism and communism, is in fact a violently partisan, political group under the leadership of anti-labor union wreckers with clear fascistic tendencies."

### Eight Point Program

An eight-point program proposes, that the Council combat labor and religious discrimination, industry attacks from within and without, protect the screen's freedom of expression from "such self-appointed censors as the MPA," develop a public relations program and cooperate with the producers association in the re-absorption of film workers after the war.

It was determined to send President Roosevelt pledge of loyalty and a full transcript of proceedings to interested unions and groups, and also to newspapers throughout the country.

Speakers included Mary C. McCall, Jr., Screen Writers Guild, president; Walter Wanger, speaking as an individual; Sidney Buchman, executive producer of Columbia; James Hilton and various labor leaders. Wanger charged the MPA seeks to promote its program through publicity and had bypassed producers who, he said, were the logical source for discussion on alleged communistic propaganda in film content. The sponsoring guilds and unions state the mass meeting represented about half of all workers in Hollywood.

# Warners' 6 Months' Net Is $3,492,125

(Continued from page 1)

vision for dividends on outstanding preferred stock.

Gross income, after eliminating intercompany transactions for the six months ended this Feb. 26, was $69,629,010, compared with $63,409,868 for the same period last year.

The provision for Federal income and excess profit taxes during the recent period, less provisions for debt retirement and postwar refund, was $9,110,000. The balance sheet for the six months shows current working assets of $52,386,987; fixed assets, $113,621,193; current liabilities, $28,314,579, and funded and other long-term debts, $47,845,222.

# Canadian Release For 'Bell Tolls'

(Continued from page 1)

Board prohibiting advanced admission prices for film road shows and contracts calling for more than 50 percent rental charge.

Gordon Lightstone, Paramount-Canadian district manager, stated he had no further information as to the conditions under which the feature would be released in Canada.

# Special Events to 'Back 5th on 4th'

(Continued from page 1)

public reception will be held at the large bond register in Times Square, at which time the "Five Torches of Freedom," which have made a tour of the state, will be presented by Charles C. Moskowitz, industry Fifth War Loan chairman for the Metropolitan area, and Frederick Gehle, executive director of the War Finance Committee. Major Samuel C. Grashio, U. S. Army Air Force, will speak.

The ceremonies will be opened with a concert by the 70-piece Canadian Air Force Band, which is coming to New York especially to participate. The concert will be followed by a parade, consisting of men from the 100th Infantry drill team, with a military band and 35 American Legionnaires carrying the flags of the United Nations. The "Five Torches" will be carried by combat veterans representing various branches of the service.

## *'Rome's Liberation' Ready for Theatres*

**M-G-M will distribute, for the WAC and the Office of War Information, "The Liberation of Rome," a camera record of the Italian campaign, produced by the U. S. and British armies. The film is being jointly released by both governments. There will be a pre-release showing in M-G-M's home office projection room Wednesday morning at 11:30.**

# RKO Closes Deal For Singer Houses

(Continued from page 1)

Sioux City, Cedar Rapids and Dubuque, Iowa. The purchase price is understood to have been small in view of the fact that RKO already owned several of the houses and leased them to Singer, who died early this year. By the terms of the partnership, the company had an option to buy his interest if he ceased to operate the houses. During the interim, they have been supervised by Joseph Berne of Cleveland, who was elected president of the circuit, succeeding Singer.

Schwartz yesterday also announced the promotion of Frank Smith, now manager of the Palace Theatre in Chicago, to division manager of the Chicago territory, which includes, besides that city, Champaign, Kansas City, Des Moines and St. Paul. Harry Schreiber, city manager of Columbus, has been moved up to the newly created post of assistant division manager in the Chicago area, Schwartz added. All changes will be effective tomorrow.

# Skouras-Academy Deal Finished

(Continued from page 1)

benefit of creditors, common capital stock of the William Fox Realty Corp. and a claim in favor of Fox Theatres Corp. against the Fox Realty Corp., together with the Academy of Music property and leases on the property which Skouras Theatres Corp., will fulfill.

It is under the leases that Fox creditors will benefit over a period of some 14 years. Distribution of the reacquired assets will be made only as directed by Judge Knox, who has retained complete jurisdiction in the matter.

Because of the settlement, which the court approved, proceedings pending in Federal court for recovery of the assets sold under the 1937 order of Judge Manton have been dropped and are deemed by order of Judge Knox discontinued as against Skouras Theatres, Kitma Corp., George P. Skouras and Harvey T. Newin.

# 'Swing' and Show Swing $17,500

OMAHA, June 29.—The Orpheum Theatre, featuring "Swing Fever" and Ozzie Nelson's orchestra with Harriet Hilliard on the stage, grossed $17,500 to lead the week's box office parade here. Weather was sultry.

Estimated receipts for the week ending June 28-29:

**"Marine Raiders" (RKO)**
**"Lady Let's Dance" (Mono.)**
BRANDEIS—(1,200) (44c-60c) 6 days. Gross: $5,500. (Average: $6,500).

**"Chip Off the Old Block" (Univ.)**
**"Son of Dracula" (Univ.)**
OMAHA—(2,000) (44c-60c) 7 days. Gross: $8,000. (Average: $8,400).

**"Swing Fever" (M-G-M)**
ORPHEUM—(3,000) (44c-55c-70c) 7 days. Ozzie Nelson's orchestra and Harriet Hilliard on the stage. Gross: $17,500. (Average: $14,900).

**"Gaslight" (M-G-M)**
PARAMOUNT—(2,900) (44c-60c) 7 days. Gross: $9,600. (Average: $11,700).

# Biddle to Get Decree Draft Within Week

(Continued from page 1)

**report and recommendation from Assistant Attorney General Tom C. Clark.**

Clark and Robert L. Wright, special assistant to the Attorney General, have studied the provisions, but are understood to have reached no final conclusions because of the absence from New York of Joseph Hazen, decree liaison. Biddle also is away, and is not expected to return to Washington until next week.

Department officials now have before them the final offer of the companies for a new decree. The position of the distributors that they could make no further concessions without going beyond the limits of what is economically sound, was made clear to the Department when the latest tender was submitted, paving the way for a final decision by Clarke and Biddle.

### Decree Proposals

In general outline the decree proposals are as follows:

Arbitration to be conducted as at present, with a single board of appeals, but arbitration of clearance is to be extended to the companies' own theatres and arbitration of run is to be extended to exhibitors in competition with the companies' circuits. A new version of Section 10 is to be written for the benefit of theatre operators who win arbitration awards on specific run complaints; cancellations to be 20 per cent where average license fees do not exceed $100 per picture, 15 per cent where the average is between $101 and $250, and 10 per cent on pictures averaging $251 to $350; circuit expansion to be subject to prior Federal court approval with no exemption for "show case" houses; pooling arrangements between signatory companies to be outlawed, whether relating to joint ownership or operation of theatres or joint buying arrangements; all product franchises would be terminated, those between signatory companies immediately and those held by others immediately, if possible, or at the end of existing contracts.

### Penalties

Also, withholding of prints to give a prior playing date would be prohibited; forcing of shorts and newsreels would be prohibited, with fines of distributors as a penalty for violation, with the money, $250 for the first offense and $500 for subsequent offenses in cases where arbitration decisions find a violation to have occurred, to go to the exhibitor; all pictures would be trade shown in advance of sale but no changes required in present selling methods; cancellations on moral, religious or racial grounds would be permitted within five days after notice of availability.

A number of points in the companies' proposals would be subect to minor modifications in the final working out of a decree.

# THIS SYMBOL OF GREAT ENTERTAINMENT APPEARED ON 100% OF THE NATION'S SCREENS IN CELEBRATION OF M-G-M's TWENTY YEAR ANNIVERSARY




The final returns are in. History has been written. Every regularly operated motion picture theatre in the nation, of which there is a record, has flashed the M-G-M Lion on its screen during the Friendly Company's Anniversary Week. Never an industry in the world until now in which every outlet has thus honored one product. With humility and gratitude M-G-M thanks this industry of which it is proud to be a part.

EVERY THEATRE: FREE MOVIE DAY, JULY 6th!
"THE FIGHTING FIFTH" VICTORY CLIMAX!

# "CHRISTMAS HOLIDAY" SCORES NEW HIGH FOR DURBIN HITS!

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WILLIAM A SCULLY. UNIVERSAL PICTURES=

EXTRAORDINARY BUSINESS ON CHRISTMAS HOLIDAY NECESSITATES HOLD OVER BOTH READING AND HARRISBURG. AUDIENCE REACTION EXCELLENT. CHANGE OF STORY AND PACE SMART THOUGHT. ATTRACTING MORE WOMEN THAN EVER. OUTGROSSING BUTLER'S SISTER PLAYED CHRISTMAS WEEK. WITH SUNDAY HOTTEST DAY THIS YEAR AND MONDAY NIGHT A REAL HAILSTORM FOR HALF HOUR AT PEAK HOUR. ALSO WILL EXCEED GROSS ON HERS TO HOLD. KEEP 'EM COMING BEST WISHES=

:JAY EMANUEL. .354P.



*Deanna* **DURBIN** and *Gene* **KELLY**

*in* W. SOMERSET MAUGHAM'S

# CHRISTMAS HOLIDAY

*with*

RICHARD WHORF DEAN HARENS GLADYS GEORGE
DAVID BRUCE GALE SONDERGAARD

*Produced by* FELIX JACKSON *Directed by* ROBERT SIODMAK
As written for the screen by HERMAN J. MANKIEWICZ
Associate Producer, FRANK SHAW

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